

TEHRAN -- Iran said Friday France, Germany, Britain and the United States must quit issuing statements and exerting fruitless pressure on Tehran and take the necessary political steps instead. Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani made the statement on Friday in reaction to a joint statement issued by the three European parties to the 2015 nuclear agreement – Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) and the United States on Thursday. The Western statement has condemned what is claimed to be an increase by Iran in the production rate of highly enriched uranium of up to 60% purity.

(Continued on Page 7)

TEHRAN -- Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian has said Iran supports resistance groups but Operation Al-Aqsa Storm was a completely independent Hamas decision and action. Referring to the confirmed documents for the Zionist regime's internal collapse, Amir-Abdollahian said Israel is facing internal collapse even as the U.S. and the West are fully supporting the occupying regime in atrocities being committed in the Gaza enclave for the past 84 days. The Zionist regime has not achieved any of its goals such as destruction or disarmament of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, the top Iranian diplomat said, adding that the Zionist regime's raids on Gaza for 80 days have resulted in nothing but genocide.

Hamas Assures Iran of Ability to Confront Israel



Russia Launches Massive Air Attack on Ukraine



Shamsaei Nominated for Best Men's National Team Coach



UNRWA: Gaza Grappling With 'Catastrophic Hunger'



Zionist Positions Under Intense Resistance Fire

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Lebanon's Hezbollah resistance movement on Friday launched fresh strikes on Israeli targets across the occupied territories in support of Palestinians who are subjected to Israeli atrocities.

Israeli media reports said Hezbollah fired anti-tank missiles at the Dolev settlement. Hezbollah said its fighters targeted Hadab Yaron with appropriate weapons, hitting it directly.

On Thursday, Hezbollah launched a volley of rockets at Israeli military positions in the northern flank of the 1948-occupied territories, after an Israeli airstrike on a southern Lebanese border town martyred three people.

Lebanon's Al-Manar television channel, citing a Hezbollah statement, reported that the movement targeted a "new command center" near the Israeli naval base in Rosh HaNikra, and fired at least 18 rockets at the site.

A number of Israeli soldiers were injured, when Lebanese resistance fighters struck Dhaira and Hadb al-Bustan outposts.

Hezbollah said in a separate statement that it launched heavy-caliber Burkan (Volcano) missiles at the Israeli Khirbet Maer site post near the Lebanese border, inflicting casualties.

Israeli artillery and tanks shelled the outskirts of Naqoura city, Aita al-Shaab village, and Al-Hamames hilltop south of al-Khiam. Zionist forces also targeted the outskirts of Al-Jibbain, Tayr Harfa and Yarine villages as well.

On Wednesday, three people were martyred in an Israeli aerial raid on a house in southern Lebanon.

The Zionist regime has been carrying out sporadic attacks on southern Lebanon since October 7, when it launched a devastating war against the besieged Gaza Strip.

Hezbollah has mounted near daily rocket attacks on Israeli positions at the border, while the occupying regime of Israel

has conducted air and artillery strikes in southern Lebanon.

More than 150 people have been martyred on the Lebanese side of the border since October 7.

The occupying regime of Israel says at least six of its soldiers and four settlers have been killed in the area, and the Lebanese army lost a soldier.

More than a dozen Lebanese civilians, three of them journalists, have also lost their lives in Israeli attacks.

In Yemen, the country's defense minister warned tarsregional military forces against offering support to the Zionist regime and securing passage of vessels bound to Israeli ports in the Red Sea and Arabian Sea waters.

Speaking at a graduation ceremony of Yemeni cadets in the country's western coastal city of Hudaydah, Major General Muhammad al-Atifi warned the forces "against various movements in support of the Zionist entity in the maritime theatre that spans between the Arabian Sea and the Red Sea."

He noted that Yemeni armed forces "are closely and rigorously monitoring the movement of American, British and French military forces in both bodies of water."

He said the Ansarullah resistance movement, the Sana'a-based National Salvation Government, the Yemeni nation, and security forces will stand unwaveringly by the side of Palestinians until they liberate all their occupied lands, and establish a sovereign independent state with holy Al-Quds as its capital.

On Thursday, the U.S. targeted a number of individuals and entities for allegedly helping the flow of financial assistance to Yemen after failing to build a coalition against the country and deter it with military threats.

