

ANKARA (Xinhua) – Turkish police have detained 148 suspected drug traffickers in anti-narcotics operations across 21 provinces, the country's Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said on Monday. The simultaneous raids were carried out in provinces including Istanbul, Bursa, Sivas, Bolu, Kahramanmaraş, Osmaniye, Iğdır, Uşak, Muğla, etc., Yerlikaya said on social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter. Among the seized were 300 kg of methamphetamine, 126 kg of skunk, 10,500 pills, 900 kg of marijuana and methamphetamine, and a substantial amount of other drugs, he added. The minister vowed to continue relentless efforts to counter drug-related crimes in the country.

Acquire wisdom and truth from whomever you can because even an apostate can have them but unless they are passed over to a faithful Muslim and become part of wisdom and truth that he possesses, they have a confused existence in the minds of apostates.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Shekel Shrinks to 8-Year Low

Several Airlines Suspend Flights to Israel After Hamas Operation

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Major international air carriers have suspended or reined in flight services to or from Tel Aviv after a surprise operation by the Palestinian resistance factions on Israel over the weekend, saying they were waiting for safety conditions to improve.

The occupying regime's carrier El Al was the exception, adding more flights to bring reservists back from around the world to assist in the regime's biggest mobilization in history.

Fighters from the Palestinian resistance groups killed 700 Zionists and abducted dozens in Saturday's attacks, the deadliest such operation in decades, prompting the occupying regime to pound the Palestinian enclave of Gaza.

The occupying regime's tourism sector is set to take a major hit as flight cancellations pile up.



American Airlines pilot union tell members to refuse to fly to the Israeli-occupied territories, citing the ongoing war in Gaza.

Tourism makes up 3.6% of total employment, according to OECD data.

Tourism bookings were 18% below pre-pandemic levels and

had been rising earlier this year, according to travel data firm ForwardKeys, but took a hit on the back of political turmoil, particularly with American tourists.

Regulators including the United States' Federal Aviation Administration, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency and the occupying regime's aviation authority urged airlines to use caution in the region's airspace, but stopped short of suspending flights.

The regime's civil aviation authority asked airlines to "review current security and threat information" amid the conflict, and changed some air traffic routes. It noted that delays were expected and advised airlines to carry extra fuel.

Meanwhile, the Zionist regime's shekel fell to an almost eight-year low against the U.S. dollar on Monday as the conflict in the occupied territories escalated.

The shekel was last down more than 3% against the dollar at 3.9581, Reuters reported.

Activists: Biden Betrayed Khashoggi With Push to Deepen Saudi Ties

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – Human rights campaigners say U.S. President Joe Biden has broken his pre-election promise to re-evaluate relations with Saudi Arabia over the state-sponsored murder of insider-turned-critic Jamal Khashoggi.

Khashoggi, a Saudi dissident and Washington Post columnist, was killed and dismembered by Saudi agents in the kingdom's Istanbul consulate on October 2, 2018.

A subsequent investigation by the U.S. spy agency CIA concluded that the murder had been committed on the orders of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

On his 2020 presidential campaign trail, Biden pledged that his administration would seek to make Saudi Arabia "the pariah

that they are" and signaled that "they have to be held accountable" for rights abuses.

He also called for justice for the slain journalist and pledged to "reassess" Washington's relationship with Riyadh and make sure America "does not check its values at the door to sell arms or buy oil."

The U.S. president, however, has since performed a volte-face by saying that the United States "will not walk away" from the Middle East and leave a vacuum to be filled by China, Russia, or Iran.

Vali Nasr, professor of international affairs and Middle East studies at Johns Hopkins, said the accusations that the Biden administration had abandoned its stance on Khashoggi's brutal assassination were justified.

According to The Guardian, Nasr argued that "realpolitik" had driven Washington to deepen ties after China brokered a peace deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia in March.

"The U.S. wants to drive a wedge between China and Saudi Arabia," Nasr said. "The increased involvement of China in the Persian Gulf has been a concern to Washington, and when the Chinese were able to resolve an intractable problem between the Saudis and Iran, it told Washington that China's involvement in the region was more than just commercial."

The U.S. is currently pushing for a mega-deal, which could include a normalization pact between Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Under the deal, Riyadh would secure American backing for

a civilian nuclear program, as well as access to advanced weapons. In exchange, the kingdom would take major steps to distance itself from China and Israel would allow an independent Palestinian state.

Activists said Biden's latest diplomatic overtures to Saudi Arabia sully Khashoggi's memory.

"It is a betrayal not just of Jamal Khashoggi and the millions of people of Saudi Arabia whose lives Prince Mohammed has destroyed, but also of the promises President Biden made to the American people to end support for this autocratic, sociopathic government," said Sarah Leigh Whitson, executive director of pro-democracy group Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN).

Medvedev: NATO Weapons Supplied to Ukraine Used in Israel



Ukrainian soldiers preparing to fire mobile artillery toward Russian positions in the Zaporizhzhia region.

MOSCOW (Dispatches) – NATO weapons supplied to Kyiv are being widely used in Israel, the Deputy Chairman of Russia's Security Council Dmitry Medvedev has said. "Well, well, my NATO friends, there you have it, don't you? The weapons supplied to the neo-Nazi regime in Ukraine are being widely used in Israel," he wrote on his Telegram channel.

