IRGC Thwarts Terrorist Attack by Jaish al-Adl

TEHRAN -- Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force thwarted an attack by a team of terrorists affiliated with Pakistan-based so-called Jaish al-Adl in Sistan and Baluchestan, the IRGC Ground Force's Quds Base said Wednesday.

IRGC border guards engaged the terrorists in Kastag village of Rask county, killing one of them and force the rest to flee into southwestern Pakistan. The operation also resulted in the confiscation of ammunition, weapons and explosives from the militants, it said.



Pakistani, Iranian FMs Hold Phone Talks

TEHRAN - Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian in a telephone conversation with his Pakistani counterpart Jalil Abbas Jilani on Wednesday described Pakistan's security as Iran's.

Expressing satisfaction with the friendly ties between the two countries, Amir-Abdollahian emphasized the importance of continuing cooperation and close contacts between the two countries' officials in various fields.

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Viewpoint

US Fails to Fool Iran's Neighbours on Destruction of Terrorist Bases

Defense Minister: No Limit to **Defending National Interests**



Iran Defeat China at **IWBF AOZ**



FM Amir-Abdollahian in Davos:

UNRWA Warns of Bleak **Post-War Future** for Gazans



Israel Intensifies Gaza Strikes After Aid Deal

GAZA STRIP, Palestinian Territories (Dispatches) – The occupying regime of Israel stepped up strikes on the south of war-torn Gaza Wednesday, ahead of the expected delivery of medicines for captives in exchange for humanitarian aid under a newly brokered deal.

Airstrikes and artillery fire targeted Khan Younis throughout the night, said an AFP correspondent in the southern Gaza Strip's biggest city.

"It was the most difficult and intense night in Khan Younis since the start of the war," said Gaza's government, whose health ministry reported 81 martyrs across the Palestinian territory.

At least 24,448 Palestinians, about 70 percent of them women, young children and adolescents, have been martyred in Israeli bombardments and ground assaults, according to the Gaza health ministry's latest figures.

The agreement announced on Tuesday allowing medicines to reach the captives and aid to enter the besieged Palestinian territory was brokered by Qatar and France.

Under the deal, "medicine along with other humanitarian aid is to be delivered to civilians in Gaza... in exchange for delivering medication needed for Israeli captives in Gaza," Qatar's foreign ministry said.

The office of Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed the deal, under which 45 captives are expected to receive medication.

The International Committee of the Red Cross welcomed the deal, saying it was "a muchneeded moment of relief".

A security source in Egypt said a Qatari plane carrying medicines had arrived on Wednesday at El-Arish near the Rafah border crossing with Gaza.

France said the drugs would be sent to a hospital in Rafah where they would be handed over to the Red Cross and divided into batches before being transferred to the captives.

Hamas released dozens of captives in exchange for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel during a November ceasefire mediated by Qatar, which hosts the group's political office.

U.S. National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said he was hopeful Qatar-brokered talks could lead to another such deal "soon".

At the Abu Yussef al-Najjar hospital in Rafah, Palestinians stood in front of bodies wrapped in shrouds, mourning the loss of loved ones martyred in an overnight Israeli strike.

"Why are they doing this? They are destroying us," Umm Muhammad Abu Odeh, a woman displaced from the north Gaza town of Beit Hanun, told

The Zionists "told us to go south, and we came here... but there is no safe place in Gaza, neither in the north, nor in the south, nor the middle.

"Everything is being struck. Everywhere is dangerous."

The United Nations says the water, fuel and medical care.

In Tel Aviv, anti-war protesters scuffled with police on Tuesday night, as some held up signs reading "End the siege" and "Stop the genocide"

The Israeli public has kept up intense pressure on Netanyahu's regime to secure the return

butz confirmed two captives whose deaths were announced killed in Gaza.

surged in the occupied West Bank since October 7 to a level not seen since the second Palestinian intifada, or uprising, between 2000 and 2005.

martyred at least seven Palestinians in drone strikes in the occupied West Bank on Wednesday morning, as the military carried out a raid in the city of Tulkarm.

The airstrike in Tulkarm refugee camp, which comes amid an ongoing military raid in the city, killed four Palestinians in al-Tamam neighborhood, the Palestinian health ministry said.

The Israeli military prevented ambulances from entering the camp, according to the Palestine Red Crescent Society.

Israeli army raids and attacks by settlers have martyred around 350 people in the territory, according to an AFP tally based on sources from both

Fears are mounting that the conflict will trigger an all-out war across the Middle East.

on Tuesday after the country's armed forces claimed another missile attack on a cargo ship in the Red Sea.

Also on Tuesday, the Zionist regime's targeted inside Lebanon, with a security source saying the strikes were "the most intense" on a single area since Hezbollah began exchanging fire with Israel after the start of the war in Gaza.

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,

of the captives. On Tuesday, an Israeli kib-

by Hamas in a video had been Israeli violence has also

On Wednesday Zionist forces

The U.S. military said it carried out fresh strikes in Yemen



Iran's Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian, right, is engaged in discussion with Fareed Zakaria at the Annual Meeting of World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Jan. 17, 2024.

DAVOS (Dispatches) - Iran's foreign minister said on Wednesday that operations against the occupying regime of Israel and its interests by the "Axis of Resistance" will stop if the Gaza war ends.

