

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – An Israeli strike on Monday targeted a Hezbollah figure in the district of Bint Jbeil in southern Lebanon, but he survived, Lebanese security sources told Xinhua. The Hezbollah official, whose name was not provided, was targeted with an air-to-surface missile while driving, said the sources who spoke anonymously. Medical sources told Xinhua that the injured official was in critical condition and was immediately performing surgery. Hezbollah has not yet issued any statement about the incident. Lebanese military sources said that the Zionist regime on Monday carried out eight air strikes on four towns and villages and fired about 70 shells on 18 towns and villages in southern Lebanon.

## 'Too Few Meals'

# WHO Chief: Medical Aid to Gaza 'Drop in Ocean'

DUBAI (Dispatches) – The head of the World Health Organization said on Monday the humanitarian situation in Gaza was dire, adding that current levels of medical supplies reaching the Palestinian enclave were "only a drop in the ocean of need."

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was speaking at the World Governments Summit in Dubai and during his address he reiterated calls for a ceasefire in Israel's war on Gaza that has ravaged the area.

"WHO continues to call for safe access for humanitarian personnel and supplies," he told the summit.

He added he was deeply concerned by the Zionist regime's attacks on Rafah where most of the enclave's inhabitants have fled.

"Only 15 out of 36 hospitals are still partially or minimally functioning, and Gaza health workers are doing their best in impossible circumstances," he said.

"I am especially concerned by the recent attacks on Rafah where the majority of Gaza's population has fled the destruction.

"So far, we have delivered 447 metric tons of medical supplies to Gaza, but it's a drop in the ocean of need, which continues to grow every day," he added.



People ferry water at a makeshift tent camp for displaced Palestinians in Rafah near the border with Egypt in the southern Gaza Strip, on January 24, 2024.

The war, now entering its fifth month, has killed more than 28,000 people in Gaza, health authorities in the enclave have said.

Tedros said lessons were not being learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and that the world was not prepared for a new pandemic, which he added was inevitable.

"If the world fails to learn from these lessons, it will pay dearly next time," he said. "And there will be a next time. History teaches us that the next pandemic is a matter of when — not if."

He continued: "It may be caused by an influenza virus, or a new Coronavirus or it may be caused by a new pathogen we don't even know about yet. Tomorrow we would face many of the same problems we face with COVID-19."

Tedros rejected what he called "a litany of lies and conspiracy theories" surrounding current negotiations on an international agreement on pandemic preparedness and response.

Meanwhile, the World Food Program (WFP) said on Sunday that

there are too few meals for most Palestinians in the Gaza Strip amid a deadly Israeli offensive on the enclave.

"For most in Gaza, there is no house, no table, and too few meals," WFP Country Director for Palestine, Matthew Hollingworth said in a statement.

"We are hoping to be able to assist more bakeries, particularly in the northern areas where people are in desperate need, but we need access, and we need safety," he added.

The Israeli onslaught has left 85% of Gaza's population internally displaced amid acute shortages of food, clean water and medicine, while 60% of the enclave's infrastructure was damaged or destroyed, according to the UN.

In late 2023 South Africa filed a case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), accusing Israel of failing to uphold its commitments under the 1948 Genocide Convention.

The UN court, in its interim ruling in January, ruled that South Africa's claims are plausible. It ordered provisional measures for Israel's government to desist from genocidal acts, and take measures to guarantee that humanitarian assistance is provided to civilians in Gaza.

## Report: Hezbollah Targeted Israel Over 1,000 Times Since Oct. 8



Secretary General of the Lebanese Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah (R) and Secretary General of Palestine's Islamic Jihad movement Ziad al-Nakhleh meet on February 12, 2024.

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Lebanese Hezbollah resistance fighters have carried out more than a thousand strikes against the Zionist regime's military positions in the occupied territories in solidarity with Palestinians in the Gaza Strip amid the bloody Israeli onslaught, according to a report.

Lebanon's Arabic-language al-Mayaadeen television news network reported that the resistance movement had struck Israeli outposts at least 1,013 times between October 8 last year and February 11.

Hezbollah said in a statement that its fighters had hit espionage devices at the Israeli Ruweisat al-Alam site in the Kfarchouba Hills as well as the occupied Shebaa Farms, destroying the designated targets.

The resistance forces also targeted a gathering of Israeli soldiers at the al-Tayhat Triangle region with a salvo of missiles.

Later in the day, Hezbollah fighters fired missiles at spying devices stationed at the al-Abbad site and destroyed them.

The resistance group also launched a fresh rocket attack against the Ruweisat al-Alam site, causing damage to the Israeli military outpost there.

Moreover, the Lebanese resistance fighters targeted a gathering of Zionist troops at Jabal Nather with a number of rockets, leaving several troops injured.

### 'Steadfastness to Achieve Promised Victory'

The top resistance leaders of Lebanon and Palestine assert that it is necessary to remain steadfast and work tirelessly to achieve the promised victory.

Secretary General of the Lebanese

Hezbollah resistance movement Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah and Secretary General of Palestine's Islamic Jihad movement Ziad al-Nakhleh held a meeting on Monday.

During the meeting, the two resistance leaders discussed the latest developments in the war-torn Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank, encompassing both political and on-ground situations, amid Israel's brutal attacks against the people of Palestine.

Nasrallah and Nakhleh also exchanged views about the condition of other fronts opened by the Axis of Resistance in support of the Palestinian people and resistance in the face of Israel.

The discussions also touched upon existing possibilities and expected developments, whether on the field or in political communications.

