

## 'Iran Holds Upper Hand in Aerospace'

TEHRAN -- A high-ranking commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said Wednesday Iran has managed to defeat the enemy at a distance of more than a thousand kilometers away with the help of artificial intelligence.

Brigadier General Amir-Ali Hajizadeh, the commander of the IRGC's Aerospace Division, said during a ceremony at Khajeh Nasir al-Din Toosi University of Technology here that Iran holds the upper hand in the field of aerospace and is now a strong and formidable player.

"Cooperation among universities and the country's defense (Continued on Page 7)

# Kayhan International

## Report: Iran May Send Free Oil to Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Lebanon is preparing to send a delegation to Iran for talks on acquiring free fuel to ease power outages without being exposed to U.S. sanctions, two government sources said on Wednesday.

If the deal goes through, the fuel deliveries would be Iran's first directly to the state after it previously sent some to Lebanon.

Iran's ambassador in Beirut, Mojtaba Amani, has proposed an Iranian "gift" of fuel to the Lebanese state, the two government sources told Reuters on Wednesday.

"We are working on this being a donation and not a (Continued on Page 7)

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Thursday, September 8, 2022, Shahrivar 17, 1401, Safar 11, 1444, Price 200,000 Rials

### Viewpoint

## Israel Terrified at Its Fast Approaching End

### Iran Views CENTCOM-Zionist Military Integration a Threat



### Iran Runner-Up at Asian Junior Kurash Championship



### Zionist Troops Kill Palestinian in Latest Raid



## Data: Iran's Non-Oil Exports to Neighbors Surge

TEHRAN -- Iran's non-oil exports to neighbors in the five months since the start of the Persian year on March 20 rose 27 percent year-on-year to \$10.7 billion, the country's customs figures show.

More than 33.3 million tonnes of non-oil goods worth \$20.6 billion were exchanged between Iran and its 15 neighbors in the period, the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) spokesman Ruhollah Latifi said on Wednesday. Iran's overall non-oil trade in the period stood at \$42.5 billion.

Iraq took in 8.6 million tonnes of non-oil Iranian goods worth more than \$2.9 billion, followed by the UAE with \$2.7 billion and Turkey with \$2.3 billion in imports from their resource-rich neighbor.

Next came Afghanistan with \$641 million, Pakistan with \$475 million, Oman with \$452 million and Azerbaijan with \$296 million in imported goods from Iran, the figures cited by official IRNA news agency showed.

Iraq's main purchases from its neighbor are agricultural products, engineering services, construction materials, and energy, such as electricity and natural gas. Baghdad has received waivers from Washington allowing it to buy Iranian electricity and natural gas.

The U.S. has had to repeatedly extend sanctions exemption by 45, 90 or 120 days, to allow Baghdad to import Iranian energy, but it is unhappy with close relationship and trade between Baghdad and Tehran.

Iraq needs more than 23,000 megawatts of electricity to meet its domestic demand but years of war following the 2003 US invasion have left its power infrastructure in tatters and a deficit of some 7,000 megawatts.

In the past, officials in Baghdad have said there is no easy substitute to imports from Iran because it would take years to adequately build up Iraq's energy infrastructure.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi has said he wants "excellent relations" with the Islamic Republic.

The two countries have called to raise their annual bilateral trade to \$20 billion from around \$10 billion despite the impact of the US sanctions.

Latifi put Iran's imports from its neighbors in the first five months of the Persian year at \$21.6 billion, up 21% from the same period a year before.

The UAE was the biggest exporter at more than \$6 billion followed by Turkey at \$2.1 billion and Russia with \$715 million.

Iran foresees a leap in its foreign trade this year without worrying about the effects of the U.S. sanctions which have been a drag on the country's economy for years.

All projects drawn up last year have been designed in such a way that the fate of the Vienna talks to revive a 2015 international nuclear deal with Iran would have no bearing on their

implementation, Deputy Minister of Industry, Mining and Trade Medhi Niazi has said.

"None of the plans defined in the Ministry of Industry, Mining and Trade since last year are dependent on the JCPOA and political agreements," the minister has said, referring to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action which is on life support since the U.S. abandoned it in 2018.

For example, intermediate and basic commodities pegged to the dollar are no longer tied to the greenback.

"Moreover, the dependence of metal commodities on the dollar has been eliminated in the stock market. We are also solving the problem in the petrochemical field with the help of the Ministry of Petroleum," Niazi said recently.

Intermediate goods are products such as steel that are used to make finished products.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has repeatedly made it clear that Iran's economy should not be tied to efforts to remove U.S. sanctions.

Unlike the former administration which saw its legacy tethered to the nuclear accord they negotiated for more than two years with President Barack Obama,

President Ebrahim Raisi is an ardent advocate of "resistance economy", a concept characterizing the Iranian response to Western sanctions policies. He has also said his government's priority is improving ties with Iran's neighbors.

## Putin: Russia Turning to Iran to Offset Sanctions



President Vladimir Putin delivers a speech during a plenary session at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, Russia on September 7.

MOSCOW (Dispatches) -- President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday it was "impossible" to isolate Russia and hailed Asia's growing global influence, as Moscow looks east in the face of unprecedented Western sanctions over Ukraine.

Washington and Brussels have pummeled Moscow with a barrage of economic and personal sanctions after Putin sent troops into Ukraine on February 24.

Putin said the West's sanctions

were short-sighted and a danger for the entire world which he said was increasingly turning towards Asia.