"An end to the genocide in Gaza will lead to an end of military actions and crises in the region," Hussein Amir-Abdollahian said at the World Economic Forum in

"The security of the Red Sea is tied to the developments in Gaza,

and everyone will suffer if Israel's crimes in Gaza do not stop... All the [resistance] fronts will remain active."

He said Iran had repeatedly warned that the continuation of the genocide against Palestinians will lead the Gaza war to spread to other parts of the region.

He also urged Washington to stop its unwavering support for the Zionist regime, and to push for an end to the onslaught.

He said Washington's support

for Israel was its first mistake concerning the ongoing situation in the region, and its second mistake was staging direct attacks on Yemeni boats.

Amir-Abdollahian stressed the importance of maritime security in the Red Sea, saying Iran conducts much of its trade through seas and it benefits from security in international waters.

He said Yemen also believes that international waters must be secure, and that its attacks are only aimed at bringing the Israeli genocide in Gaza to a halt.

Amir-Abdollahian further said Iran's Tuesday missile attack on borer areas in was directed at the so-called Jaish al-Adl terrorist group and no Pakistani national was targeted.

Speaking at the World Economic Forum, Amir-Abdollahian said members of the terrorist group are Iranians who have taken shelters in Pakistan and that Tehran had repeatedly warned Islamabad to prevent their anti-Iran crossborder operations.

"None of the nationals of the friendly and brotherly country of Pakistan were targeted by Iranian missiles and drones," he said.

"The so-called Jaish al-Adl group, which is an Iranian terrorist group, was targeted," he said, adding that this was a response to the recent attacks on Iran by the group, which he said is linked to Israel.

Jaish al-Adl, which was formed in 2012, has carried out several attacks on Iranian soil in recent

The group claimed responsibility for an attack in December on a police station in the southeastern city of Rask that martyred at least 11 Iranian police officers. On January 10, another attack by the group on a police station in the city martyred a policeman.

(Continued on Page 7)

U.S. Workers Against Gaza Genocide to be Fired

WASHINGTON (Middle East Monitor) -- Republican leaders threatened disciplinary action and termination of their job against federal workers participating in a mass walkout protesting President Joe Biden's backing of Israel's bloody military campaign in Gaza.

More 85,000 Palestinians have either been killed or injured in what has been labeled Israel's war of genocide against Palestinians.

The protest, led by an anonymous group dubbed "Feds United for Peace", aims to observe a "Day of Mourning" as the Zionist regime continues its bombing campaign for over 100 days.

Hundreds across agencies including the White House and Pentagon plan to simultaneously take leave to demonstrate against Washington's support of the apartheid state as the Gaza death toll passes 24,000. Israel enjoys staunch bipartisan political backing in the U.S.

But House Speaker Kevin Mc-Carthy and oversight Chairman James Comer promised to pressure agencies into prosecuting employees over the action. Stating the workers "deserve to be fired", legislators argue the demonstration illegally constitutes an organized "strike" against gov-

There is said to be unprecedented internal dissent within federal ranks over the Biden administration's decision to continue backing its major ally despite allegations of genocide. Biden himself marked the 100-day anniversary with a controversial statement showing solidarity with Israel but failed to mention even once the

wanted to remain anonymous.

"We are really not activists," (Continued on Page 7)

ernment policy, violating statutes.

mass slaughter of Palestinians.

"When your kids ask you, 'What did you do?', we don't want to say that we just watched from the sidelines. And we hope that everyone who has a conscience looks at this situation and takes it upon themselves to not watch from the sidelines," one of the organizers of the walkout is reported saying in Al Jazeera. She

said a second organizer. "There may be, among our group, people who are political appointees, but The number of containers in

Red Sea Cargo Ship Traffic Plunges After U.S. Airstrikes

container and dry cargo ship traffic through the Red Sea has posted a significant decline as shipping companies are forced to suspend their voyages through this route or divert it to the Cape of Good Hope, Anadolu Agency reported.

While daily container vessel traffic through the Red Sea halved on January 1-10, compared to the same period last year, total ship traffic decreased 25 percent with a significant decline in dry cargo ships, according to data compiled by Anadolu from MarineTraffic, a ship tracking and maritime analytics provider.

Yemen's armed forces have targeted Israeli commercial ships in the Red Sea in retaliation for the occupying regime's genocide in Gaza.

Last Thursday, the U.S. and UK launched joint strikes on Yemen, but more shipping companies halted traffic toward the Red Sea.

The Red Sea route accounts for nearly 12 per cent of global seaborne trade traffic.

LONDON (Dispatches) -- The the Red Sea decreased to 118 this January 1-10 from 248 in the same period last year.

Dry cargo ship traffic in the Red Sea decreased by 5 percent, yearon-year, on January 1-10. The figure was down 53 percent on January 10 from the beginning of this year.

While 45 dry cargo ships were sailing in the region on January 1-6, this number decreased to 21 as of January 10.

Speaking to Anadolu, Matthew Wright, senior analyst at ship tracking service, Kpler, said there are no container ships over 15,000 TEU in the area due to the joint airstrikes on Yemen that the U.S. and UK launched last week.

"On the bulk commodity side, tankers, dry bulk and LNG flows have been less affected, although transits via the Suez Canal are lower since the first diversions in December. Tanker transits are down around 15 per cent, for example," he said.

The figure is expected to increase further following the warnings

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