

Yemen Targets Ship Headed to Occupied Palestine

SANAA (Dispatches) -- A spokesman for Yemen's armed forces said Tuesday that they targeted and hit the ship because it was headed towards Israel.

The spokesman said that the attack was launched after it sent warning calls to the ship, which the spokesman said were ignored by the vessel's crews.

"The Yemeni armed forces will continue to implement the decision to prevent Israeli navigation or those associated with the Israeli enemy in the Red and Arab seas until the aggression is stopped and the siege on the steadfast Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip is lifted," the spokesman said.

Kayhan International



Deal Includes Russian Commitment to Iran's Sovereignty

TEHRAN -- In a telephone conversation with his Iranian counterpart, the Russian defense minister emphasized his country's complete adherence to sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and Iran's Defense Minister Brigadier General Muhammadreza Ashtiani had a phone call on Monday during which they discussed ways to expand cooperation and security in the region. "This issue will be explicitly mentioned in a deal that will be signed between the governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Russia," General Shoigu said.

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Viewpoint

Iran's Bull's Eye Missile Strikes on Terrorist Centres Rattles the US

FM: U.S., UK Attacks on Yemen Illegal, Strategic Mistake



Iran's Mixed Team Earns Silver at Asian Shotgun Championships



Poll: Hamas Popularity Increases in Gaza, West Bank



Leader: Zionist Regime Defeated, Disintegrated

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei here Tuesday hailed Yemen's blow to Zionist regime's lifeline as "admirable" and "fighting on the path of God."

Speaking during a meeting with Friday Prayer leaders on Tuesday, Ayatollah Khamenei spoke about the significance of the Islamic month of Rajab, describing it as one of the most virtuous days of the year.

He advised the people and the believers to make the most of this great divine blessing by engaging in meaningful supplications, invocations, and repentances.

Pointing to the issue of Gaza and the patience and steadfastness of the Palestinians, the Leader emphasized that God's presence is apparent in these events.

"The oppressed and strong Gazans were able to influence the world with their battles and today the world views these people, their fighters and the resistance group as heroes," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei drew attention to the fact that despite facing oppression, the people of Gaza have achieved victory in the eyes of the international community and he attributed this outcome to their patience and their trust in God.

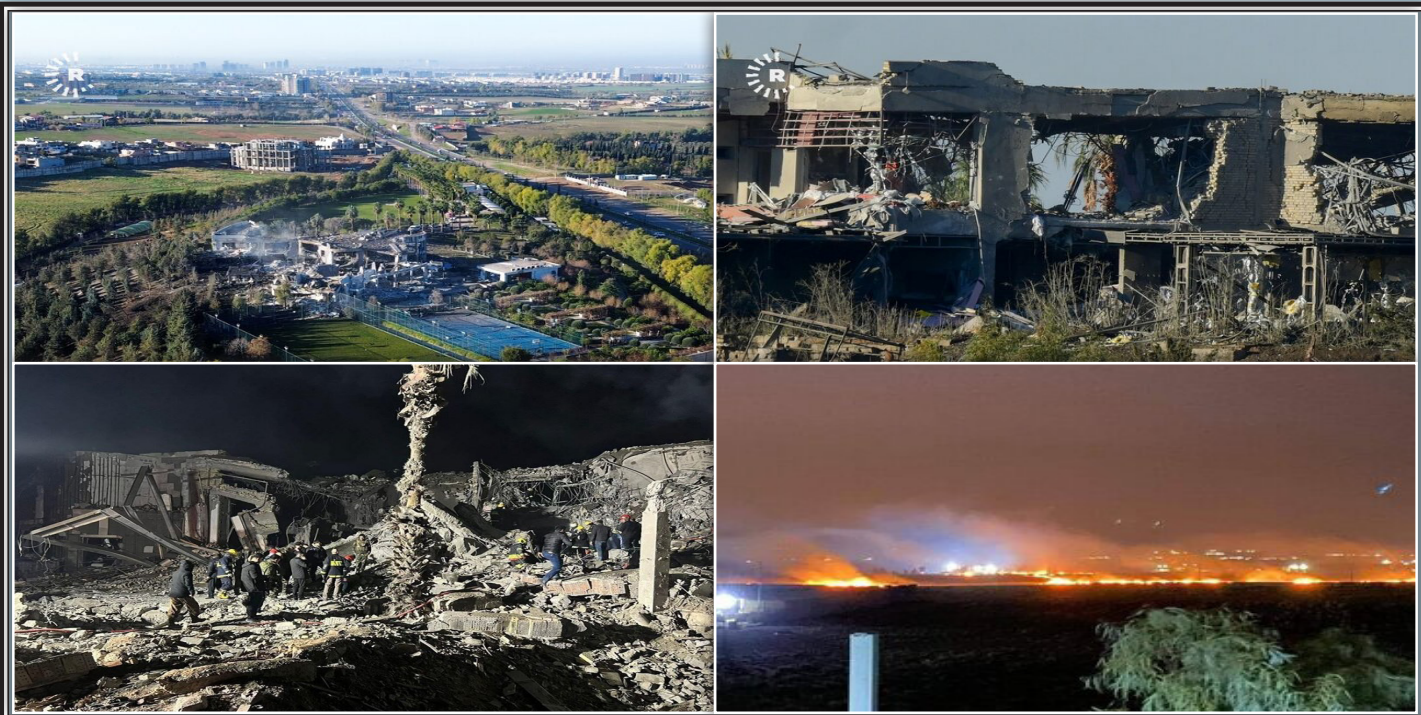
"On the other hand, no one in the world today believes that the evil usurping Zionist regime has won the war in Gaza. In the global opinion and in the opinion of the world's politicians, the regime is an oppressive, ruthless, bloodthirsty wolf that is defeated and disintegrated," he added.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the people of Gaza have spread Islam and made the Qur'an dear to the seekers of truth around the world with their resilience, praying that God would increase the honor of the fighters of the Resistance Front, especially the Gazan people and fighters.

