

Fresh U.S., UK Aggression Against Yemen

SANAA (Dispatches) -- The United States and Britain on Tuesday carried out joint airstrikes on Yemen which says it is fully prepared to fight off a potential ground invasion by the outsiders.

The airstrikes targeted areas in Tuhayta district of the western province of Hudaydah. The strikes came after U.S. and UK warplanes targeted at least 10 locations in areas controlled by Yemen's Ansarullah movement on Thursday and Friday.

Kayhan International



U.S. Senate Passes \$95bn Aid Package for Ukraine

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- The Democratic-led U.S. Senate on Tuesday passed a \$95.34 billion aid package for Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, though it faced an uncertain path ahead in the Republican-controlled House of Representatives.

The lawmakers approved the measure in a 70-29 vote that exceeded the chamber's 60-vote threshold for passage and sent the legislation on to the House. Twenty-two Republicans joined most Democrats to support the bill.

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Viewpoint

Iran's Thwarting of US-Zionist Destabilization Plots

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Amir-Abdollahian Praises 'Constructive' Tehran-Doha Ties



Title Hopefuls Juventus Stunned 1-0 at Home by Struggling Udinese



World Leaders Denounce Israel's Incessant Aggression Against Gaza



The Epitome of Faith and Fidelity

By: Seyyed Ali Shahbaz

"I bear witness that most certainly you served the cause of Allah, and made utmost efforts to pursue its purpose. Allah, therefore, has included you among the martyrs and let your soul rest in peace with the souls of the fortunate; awarded you a spacious space in His Paradise, in the Seventh Heaven; paid tribute to you by mention of your name in the highest circle; chosen you to move in the company of the Prophets, the Truthfuls, the Martyrs, and the Pious, and these are the best companions. I bear witness that most certainly you did not lag behind, did not turn away the face; indeed, you were fully aware of the truth at the time of leaving this world, following in the footsteps of the Pious Infallibles and the Prophets..."

The person praised in this passage graced the mortal world in the city of Medina on the 4th of Sha'ban in the year 26 AH (647 AD), in the house of the Commander of the Faithful, Imam Ali (AS), the Vicegerent of the Messenger of Mercy, Prophet Muhammad (SAWA).

His mother was a lady of the valiant al-Kilabiyya clan, named Fatema bint Hezaam, whom Imam Ali (AS), had married over a dozen years after the passing away of the Noblest Lady of all times, Hazrat Fatema az-Zahra (SA).

He was named Abbas, which is a synonym for lion and indicative of his future valour. His birth had a purpose behind and was meant to serve as eternal lessons in faith, fealty, loyalty, chivalry, and self-sacrifice, for all mankind.

Although an age gap of over 20 years separated him from Imam Hasan (AS) and Imam Husain (AS), he never called the grandsons of the Prophet, as brothers but addressed them respectively as "Ya Seyyedi" (O my Lord) and "Ya Mowlai" (O my Master), out of respect for their Divinely-designated positions as "Leaders of the Youths of Paradise", of which he was fully aware.

His father had inculcated in him the values of devotion and dedication in all aspects of life, whether in society as a civilian or on the battlefield as a humanitarian warrior upholding truth and honour.

Abbas (AS) was in his early teens when Imam Ali (AS) attained martyrdom and as he grew into manhood his tall stature and exceptionally handsome features earned him the title "Qamar Bani Hashem" (Moon of the Hashemite Clan).

He proved to be a loyal lieutenant to his elder brothers in those crucial years when the caliphate was seized through deceit by the rebellious governor of Syria, Mu'awiyya ibn Abu Sufyan.

Abbas (AS) stood steadfast beside Imam Hasan al-Mojtaba (AS) as the righteous leader of the Islamic Ummah, and was given charge of public welfare projects, which he admirably carried out in Medina and Hijaz.

Next he proved to be a tried and trusted assistant for Imam Husain (AS), and in view of his abilities and prudence, he was entrusted the management of various affairs, which he used to diligently discharge.

In 61 AH (680 AD), when Imam Husain (AS) arrived on the fateful field of Karbala in Iraq, Abbas (AS) was in the prime of manhood at the age of 35 years. The Omayyad commanders, who had unmanly blocked access to the banks of the River Euphrates, tried to lure him away from the Imam with offers of wealth and posts, which he spurned.

