

DOHA (Dispatches) -- Qatar and Kuwait have issued directives to the United States, prohibiting the use of bases on their soil and their airspace for any potential military action against Iran.

Qatar and Kuwait have communicated to the United States that they will not allow the use of their bases for actions against Iran, according to the Arab Defense website. The Persian Gulf countries have also prohibited any use of their airspace by the U.S. for potential military operations against Iran.

Kayhan International



TEHRAN -- Iranian Interior Minister Ahmad Vahidi said Saturday efforts are underway to advance very good development programs in Iran's Sistan and Baluchestan province, warning that terrorists are trying to prevent such efforts from coming to fruition.

Vahidi added that terrorists, who he described as hired mercenaries, have always tried to keep the southeastern Iranian province from development. Vahidi's comments come in the wake of the recent terrorist attacks on security bases in two cities in Sistan and Baluchestan that left 15 policemen martyred.

VOL NO: LV 12227 TEHRAN / Est.1959

Sunday, April 14, 2024, Farvardin 26, 1403, Shawwal 5, 1445, Price 300,000 Rials

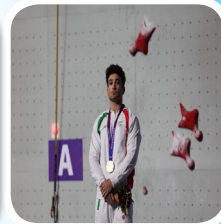
Viewpoint

Gaza Genocide Exposes Ugly Perpetrators as Vengeance Looms

No Launchpad for Any Aggression Against Iran



Reza Alipour Cruises Into Semifinal at World Climbing Cup



Hamas: Final Round Hasn't Started Yet, Resistance to Break Israel Soon



Hezbollah Pounds 'Enemy Artillery Positions'

BEIRUT (Dispatches) -- Hezbollah fired "dozens of rockets" at Israeli artillery positions in response to the Zionist military's strikes in southern Lebanon, in one of its largest retaliations since the start of the war on Gaza.

The resistance movement confirmed in a statement late on Friday that it launched dozens of Katyusha rockets at "enemy artillery positions" in northern occupied Palestinian territories and the occupied Golan Heights.

The rockets triggered sirens in multiple communities across Upper Galilee in northern Occupied Palestine. The Zionist military said 40 launches were identified from Lebanese territory.

Hezbollah, an ally of the Palestinian resistance group Hamas, and Zionist forces have been exchanging near-daily fire across the Lebanese border since the war in Gaza started on October 7. The group has said it will stop its attacks on the Zionist regime after a ceasefire is reached in Gaza.

The Zionist regime on Saturday launched at least five airstrikes in southeastern Lebanon.

The Zionist regime or its ally the United States clashed repeatedly with resistance forces in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Yemen.

Yemen's resistance forces have targeted Israeli-linked ships in the Red Sea for months in retaliation for the occupying regime's onslaught on Gaza.

A high-ranking member of the Yemeni Supreme Political Council said Saturday the country's naval units will not allow the U.S. military to turn the Red Sea into its backyard.

Muhammad Ali al-Houthi stated that Yemeni missile strikes against Israeli interests have terrified the Americans. Yemeni armed forces, he said, will press ahead with their anti-Israel strikes in the Red Sea, Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean as long as the Tel Aviv regime continues its war and all-out siege against Palestinians in Gaza.

He touched on reports that American nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower will be heading home, other U.S. navy warships and frigates will soon leave the Red Sea.

"The Americans well know that Yemenis are a nation who do what they say they will do, irrespective of threats as well

as media and political hype. Washington's propaganda cannot by any means scare the people of Yemen," Houthi said.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq also vowed to respond to any "foolish" act against the Arab country or the Axis of Resistance by the U.S. or Israel.

In a statement, the Iraqi umbrella group of anti-terror groups said the U.S. has deployed more troops to Iraq, "confirming that they have no intention to withdraw from the country."

Iraq adopted a law to expel foreign forces after Washington's assassination of top Iraqi and Iranian anti-terror commanders in 2020.

In the statement, the Islamic Resistance in Iraq also hit out at Washington over its unwavering support for Israel, holding it "fully responsible" for "any foolish act" by the American or the Israel forces in Iraq or the countries of the Axis of Resistance.

"Our response will be direct wherever our hands are able to reach," it said.

Iraqi resistance forces have conducted dozens of strikes on the U.S.-run military installations in both Iraq and Syria.

IRGC Impounds Zionist Ship in Strait of Hormuz



This image taken from a video shows SNSF commandos rappelling from a helicopter down onto the Israeli-linked cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday.

TEHRAN -- Special naval forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) captured an Israeli-linked cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, days after Tehran said it would retaliate for an Israeli strike on its Syria consulate.

The ship was impounded by Sepah Navy Special Force (SNSF) commandos who rappelled from a helicopter onto the deck of MSC Aries and directed it to Iranian waters.

The Portuguese-flagged ship, operated by Zodiac Maritime, is owned by Israeli real estate, energy, technology and shipping magnate Eyal Ofer. Zodiac Maritime is part of the Israeli billionaire's Zodiac Group.

The MSC Aries had been last located off Dubai heading toward the Strait of Hormuz on Friday. The ship had turned off its tracking data, which has been common for Israeli-affiliated ships moving through the region.

The incident comes amid rising regional tensions since the start of Israel's invasion of Gaza in October, with the Zionist regime or its ally the United States clashing repeatedly with resistance forces in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Yemen.