The Leader also praised and commended the great work of the Yemeni nation and the Ansarullah government for their support of the Palestinians.

"The Yemenis targeted the key channels of the Zionist regime and did not fear

IRGC Missiles Destroy Daesh Bases, Mossad Center



These pictures show the impact of Iranian missiles fired at the Mossad spying center in the Iraqi Kurdistan.

TEHRAN -- The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said Tuesday it struck Syrian bases of terrorists involved in recent attacks in Iran as well as an Israeli espionage center in the Iraqi Kurdistan region with barrages of ballistic missiles.

The first missile strike targeted gathering places of commanders and main elements of recent terrorist attacks in the Iranian cities of Kerman and Rask.

It added that the strike came after gathering points of the Daesh terrorist group were identified in the occupied territories of Syria and destroyed with a number of ballistic missiles.

The takfiri group claimed responsibility for two explosions that killed nearly 100 people and wounded scores of others at a memorial for Iran's top anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani in the southeastern Iranian city of Kerman on January 3.

Last month, another terrorist attack hit a police station in the southeastern Iranian city of Rask, martyring 11 police officers and injuring at least six others.

The IRGC said in a later statement that another missile strike has been launched at a main espionage center of the Israeli regime's Mossad spy agency in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region.

It said the strike was a sign of the IRGC's full intelligence superiority over the Zionist regime's bases and activities in the region.

The IRGC added that its missile strike on the Iraqi Kurdistan Region had totally destroyed the Mossad center there.

It noted that the Mossad center was used "to develop espionage operations and plan acts of terrorism" across the region, especially in Iran.

The missile strike against the Mossad center, the statement said, was in retaliation

for the recent assassinations of the resistance front's commanders, especially those of the IRGC, by the Zionist regime.

The IRGC also assured "the great nation of Iran" that it will find "the malicious terrorist groups" that are active against the Iranian nation "wherever they are and will punish them for their shameful deeds."

The Iranian foreign ministry said the strikes were part of the "just punishment" against violators of Iran's security after a deadly terrorist attack hit the city of Kerman.

"The action was in defense of the country's sovereignty and security, and countering terrorism, and was a part of the Islamic Republic's just punishment against violators of the country's security," ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said.

"The Islamic Republic has always supported

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the threats of the U.S., because a God-fearing person does not fear anyone but God. What they did is truly and justly an example of fighting for the cause of God," he said.

The Leader expressed hope that these battles, acts of resistance, and endeavors would continue until victory is achieved, and requested God's help and assistance for those who strive to please Him.