For several days on several occasions, he and his companions boldly pierced the ranks of the enemies to fetch water for the camp of the Imam. On the Day of Ashura, that is Muharram 10, when the Godless Omayyad army had completely cut off access to the river by placing rows upon rows of soldiers on its banks, he yet again scattered the cowardly enemies.

When he plunged his horse into the fresh flowing waters of the Euphrates, he refused to drink a drop, since the Imam, the noble ladies of the Prophet's Household, and the children in the camp were thirsty.

He filled the goatskin carrier with water and made a dash for the encampment through the palm groves, but alas was struck on his arm by a dastardly Omayyad hiding behind a tree. Undaunted, he recited the following words:

"By Allah, even if you sever my hand, I will continue to support my religion forever I will perennially protect the ever-truthful Imam and the grandson of the pure and trustworthy Prophet!"

Moments later, as he rode towards the encampment, another dastardly enemy using a palm tree as cover, struck at his remaining arm and managed to sever it.

The indomitable spirit of the now armless Abbas made him spur his horse towards the encampment, before his heart was broken when an arrow pierced the goatskin carrier spilling the water he was transporting for the Imam, for the noble ladies, and for the thirsty children.

Next his eye was pierced with another arrow, while an assassin smote his helmet from behind making him fall on the ground, but without the use of any hand to act as support when he came down in acute pain on the stony soil.

Imam Husain (AS) rushed towards his brother only to find the valiant and loyal Abbas about to depart from the mortal world with a smile on his injured lips.

The Imam crying "O Abbas your death has broken my back", referred to him as "Bab al-Murad" or the Gateway of Boons for all those who would invoke his right while supplicating to God Almighty for their needs.

No wonder, his nephew Imam Zain ul-Abidin (AS) had saluted his uncle in the following words: "May Allah shower His mercy on Abbas! Certainly, he sacrificed a lot and endured untold atrocities. He kept defending his brother (the Imam) with all his life till he lost both his hands. Instead of his lost hands, Allah the Almighty has granted him two wings in paradise by which he flies in the heavens along with the angels, just as He had granted Ja'far ibn Abi Taleb (AS). Surely, Abbas (AS) enjoys such eminence and position in front of Allah that all the martyrs will be envious of him on the Day of Judgment."

Decades later, his great-grandnephew Imam Ja'far Sadeq (AS) would laud him with the words: "Our uncle, Abbas (AS), had complete insight. His belief was very firm and unflinching. He fought with my (great-grand) father, Imam Husain (AS)."

The Lord of the Age, Imam Mahdi (AS) -- the Prophet's 12th and Last Infallible Heir who will reappear in the end times to rid the Planet of oppression by establishing the global government of peace, prosperity and justice -- has saluted him in the famous "Ziyarat an-Nahiyya" with the following words:

"Peace upon Abu'l-Fazl al-Abbas, the son of the Commander of the Faithful, and Defender of his brother (Imam Husain) with his life and soul, who prepared for the fateful morning since the day before, and laid down his life for Husain, faithful unto death; and who strove to bring water for him and his children, but whose arms were both cut off. God curse his killers, Yazid bin ar-Raqad al-Juhani and Hakem bin Tufail at-Taie."

No wonder, every year, the blessed birth anniversary of Hazrat Abbas (AS) is celebrated in the Islamic Republic of Iran as "Rouz-e Janbaaz" or Day of the Heroic War Veterans who in defence of Islam have suffered serious injuries.

For First Time: Shahid Mahdavi Fires Ballistic Missile



A Zolfaghar-class ballistic missile was launched from the Shahid Mahdavi forward floating base of the Iranian IRGC Navy.

TEHRAN -- The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy has for the first time test-fired a Zolfaghar-class ballistic missile from one of its warships.

The projectile, the latest joint achievement of the IRGC Navy and the IRGC Aerospace Force, successfully struck its designated target in the Kavir Desert in central Iran.

The IRGC Navy released the foot-

age of the launch on Tuesday and said the missile, with a range of 750 kilometers, was fired from the Shahid Mahdavi aircraft carrier.

With the new capability of launching missiles from vessels and the firing of Zolfaghar, the IRGC warships will henceforth be able to carry various types of ballistic missiles with a range of up to 1,750 kilometers.

The Shahid Mahdavi aircraft carrier is the IRGC's oceangoing warship, which is 150 meters long and weighs 4,000 tons. The warship is a multipurpose vessel for long-range operations and is furnished with missiles, air defense systems, and radars.