In a speech to the Eastern Economic Forum in the far east city of Vladivostok, Putin said the West had undermined the global economy with an "aggressive" attempt to impose its dominance across the world.

Putin added that following the imposition of sweeping Western sanctions in response to Russia's

military campaign in Ukraine, Russia saw more opportunities in entering markets in the Middle East and Iran.

Facing deteriorating ties with Western capitals, Moscow is seeking to pivot the country towards the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

"No matter how much someone would like to isolate Russia, it is impossible to do this," Putin told the Eastern Economic Forum in Russia's Pacific port city of Vlad-

vostok.

He said the coronavirus pandemic has been replaced by other global challenges "threatening the whole world", including "sanctions fever in the West".

Putin blamed the "elusive dominance" of the United States and "the stubborn refusal of Western elites to see and recognize objective facts".

He added that Russia is "coping with the technological, financial and economic aggression of the West", insisting the economic situation in Russia is "stabilizing".

Putin has repeatedly said that Russia's economy is weathering the barrage of sanctions well, as the Kremlin's ties with the West sink to new lows.

As Moscow seeks to instead bolster ties with Asia -- especially key ally China -- Putin welcomed the growing role of the Asia-Pacific region in global affairs.

"The role... of the countries of the Asia-Pacific region has significantly increased," he said at the forum, adding that partnerships will create "colossal new opportunities for our people".

Putin was joined at the forum by China's top legislator Li Zhanshu -- who ranks third in the Chinese government hierarchy -- with a bilateral meeting scheduled for later in the day.

Putin's participation in the forum in (Continued on Page 7)

## Host of MKO Terrorists Cuts Ties With Iran

TEHRAN -- Albania, which has for years hosted anti-Iran terrorists in criminal collusion with the U.S., on Wednesday severed diplomatic ties with Tehran, accusing it of orchestrating a "cyberattack" against Tirana.

"The government has decided with immediate effect to end diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran," Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama was quoted as saying in a video message.

The southern European country has ordered Iranian diplomats and embassy staff to leave within 24 hours, following a so-called investigation into the July attack, Rama added.

"This extreme response... is fully proportionate to the gravity and risk of the cyberattack that threatened to paralyze public services, erase digital systems, and hack into state records, steal government intranet electronic communication, and stir chaos and insecurity in the country," he said.

The United States quickly jumped in defense of its NATO ally, calling for Iran to be "held

accountable for this unprecedented cyber incident."

"We join in Prime Minister Rama's call for Iran to be held accountable for this unprecedented cyber incident," the U.S. National Security Council stated in a tweet.

Iran has not yet formally reacted to the development but experts believe the move has been choreographed to show support for the Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), an anti-Iran terrorist group based in Albania that has carried out numerous acts of terrorism on the Iranian soil.

The group has martyred thousands of Iranians in terrorist attacks since the victory of Iran's Islamic Revolution in 1979, including senior political leaders, clerics and ordinary civilians.

Albania took in around 3,000 members of the MEK terrorist group in 2016 at the request of Washington, after the group was disowned by Iraq and snubbed by many European countries.

In 1986, Iran asked France to expel the group from its base in (Continued on Page 7)

## Into the Storm: Truss Faces Energy Crisis, Recession

LONDON (AP) — Britain's new prime minister has pledged to rebuild the economy and "ride out the storm" gathering over the country, but Liz Truss faces a daunting job.

She inherits an ailing economy on the brink of a potentially long recession, with record inflation that's forecast to worsen in coming months and millions crying out for government help to cope with soaring energy bills.

Here's a look at the scale of the economic challenges that Truss faces and how she is expected to tackle them:

### High Energy Costs

At the top of Truss' agenda is a cost-of-living crisis driven by spiraling natural gas and electricity costs. Starting in October, millions of households will see their average yearly energy bill jump to about 3,500 pounds (\$4,000) — almost triple what they paid a year ago. The bills are expected to continue to climb and could exceed 4,000 pounds in January.

The sharp increases began last year, as economies worldwide recovered from the coronavirus pandemic and global demand for natural gas and oil surged. Russia's invasion of Ukraine triggered further volatility in wholesale gas prices, as Moscow switched off or reduced gas flows to European countries like Germany.

Britain only imports a small percentage of its gas from Russia, but the UK relies more on gas than its European neighbors because it has less nuclear and renewable energy. Compared with other European countries, the UK is much more dependent on gas to heat homes and generate electricity. The country also does not have as much capacity to store gas, forcing it to buy on the short-term spot market.

Charities and health bosses warn the crisis will hit the poorest hardest heading into winter. Hospitals say crippling energy costs will affect patient care, while scores of small businesses warn they face closure without urgent govern-

ment aid.

### Soaring Inflation

It's not just gas and electricity — other costs, such as food, have risen across the board. Inflation has crept up since last year and now stands above 10% for the first time since the oil price shocks of the 1970s and 1980s.

Worse is to come: The Bank of England predicted that the war in Ukraine could drive UK inflation to 13.3% next month. Some, like U.S. bank Citi, believe inflation could go as high as 18% next year before coming back down.

It's a shock to the system for millions. Before the crisis, the UK had seen average inflation rates of around 2% for years.

Meanwhile, average wages, especially those in the public sector, have failed to keep pace with soaring costs. Tens of thousands of rail, port and postal workers, lawyers and garbage collectors have gone on strike this summer to demand better pay.

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