Elsewhere during the meeting, the Leader said leading the Friday Prayers is regarded as a highly challenging responsibility.

The reason for this, noted the Leader, is primarily due to the fact that the individual in this role must maintain a strong connection with God and strive to satisfy Him, and at the same time take into consideration the interests and contentment of the people.

He said paying attention to the people during the Friday Prayer is a sign of the fundamental position of the people in Islam.

"The role and rights of the people in the Islamic system is such that, according to Imam Ali (AS), if the people do not want something and if they do not involve themselves in it, even a righteous individual like Imam Ali (AS) would not be obliged to fulfill that duty. However, if the people expressed a desire for something, it would become his obligatory responsibility to accept and address that need."

The Leader said it is necessary to inform the people about "domestic and global issues, the enemy's conspiracies and plots, and societal needs and realities" during Friday prayer sermons.

It is crucial for a Friday Prayer leader to connect with the audience and have a good understanding of their needs and thoughts, while pointing out the fact that the minds of today's youth are exposed to a diverse range of information and perspectives, Ayatollah Khamenei said.

"To assess the needs and correctly understand the minds of his audience, it is

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Zionist Atrocities Raise Fears of Widening War

GAZA STRIP, Palestinian Territories (Dispatches) -- The occupying regime of Israel pummeled southern Gaza on Tuesday, after announcing the winding down of the intense phase of the war that has inflamed tensions across the Middle East.

Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu's regime has come under mounting international pressure to end its invasion of Gaza. But fears are mounting the war could escalate, with resistance groups stepping up attacks across the region in solidarity with the Palestinians.

Hamas's press office said Zionist strikes martyred at least 78 people in the Gaza Strip overnight. An AFP correspondent said the southern city of Khan Younis was hit hard.

A young girl scoured rubble for salvageable items, while some scrambled to reach safer areas in Rafah on the Egyptian border, their belongings piled onto carts drawn by donkeys and tractors.

In central Gaza's devastated Al-Maghazi refugee camp, one woman raised her hands and cried out amid the wreckage of warped metal, gutted buildings and overturned vehicles.

A barrage of 50 rockets was fired toward Netivot in southern occupied territories, the Israeli military said. Hamas's armed wing, the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, claimed the operation.

Khan Younis has been the focus of the Israeli invasion. At least 24,285

Palestinians, about 70 percent of them women, children and adolescents, have been martyred in Gaza in Israeli bombardments and the ground onslaught since October 7, according to the health ministry.

Zionist war minister Yoav Gallant on Monday said intense operations would "soon" wind down in the territory's south.

The military announced Tuesday the death of two more soldiers in Gaza, bringing to 190 the total number killed since its ground invasion began, but Palestinian groups say the Zionist regime's losses are much higher.

UN chief Antonio Guterres on Monday reiterated calls to stop the facilitate delivering aid, releasing

the hostages and "tamp down the flames of wider war".

But Zionist officials have repeatedly said the invasion will continue for months.

Operations involving regional allies of Hamas have surged since the war began.

Yemen's armed forces, which say their repeated attacks on Red Sea shipping are in solidarity with Gaza, claimed a missile strike on a U.S.-owned cargo ship on Monday.

It came just days after the United States and Britain bombed scores of targets inside Yemen in response to their operations.

In another such attack, a missile struck a Greek-owned cargo ship in the Red Sea off Yemen, maritime

risk management company Ambrey said on Tuesday.

American officials said the U.S. carried out new air strikes against Yemen on Tuesday.

British oil major Shell suspended all shipments through the Red Sea indefinitely after U.S. and UK strikes on Yemen triggered fears of further escalation, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday, citing people familiar with the decision.

European Union member states have given an initial backing to create a naval mission in the Red Sea, European diplomats said.

The UN says the Israeli war has displaced roughly 85 percent of Gaza's 2.4 million people, many of whom have been forced to crowd

into shelters and struggle to get food, water, fuel and medical care.

As temperatures plunge, families living in makeshift tents in the southern city of Rafah have resorted to burning plastic to ward off the chill, despite the noxious fumes.

"I pray every day that we will all be martyred. Death is better than this life," said Abdul Karim Muhammad, a 29-year-old father of three whose family fled to Rafah from Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza.

The Israeli public has kept up pressure on the occupying regime to secure the return of the captives seized by Hamas, which on Monday announced the deaths of two more captives.