Medvedev warned that this weaponry, "like the weapons left behind by the U.S. forces that fled Afghanistan," would further be used uncontrollably in all trouble spots. Medvedev noted that even before "the corrupt Ukrainian authorities were in the habit of trading everything they laid hands on."

"They were stealing gas and oil, foods and materials. They were stealing everything that came their way. Further on it will only get worse. You should expect missiles, tanks, and airplanes from Kyiv to surface on the black market soon," Medvedev pointed out, TASS re-

ported.

The comments came as Western leaders are accused of hypocrisy over response to Palestine and Ukraine.

Many users said Western diplomats and media support the Ukrainians who defend their land, but label the Palestinians fighting against the Zionist regime as "terrorists".

An illustration of a woman's face, in which one eye is closed beside a Palestinian flag, and one eye open beside a Ukrainian flag, has been regularly shared as a symbol of the West's alleged double standards in how the two conflicts are viewed.

Clips also emerged on social media from a CNN interview with Mustafa Barghouti, the general secretary of the Palestinian National Initiative, in which he posed the rhetorical question, "Why does the United States support Ukraine in fighting occupation – while here they support the occupier, who continues to occupy us?"

Inquiry Hears Unlawful Killing of Afghans by UK Special Forces

LONDON (AFP) – UK special forces allegedly had a policy of executing "fighting age" males in Afghanistan even if they posed no threat, an independent inquiry probing claims of unlawful killings was told on Monday.

The inquiry, which opened in March but has now started substantive hearings at London's Royal Courts of Justice, is investigating accusations about the special forces' conduct in Afghanistan between 2010 and 2013.

It is examining so-called deliberate detention operations during that period and how allegations of unlawful killings were investigated by Britain's military police, in particular whether there were any cover-ups.

The independent inquiry follows legal challenges by the families of some of the dozens of people allegedly murdered by UK special forces during night raids.

It is set to hear submissions on behalf of the families of 33 people, including eight children, who were allegedly killed.

Detailing some of the cases being reviewed, lawyer to the inquiry Oliver Glasgow revealed a British soldier was said to have subsequently admitted "there was a policy in special forces to kill fighting age males".

Glasgow noted the claim had

been discovered in a "restricted security" dossier recovered years later that detailed a conversation with the soldier.

The lawyer added there were also accusations that Afghan partner units "refused to serve with UK special forces due to their behavior".

"Let there be no misunderstanding for those who have something to hide," Glasgow said in his opening submission.

"The inquiry will use all its powers to make sure that if there is credible information of wrongdoing ... no matter how senior their position, they are referred to the relevant authorities."

Two military police probes -- codenamed Operation Northmoor and Operation Cestro -- are set to be scrutinized.

Families who allege unlawful killings by Britain's special forces urged the inquiry to "provide us with the truth" before Monday's hearings.

The inquiry is being led by senior judge Charles Haddon-Cave.

He has previously said it is important wrongdoing be "referred to the relevant authorities for investigation" while "those who have done nothing wrong should rightly have the cloud of suspicion lifted from them".

Other countries' special forces have also faced allegations of unlawful killings in Afghanistan.

Russia Strikes Terrorists' Positions in Syria's Idlib

QAMISHLI, Syria (Dispatches) – The Russian Aerospace Forces carried out five airstrikes on warehouses and terrorist training camps in the Syrian province of Idlib.

"The Russian Aerospace Forces carried out five airstrikes on warehouses and terrorist training camps in Idlib province," deputy chief of the Russian Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Parties in Syria, Rear Admiral Vadim Kulit said.

He added that as a result of a strike by an unmanned aerial vehicle launched by militants from the vicinity of the village of Halluba in Latakia province on the positions of Syrian troops in the Sheikh Mohammed area, one Syrian soldier was killed and two more were injured.

The deputy chief of the center added they recorded several violations of deconfliction protocols by the pro-American coalition.

"In the al-Tanf area, five violations were recorded per day by a pair of Rafale fighters, an MQ-1C multi-role unmanned aerial vehicle

and two modular reconnaissance and attack unmanned aerial vehicles MQ-9 of the coalition," TASS quoted him as saying.

Meanwhile, a Turkish airstrike on Monday killed 20 Kurdish militants and wounded dozens in Kurdish-held northeast Syria, a war monitor said.

Turkey has been bombing sites in the area since Thursday, targeting Kurdish militants.

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based monitor, said that 20 had been killed and around 50 wounded after a Turkish war plane targeted a training center belonging on the outskirts of al-Malikiyah.

The Kurdish force acknowledged the strike, saying that "a number of our forces were killed and others wounded."

AFP correspondents said that authorities in the area have called for blood donations, while witnesses said that hospitals were full of casualties.

Amid the chaos of the long-running conflict in Syria, Kurds have carved out a semi-auton-

omous area in the country's northeast.

Turkey's defense ministry said on Friday that it had launched the new wave of air strikes in retaliation for an attack in Ankara earlier this month that wounded two security personnel.

A branch of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) — listed as a terror group by Ankara and its Western allies — claimed responsibility for the first bombing to hit the Turkish capital since 2016.

Turkey launched strikes on PKK positions in northern Iraq hours after the October 1 attack, with foreign minister Hakan Fidan saying days later that the assailants "came from Syria and were trained there."

Turkey views the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) that dominate the U.S.-backed, Kurdish-led so-called Syrian Democratic Forces as an offshoot of the PKK.

The SDF, the Kurds' de facto army in the northeast, denied that those behind the Ankara attack had passed through the area.