IRGC commander Major General Hussein Salami announced a day earlier that the long-range

ballistic missile had been successfully launched in a coordinated mission involving the IRGC Navy and Aerospace Force.

Gen. Salami said the new achievement had extended the IRGC's range of influence and naval power up to any desired spot in the world.

"Our oceangoing warships can be present in every location across the world, and when we can fire missiles from them, there is accordingly no safe spot for anyone intending to create insecurity for us," the IRGC chief stated.

Iranian military experts and engineers have in recent years made remarkable breakthroughs in manufacturing a broad range of indigenous equipment, making the armed forces self-sufficient.

Iranian officials say the Islamic Republic will not hesitate to strengthen its military capabilities, including its missile power, which are entirely meant for defense.

Iran has made it clear that its defense capabilities are not subject to negotiation. Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei has repeatedly called for efforts to maintain and boost Iran's defense capabilities.

Nasrallah: Zionist Enemy is Weak, in Crisis

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah on Tuesday warned that "intimidation" and offers of "political gains" will not convince Hezbollah to halt its attacks on Israel if the war on Gaza does not stop.

"The front in southern Lebanon is a front of support, assistance, solidarity, and participation in weakening the Israeli enemy until it reaches the point where it is convinced that it must stop its aggression. This front will only stop when the aggression against Gaza stops within an agreement with the Palestinian resistance," he said in a televised address.

"What we're doing on our front in Lebanon and what the brothers are doing on the other fronts is an honest fulfillment of our duty," said Nasrallah marking Hezbollah's 'Day of the Wounded'.

"What we're doing on our Lebanese front is a national responsibility," he stressed.

He said the homes that are being destroyed in the South will be rebuilt and will become better than they were.

He said the battle is supported by the vast majority of the frontline villages and the entire south.

"The residents of the frontline villages and the South have witnessed that the resistance is what has recovered their land and protected them and their dignity and properties."

Nasrallah also rejected threats by Zionist officials of a large-scale war if Hezbollah refuses to stop its assaults, saying, "If Israel had been able [to launch such a war], it would have done so on the second or third day."

"The enemy is not in the position of imposing conditions on Lebanon, as it is weak and in crisis, and it is the one which spent four months unable to complete the battle in Gaza."

He said, "The front has been open since 129 days in the South, but the enemy is fighting within limits and constraints and this experience has fixed the deterrence balances and proved that Lebanon has a deterrence force."

"Lebanon is in a strong and proactive position," insisted the Hezbollah leader.

Describing the south Lebanon front as "a pressure, participation and solidarity front aimed at weakening the Zionist enemy and its

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Gazans Brace for Zionist Invasion of Rafah

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) -- The occupying regime of Israel faced growing international pressure Tuesday to agree to a ceasefire with Hamas, as it prepared for an invasion of the crowded southern Gaza city of Rafah where more than a million Palestinians are trapped.

CIA director William Burns met with Mossad chief David Barnea in Cairo for a new round of talks on a Qatari-brokered plan to temporarily halt fighting in exchange for Hamas freeing Zionist captives.

The two intelligence chiefs were joined by Qatar's prime minister and Egyptian officials, Egyptian media reported -- two countries in the middle of mediation efforts as ceasefire proposals bounce back and forth between the two sides.

The families of the remaining captives made an emotional plea to Barnea and the Zionist delegation ahead of the Cairo talks: "Do not return until everyone comes home -- the living and the dead".

The campaign group has been urging the Zionist regime to exhaust every option to return some 130 captives still believed to be in

Gaza. Israel says 29 of them are presumed dead.

Gaza health officials announced 133 new Palestinian deaths in the past 24 hours, bringing the total to 28,473 martyred and 68,146 wounded since Oct. 7.

The Cairo meeting came after the United Nations warned the Zionist regime against a ground invasion of Rafah.

With the city on edge, some of Rafah's residents started to dismantle their makeshift tents and prepared to move on again.

"We are sleeping in the street, (the tent) doesn't have a roof, it's made of nylon -- if it gets hit by a missile, you will die instantly," said Gazan Fayez Abed.

Jordan's King Abdullah pushed for a "lasting ceasefire" to end the more than four-month-old war, warning an Israeli attack on Rafah would "produce another humanitarian catastrophe".

Other countries cautioned the Zionist regime against a Rafah ground assault, including China, Germany and Norway, while Italy said Israel's bombing in Gaza had been "disproportionate".

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