

UN Chief Condemns Israeli Airstrike on Iranian Consulate
 NEW YORK (IRNA) -- UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres ON Tuesday condemned an attack by the Zionist regime on the Iranian consulate building in Damascus, warning that any miscalculation could lead to a wider conflict in an unstable region, with devastating consequences for civilians.
 "UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres condemns the attack on the diplomatic facilities of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus on April 1, as well as the reported casualties," UN Spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Kayhan International

Resistance Forces Strike Israeli, U.S. Targets
 BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Hezbollah fighters and their fellow Iraqi comrades on Tuesday conducted separate operations against Israeli military positions in the northern part of the 1948-occupied territories, and a military base in southeastern Syria where U.S. occupation troops and their allied militants are stationed. Lebanon's Al-Mayadeen television said Hezbollah struck the headquarters of the newly formed Liman Battalion with a barrage of artillery shells on Monday evening. They also fired a salvo of rockets and artillery rounds that targeted the Ruweisat al-Alam site in the occupied Kfarhouba Hills. In Syria's Homs province near the border with Jordan and Iraq, the Al-Tanf base housing U.S. troops and allied terrorists was targeted by a drone, in an attack claimed by the Islamic Resistance in Iraq.

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Viewpoint
Martyr Zahedi's Immortal Achievements as Israel Nears End


'All Israeli Diplomatic Missions Legitimate Targets'



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New Shale Oil Reserves Discovered Iran's Oil Exports Hit \$35 Billion Despite Sanctions

TEHRAN -- Iran's oil exports reached \$35.8 billion in the 12 months to end-March 2024, head of Customs Muhammad Rezvanifar said on Tuesday.
 Despite the reimposition of U.S. sanctions on Tehran in 2018, Chinese purchases of Iranian oil have allowed the country to maintain a positive trade balance.
 Without oil exports, Iran would have registered a \$16.8 billion trade deficit, Rezvanifar said.
 He added that total trade registered a 2.6% year-on-year increase, reaching a value of \$153 billion, of which \$86.8 billion was Iranian exports.
 Iran also marked a significant milestone in the global energy sector with the discovery of considerable shale oil reserves across several regions.
 Mehdi Fakour, the director of exploration at the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), revealed that more than 2.5 billion barrels of oil have been added to Iran's crude oil and natural gas reserves, courtesy of new exploration activities.
 The development not only boosts Iran's standing in the oil market but also introduces a groundbreaking model for shale oil extraction that could set a new cost efficiency standard worldwide.
 Traditionally, the extraction of shale oil has been an expensive and environmentally challenging process. However, Iran's innovative approach aims to change this narrative.
 Fakour announced the development of a unique and localized model for shale oil production, which significantly reduces extraction costs to about \$25 per barrel in the western province of Lorestan.
 The figure starkly contrasts with the approximate \$40 per barrel

cost in the United States, positioning Iran as a potential leader in cost-effective shale oil production.
 Iran's shale oil discovery and the subsequent reduction in extraction costs could have far-reaching implications for the global oil market.
 With established conventional oil reserves of 158 billion barrels, Iran is already a major player on the global stage. The addition of shale oil reserves and the ability to extract them cost-effectively could alter market dynamics, potentially leading to increased supply and possibly affecting global oil prices. Furthermore, Iran's indigenous model for shale oil extraction, if replicated, could shift the technological landscape of the oil industry.
 While the discovery of shale oil reserves and the development of a cost-effective extraction model represent significant achievements for Iran, challenges remain.
 The environmental impact of shale oil extraction, geopolitical tensions, and market acceptance of Iran's oil are factors that could influence the ultimate success of these endeavors.
 Moreover, the global shift towards renewable energy sources and the transition away from fossil fuels may also play a role in shaping the future demand for shale oil.
 Iran's breakthrough in shale oil exploration and extraction underscores the nation's ongoing commitment to enhancing its energy sector and its potential to influence global oil markets.
 As the world watches, the implications of these developments on environmental policies, market dynamics, and geopolitical relations will unfold, setting the stage for a possibly redefined energy landscape.

Airstrike on Iranian Consulate Sparks Global Condemnation Iran to Make Zionists Regret Their Crime



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei said Tuesday the evil Zionist regime will be punished at the hands of Iran's brave men.

TEHRAN -- In a dangerous escalation of tension in West Asia, an Israeli airstrike targeted the Iranian consulate in Damascus, resulting in the martyrdom of General Muhammad Reza Zahedi along with other personnel from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corp (IRGC).
 The brazen terrorism has drawn sharp condemnation from Iran and resistance movements and pledges of retaliation against the unprovoked act of aggression.
 The airstrike on Monday destroyed the consular section of Iran's embassy in Damascus, signifying a direct assault on Iranian sovereign soil, albeit in Syrian territory.
 The strategic implications of the aggression are manifold. The attack might alter the calculus for Iran and Hezbollah in terms of their engagement strategy with the occupying regime of Israel and its allies. The pledges of retaliation by Iran and Hezbollah indicate that the incident is far

from a conclusion.
 Iran's Supreme National Security Council, a key decision-making body, met late Monday and decided on a "required" response to the strike. The meeting was chaired by President Ebrahim Raisi.
 "The evil Zionist regime will be punished at the hands of our brave men. We will make them regret this crime and the other ones," Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said Tuesday.
 "After repeated defeats and failures against the faith and will of the Resistance Front fighters, the Zionist regime has put blind assassinations on its agenda in the struggle to save itself," President Raisi said.
 "Day by day, we have witnessed the strengthening of the Resistance Front and the disgust and hatred of free nations towards the illegitimate nature of (Israel).