Iran has pledged to retaliate for Israeli airstrikes on its consulate in Syria's capital Damascus on April 1 that martyred seven IRGC military advisors including two senior commanders.

Leader of the Islamic Revolution

lution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said at a prayer ceremony celebrating the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan on Wednesday that the "evil Zionist regime must be punished, and it will be punished." Since the building destroyed was a consular building, he said, it amounted to an attack on Iranian soil.

On Tuesday the naval head of the IRGC, Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, said Iran could close the Strait of Hormuz, which lies between Iran and the United Arab Emirates, if deemed necessary.

He said Iran viewed as a threat Israel's presence in the UAE, with which the Zionist regime established diplomatic relations in 2020 as part of the "Abraham Accords" mediated by the United States.

A top military adviser to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei said Saturday Israel is in complete panic as it awaits Iran's response to its aggression in Damascus.

Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi made the remarks while speaking at a memorial service for senior IRGC member Brigadier General Muhammad Reza Zahedi who was martyred in the Israeli airstrike.

"It has been a week that the Zionists are in complete panic and are on alert," Rahim Safavi said.

(Continued on Page 7)

'Angriest' UK Protests Urge End to Support for Israel

LONDON (Dispatches) -- Tens of thousands of pro-Palestine protesters again took over the streets of central London on Saturday—this time for a regional, city-wide demonstration.

Marchers were furious at the way the West continues to back Israel's genocidal war. And many also expressed their loathing of Labor leader Sir Keir Starmer.

But they were buoyed by yet another big turnout for the march from Russell Square. The protest end point, Parliament Square, was completely packed for a final rally.

The Palestine Solidarity Campaign said that over 80,000 people had joined the march.

The demonstration was overwhelmingly young. Some marchers said it was the angriest Palestine protest they'd been on this year, with loud chanting from beginning to end.

Protesters chanted, "Starmer and Sunak sitting in the tree, KILLING." And across Britain, there were many local Palestine actions and marches too, with some 500 people marching in Leeds.

Seasoned activists and new marchers in London told Socialist Worker the movement must now be ready to fight against Israel's expansion of the war across the Middle East.

Ayesha, who has been on three demonstrations since January, worries about the "potential of the war to widen" into a fight against Iran. But, she says, "the very vocal support for Palestine from the movement has educated lots more British people".

David, an administration worker from Edinburgh, took up the same theme. He said that despite Biden's calls for a ceasefire, he is "still committed to having Israel as a docking station and launch pad for U.S. imperialism".

He slammed Labor's complicity in Israel's genocide, arguing that it's because "Labor is a political party within a capitalist system". "The writing is on the wall. It's not possible to describe Labor as a socialist party," he said.

Angray, a member of the UCU union, agrees. He said he "left the Labor party in October" over its support for Israel.

"I tore up my card and cancelled my subscription," he said. "I can never see myself voting Labor again. I can't tell the difference between Tory and Labor—they both support genocide and austerity.

"Starmer is trying to cultivate the Tory vote and he's forgotten about working people. He's offering them nothing."

Atiyya, on her fourth demonstration this year, was one of many who said that Palestine had politicized them.

She attacked the U.S. for its role in Israel's war. "Joe Biden has made it clear that there is no 'red line' for Netanyahu. Even with aid workers killed there isn't a stopping point," she said.

And Atiyya said that the struggle for Palestine had opened her eyes. "I'm more aware of lots of issues now having realized that everything is political," she said. Kitale said the war made her understand that those in charge always ignore ordinary people.

"That's been a good wake-up call," she said. "It's prompted me to (Continued on Page 7)

Ministry: 52 Martyred in Israeli Massacre of Five Families

GAZA CITY (Dispatches) -- At least 52 more Palestinians were martyred and 95 others injured over the last 24 hours as Israel continued its onslaught on the besieged Gaza Strip, the territory's Health Ministry said on Saturday.

"The Israeli occupation (forces) committed five massacres against families in the Gaza Strip, leaving 52 martyrs and 95 injured during the past 24 hours," a ministry statement said.

"Many people are still trapped under rubble and on the roads as rescuers are unable to reach them," it added.

Flouting the International Court of Justice's provisional ruling, Israel continues its onslaught on the Gaza Strip where at least 33,686 Palestinians have been martyred, mostly women and children, and 76,309 injured since Oct. 7, according to Palestinian health authorities.

The Israeli war on Gaza has pushed 85% of the territory's population into internal displacement amid acute shortages of food, clean water and medicine,

while 60% of the enclave's infrastructure has been damaged or destroyed, according to the UN.

Israel stands accused of genocide at the International Court of Justice. An interim ruling in January ordered Tel Aviv to stop genocidal acts and take measures to guarantee that humanitarian assistance is provided to civilians in Gaza.

Israeli atrocities have continued unabated, however, and aid deliveries remain woefully insufficient to address the humanitarian catastrophe.

facebook sharing buttontwitter sharing buttonreddit sharing buttonwhatsapp sharing buttonemail sharing buttonsharethis sharing button

Within 24 hours, the Zionist regime on Saturday bombed a UN school housing displaced persons in the Nuseirat camp in the central Gaza Strip twice, Anadolu reported.

Eyewitnesses told Anadolu that Israeli artillery bombed a school run by the UN Agency for Palestinian (Continued on Page 7)