Yemen has lately come on the U.S. radar for hostile measures after seeing the country's armed forces intercept or target Israeli ships or vessels

(Continued on Page 7)

Ayatollah Khamenei Leads Prayers for Gen. Mousavi Revenge No Less Than Removal of Zionist Regime



Ayatollah Khamenei led prayers over the coffin of Gen. Mousavi for whom funeral processions were held in the Iraqi city of Najaf and Iranian capital of Tehran.

TEHRAN – **Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei led prayers on Thursday at the funeral of Gen. Seyyed Razi Mousavi, a senior IRGC adviser martyred in an Israeli airstrike in Syria.**

Ayatollah Khamenei paid tribute to the martyr's tireless struggle and called for

his companionship with the guardians of God as tens of thousands massed here for the funeral.

Gen. Mousavi was one of the most experienced and effective commanders of the resistance front, said Major General Hussein Salami, chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC).

"Our revenge for the martyrdom of Seyyed Razi will be nothing less than the removal of the Zionist regime," Gen. Salami said in a televised funeral speech, adding that he had defended the Muslim nation for almost 33 years.

"I am hopeful that soon, God permitting, the great and honorable Palestinian fighters will

World Watches as Israel Massacres Hundreds More

RAFAH (Dispatches) – **Zionist forces have martyred at least 187 Palestinians in air-strikes across the Gaza Strip over the past 24 hours, the health ministry said on Friday.**

This brings the death toll since 7 October to at least 21,500 with almost 56,000 wounded and 7,000 missing who are believed to be dead and buried under rubble.

Overall, around four percent of Gaza's population have been killed, wounded or gone missing in less than three months of bombardment.

The majority of victims are children and women, according to health officials.

Over 29,000 people in Gaza are dead or missing since the Zionist onslaught started on October 7, the director of Gaza's government media office told Al Jazeera.

They added that an estimated 7,000 people are trapped un-

der rubble, and that around 800,000 residents of Gaza City and northern Gaza cannot access a hospital.

Like almost every day for nearly three months, Palestinians in Gaza woke up Friday to repeated scenes of flattened homes, lines of dead bodies and traumatized children.

Zionist fighter jets bombed heavily overnight in Rafah, Khan Younis and overcrowded central refugee camps.

An estimated 100,000 Palestinians have been forced to flee to Rafah, the Gaza Strip's most densely populated area, after increased Israeli attacks in recent days in central governorates, according to the UN.

Some have been displaced already and forced to move again.

Their relocation to Rafah, the southernmost town in Gaza, has "further exacerbated conditions related to the already

overcrowded space and limited resources", the UN has said.

Zionist soldiers fired at a UN aid convoy in the Gaza Strip, director of the UNRWA in the besieged strip said on Friday.

Since October 7, the UN agency said, 308 people sheltering in UNRWA facilities have been killed and 1095 injured.

"Initial reports indicate on 25 December, 2 people sheltering in UNRWA Maghazi Prep School were killed & 1 injured, result of a direct strike," it said on X. The UN agency added: "Nowhere in Gaza is safe".

In the occupied West Bank, at least four Zionist settlers were wounded in a suspected car ramming incident near Al-Khalil, Israeli medics have said. The driver has been reportedly shot and killed.

After the attack, the military

wipe out the geographical and political name of this evil and fake regime."

Mourners chanted "Death to America, Death to Israel" while many waved yellow flags with the message "I am your opponent" — a reference to the occupying regime of Israel — in both Persian and Hebrew.

Gen. Musavi's body was flown from Syria to the holy city of Najaf in Iraq on Wednesday before being taken for burial in Tehran.

Ayatollah Khamenei earlier on Thursday met with Gen. Mousavi's family and led the prayer before it was taken to the central square.

The Zionist regime has long wage a shadow war of assassinations and sabotage against Iran and its allies, but Gen. Mousavi's martyrdom came at a time of sharply heightened regional tensions over the Israel-Hamas conflict since early October.

Some of the mourners in Tehran carried pictures of Gen.

(Continued on Page 7)

reportedly assaulted several journalists and confiscated their equipment to ensure they did not cover the incident.

The UNRWA posted on X that 2023 has been the "deadliest year" in the West Bank on record, with a total of 504 killed this year.

Israeli forces launched raids in several cities at the same time, including Ramallah, Nablus, Jenin, Jericho, and Qalqiliya on Thursday. One Palestinian was martyred in Ramallah.

A United Nations report issued Thursday said the human rights situation in the occupied West Bank was rapidly deteriorating and urged Israel to "end unlawful killings" against the Palestinian population.

"The use of military tactics and weapons in law enforcement contexts, the use of unnecessary

(Continued on Page 7)