This cowardly crime will not go unanswered."
 Official news agency IRNA said Iran relayed an important message to the United States late Monday and that it called for a meeting of the UN Security Council. The message to Washington was delivered through a Swiss envoy in Tehran; Switzerland looks after U.S. interests in Iran.
 IRNA said Iran holds the United States, Israel's closest ally, responsible for the strike.
 The UN Security Council discussed the terrorist strike later Tuesday at a meeting requested by Russia.
 "Iran reserves its legitimate and inherent right under international law and the United Nations Charter to take a decisive response to such reprehensible acts," Iran's mission to the world body said.
 It warned the strike could "potentially ignite more conflict in-

volving other nations" and called on the Security Council "to condemn this unjustified criminal act."
 The airstrike in Syria martyred Gen. Zahedi, who led the Quds Force in Lebanon and Syria until 2016, according to the IRGC. It also martyred Zahedi's deputy, Gen. Muhammad Hadi Hajriahimi, and five other officers.
 Hezbollah said Tuesday that Zahedi played a crucial role in helping "develop and advance the work" of the resistance group in Lebanon.
 "This crime will certainly not pass without the enemy receiving punishment and revenge," Hezbollah said in a statement.
 Iraqi, Yemeni and Palestinian resistance groups also condemned the attack and reiterated their support for the Islamic Republic. Syrian Prime Minister Hussein Arnous visited the Iranian Embassy in Damascus.
 Persian Gulf monarchies Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Oman and Jordan condemned the strike on the Iranian consulate. The 22-state Arab League said the occupying regime of Israel aims to "expand the war and push the region to chaos."
 Iraq urged the international community to "take urgent action to halt the killing and destruction in the Gaza Strip and the continued targeting of the Syrian territories."
 Russia and China strongly condemned the aggression, warning of its potential consequences for the West Asia region.
 "We are deeply shocked and outraged by the Israeli attack on the consular building of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus that caused casualties and destroyed the building," the Russian embassy in Tehran said in a statement.

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Aid Convoy in Gaza Bombed Three Times by Israel

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) -- Australia, Poland, the UK and the U.S. are among several countries calling on the Zionist regime to urgently explain the circumstances of Israeli airstrikes that killed seven international aid workers in central Gaza on Monday.
 World Central Kitchen (WCK) said that its workers were travelling in a "deconflicted zone" when two armored cars branded with its logo were targeted by Israeli airstrikes in Deir al-Balah.
 The organization said the strikes took place despite coordination with the Israeli military about its movements. It occurred just hours after the WCK team unloaded a new shipment of 100 tonnes of

food aid into Gaza.
 WCK said the aid workers were from several countries, including the UK, Poland, Australia, as well as two dual Palestinian nationals (American and Canadian).
 The organization said it was "immediately" pausing operations in the region.
 The Zionist military released a statement confirming that its airstrike in Gaza killed seven WCK workers. It added that Israel's top military general would review the findings of a preliminary inquiry.
 Meanwhile, Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu admitted that his military had carried out an "unintended strike" on "innocent people in the Gaza Strip."

While the Israeli statements referred to just one airstrike, a report by Haaretz on Tuesday citing military sources stated that an Israeli drone fired three missiles at the World Central Kitchen convoy.
 One of the cars was attacked, and then some of the passengers in the targeted car switched to the other two vehicles, before another missile hit.
 The passengers in the third car then attempted to get those who had survived the second strike out of danger - before the Israeli drone operators targeted with a third missile strike, according to the report. All seven volunteers were killed following the third

strike.
 Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese confirmed the death of citizen Lalzawmi "Zomi" Frankcom, 44, and said his government had called on the occupying regime of Israel to launch an investigation.
 "This is a human tragedy that should never have occurred, that is completely unacceptable and Australia will seek full and proper accountability," Albanese told a press conference on Tuesday.
 Poland also demanded answers, after Polish aid volunteer Damian Sobol was identified as one of those killed.
 "I personally asked the Israeli ambassador @YacovLivne for

urgent explanations," Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter.
 UK Foreign Minister David Cameron called on Israel to immediately explain what happened.
 "British Nationals are reported to have been killed, we are urgently working to verify this information and will provide full support to their families," Cameron said on X.
 Earlier on Tuesday, Spanish-American celebrity chef Jose Andres, the founder of WCK, condemned Israel over the killings, and called on the regime to "stop killing civilians and aid workers,

and stop using food as a weapon".
 Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, who was visiting a Palestinian refugee camp in Jordan's Amman, called on the Zionist regime to clarify the circumstances of the killings.
 "It is urgent that Israel allow access to humanitarian aid in Gaza, as demanded by various international bodies, including the International Court of Justice," he said.
 WCK has been heavily involved in the delivery of aid to Gaza via a new maritime route from Cyprus, which delivered its second consignment of aid to the enclave last month.

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