The occupying regime launched its devastating hostilities in the Gaza Strip on October 7 after Hamas-led Palestinian resistance groups carried out a surprise retaliatory attack, dubbed Operation Al-Aqsa Storm, against the occupying entity.

The occupying regime's military has also been carrying out attacks against the Lebanese territory since then, prompting retaliatory strikes from Lebanon's resistance movement Hezbollah in support of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip.

The movement has vowed to keep up its retaliatory operations as long as the Tel Aviv regime continues its onslaught on Gaza.

The Israeli campaign in Gaza has killed at least 28,176 people, most of them women and children. Another 67,784 individuals have also been wounded.

## Baghdad, Washington Resume Talks on Ending U.S. Occupation of Iraq

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraq and the United States have resumed a new round of dialogue to discuss ending the U.S.-led military occupation of Iraq, the Iraqi government said.

Iraqi military spokesman Yahya Rasool said in a statement that the Higher Military Commission (HMC) resumed meetings to assess the military situation.

The United States invaded Iraq in 2003 based on false claims about Baghdad possessing weapons of mass destruction, leaving a trail of destruction, death, and chaos in the Arab country.

The U.S. and its allies re-launched a military campaign in 2014 to supposedly fight off Daesh. The group had emerged in Iraq and neighboring Syria earlier as Washington was running out of excuses to extend its meddling in the West Asia region or enlarge it in scale.

The U.S. military claimed to be ending its combat mission in Iraq in 2021, but said it would retain some 2,500 troops in the country as alleged advisors, although, Baghdad and its allies had decisively defeated terrorists in late 2017.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Rasool said the resumed meetings

are aimed at setting up a "time-line" for a "progressive pull-out" of coalition forces from Iraq.

"As long as nothing disrupts the serenity of these talks, the meetings will take place on a regular basis in order to achieve the commission's works as soon as possible," the military official.

The first round of talks opened on January 27, but was suspended after a drone strike killed three U.S. forces at a base in Jordan. Washington has been using the incident as an excuse to stage a raft of deadly attacks across Iraq and Syria.

On Saturday, a former Iraqi prime minister urged Baghdad to act more decisively towards ending the United States' so-called mission.

Speaking to Iran's Arabic-language Al-Alam television network, Adel Abdul-Mahdi said, "The Iraqi government should adopt a clear and simple position and announce to America the end of its mission on a certain date."

"American forces came to Iraq in line with a decision made by the Iraqi government, and now they should leave as per the Iraqi government's notification," he noted.

## Taliban: 2 Afghans Detained at Gitmo for 14 Years Released

ISLAMABAD (AP) – Two Afghan prisoners who were held in U.S. custody for at least 14 years at the Guantanamo Bay detention center after 2002 were released from house arrest in Oman, a Taliban spokesman says.

Abdul Zahir Saber and Abdul Karim were released as a result of the efforts made by the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Taliban interior ministry spokesman Abdul Mateen Qani said.

Senior Taliban officials posted photographs of Saber and Karim on social media with messages of congratulations. An official welcome ceremony is being organized in the capital, Kabul, for their return on Monday, Qani said.

The two men were held in Guantanamo until 2017, when they were

transferred to the Persian Gulf kingdom of Oman, where they spent the next seven years under house arrest, forbidden to travel.

The United States opened the detention center at Guantanamo Bay, in Cuba, under President George W. Bush in January 2002 after the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the invasion of Afghanistan. It was intended at the time to hold and interrogate those suspected of having links to Al-Qaeda or the Taliban, who had sheltered bin Laden.

However, scores of suspects from multiple countries were later sent there and the detention center became notorious after reports emerged of detainees being humiliated and tortured.

Saber, who was originally from

the province of Logar, was arrested by American forces on May 10, 2002, Qani said. In October that year, after four months in Bagram prison just outside Kabul, Saber was transferred to Guantanamo.

"As a result of the efforts of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, after many years in prison and imposed restrictions will be removed, he will return to his homeland," said Qani.

Karim, a resident of Tani district of Khost province, in the east, was arrested in Pakistan on Aug. 14, 2002. After a few months in prison there, he was handed over to American forces.

He was moved to Guantanamo in early 2003 and then to Oman in 2017.

## Bahraini Hackers Target U.S. Fifth Fleet, Gain Access to Secret Data

MANAMA (Dispatches) – Bahraini hackers have penetrated into the systems of the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet and gained access to confidential documents.

The hacking group al-Toufan (Flood) Team carried out an operation against the U.S. Fifth Fleet in Bahrain, which is endangering maritime navigation in West Asia.

The group said that it had obtained documents containing pictures and detailed maps from inside the American military base in Bahrain.

It released a small part of the documents, saying, "What we

have is greater, and it will reach those [who are] concerned and support ... the operations of the Axis of Resistance against the American Axis of Evil."

The leakage is for "the heroes of the valiant and honorable resistance in Palestine, Lebanon, Yemen and Iraq, and the righteous martyrs ... on the road to Al-Quds," it added.

Tensions have ratcheted up in West Asia due to the United States' support for the Zionist regime's genocidal war on the Gaza Strip, which has killed at least 28,176 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injured

67,784 others since October 7.

Resistance groups, in retaliation, have launched attacks on bases housing U.S. occupation forces in Iraq and Syria.

Yemeni armed forces have also launched a pro-Palestine maritime campaign, targeting Israel-bound or affiliated ships, in the southern Red Sea, the Bab al-Mandeb Strait, the Gulf of Aden, and even the Arabian Sea.

In response, the U.S. has conducted illegal strikes on Iraq, Syria, and Yemen. Bahrain is the only Arab country that is supporting the U.S.-led aerial assaults on Yemen.