

Spanish PM Renews Call on World:

‘Immediately Suspend’ Sending Arms to Israel

GENEVA (Dispatches) – The Spanish prime minister on Monday urged the international community to “immediately suspend” sending arms to the Zionist regime, which continues to bombard the Gaza Strip as well as Lebanon.

“The international community must immediately suspend the sending of weapons to Israel as Spain has done. For a very simple and overwhelming reason: without weapons, there is no war,” Pedro Sanchez told the World In Progress Barcelona forum.

Sanchez said “the roadmap of the Netanyahu regime is to destroy the alternative and the political solution.”

He urged an end to conflict in West Asia and said that it is time for the international community to “wake up” and “act with determination.”

French President Emmanuel Ma-



Spanish PM Pedro Sanchez has urged the world to “immediately suspend” sending arms to the Zionist regime.

cron has also called for a halt on arms deliveries to the Zionist regime for use in Gaza and Lebanon to end the two conflicts.

The Zionist regime’s aggression on Lebanon erupted a year ago at the start of the Gaza war intensified

in late September, with the regime bombing Lebanon and also sending ground troops, killing more than 1,400 people and displacing tens of thousands of others.

In Gaza, the regime has killed more than 42,000 people since last

October.

Sanchez also said there would be “no withdrawal” of the UN peace-keeping force from southern Lebanon after the Zionist regime’s attacks and calls to leave.

Israel’s onslaught has thrust the UNIFIL force deployed in Lebanon since 1978 into the spotlight.

The force, which involves about 9,500 troops from some 50 nations led by a Spanish general, has reported multiple Israeli attacks in recent days that injured five of its troops and sparked international condemnation.

On Sunday, Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on them to withdraw for their own safety.

Spain condemns Netanyahu’s call for the force to pull back and “there will be no withdrawal of UNIFIL,” Sanchez told the forum in Barcelona.

Syria, Russia Launch Airstrikes on Terrorist Groups’ Sites

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Syrian and Russian air forces on Monday carried out coordinated airstrikes in the Idlib and Latakia suburbs in Syria.

The strikes targeted camps belonging to the terrorist Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham group in the al-Bassel forests west of Idlib city, as well as the hills surrounding the towns of Sheikh Bahr and Kfar Jales, according to al-Mayadeen’s correspondent.

Additionally, the airstrikes targeted an underground vehicle

depot near the cannery factory in Idlib city.

Al-Mayadeen’s correspondent further mentioned that the Syrian-Russian strikes also hit areas controlled by militants in the hills of Kabani, in Latakia’s countryside.

The Syrian army had previously targeted the headquarters of Hay’at Tahrir al-Sham leaders as they arrived at a location near the town of Nayrab, east of Idlib in northern Syria.

Al-Mayadeen’s correspondent

in Syria said the Syrian forces targeted the headquarters near one of the Turkish observation points using two one-way aircraft.

The developments came as a war monitor reported on Sunday that the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) militant group and allied factions in northern Syria are gearing up for a large-scale attack against Syrian government forces in key areas, taking advantage of the violence resulting from the Israeli military showdown with Hezbollah and the potential in-

volvement of Syria.

The HTS, a former al-Qaeda affiliate, and allied militant groups are planning a massive attack on government-controlled areas, including Aleppo, Latakia, Hama, and Idlib, according to the so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The group’s “Popular Resistance Companies” initiated a new recruitment campaign, seeking medical, administrative, and combat personnel, said the Observatory.

Saudi Arabia Sentences Prominent Artist to 23 Years in Jail

RIYADH (Middle East Eye) – Saudi Arabia has sentenced artist Mohamed Ahmed al-Hazzaa al-Ghamdi, known professionally as Mohamed al-Hazzaa, to 23 years in prison over caricatures published by a Qatari newspaper during the rift between Riyadh and Doha seven years ago.

Al-Hazzaa, 48, had been a freelance caricaturist before his detention in February 2018.

He worked for the Qatari newspaper Lusail during the Saudi-led blockade on Qatar, which lasted between 2017 and 2021.

But Al-Hazzaa had ceased his contribution to the paper before his arrest in 2018, according to information revealed by Sanad, a London-based rights group.

Sanad, which shared details about the

case with Middle East Eye, said he was initially sentenced to six years in prison by the Specialised Criminal Court, a sentence he completed this year.

He was initially sentenced in July 2021, by which time he had already been detained for more than three years. However he was not released at the end of this sentence.

The case against him was reopened in December 2023, resulting in a 23-year sentence that cannot be appealed, according to Sanad. No lawyer was present at any of the court sessions.

He is currently held in Dhahban Central Prison in Jeddah.

According to Sanad, al-Hazzaa was under surveillance by an undercover informant before his arrest in February 2018.

While travelling to a wedding in Jed-

dah from his hometown of al-Baha prior to his detention, an informant sat next to him on the plane, the group said in a briefing about the case.

Upon his return from Jeddah, security forces, led by the same informant, detained him from a cafe where he was sitting with a friend, Sanad said, without specifying the exact dates.

Then they raided his home, confiscated his belongings, and ransacked his studio without a legal search warrant.

The raid caused significant distress for his pregnant wife and one of his children who was present, the group added.

Al-Hazzaa contributed to Lusail for one year after the Persian Gulf diplomatic crisis erupted, expecting it to end, according to Sanad. But when the

blockade continued, he stopped his work.

Middle East Eye contacted Lusail newspaper for comment.

Al-Hazzaa’s caricatures, which he also published on his Instagram page, included humorous depictions of Saudi characters, with comments mocking the country’s economic and social conditions. It was celebrated by Saudi media, including in a lengthy interview with the Rotana channel that showed samples of artwork.

When reconciliation took place between the Saudi-led coalition and Qatar in 2021, al-Hazzaa’s family was hopeful about his release.

The charges faced by al-Hazzaa include alleged sympathy for Qatar and claims that he published 100 drawings that insulted the kingdom.

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weeks, and eight others were seriously injured. Israel’s ambulance service, Magen David Adom, said 61 people were injured.

“We are at war, and an attack on a training base on the home front is difficult and the results are painful,” Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi told soldiers during a visit to the Golani Brigade training base.

At least 54 people in the Israeli occupied territories have been killed in retaliatory rocket attacks since last October, according to Zionist authorities, nearly half of them soldiers.

Zionist forces on Monday launched a string of new airstrikes on targets in Lebanon, including one on the north of the country which martyred at least 18 people, according to the Lebanese Red Cross.

The airstrikes in northern Lebanon marked a departure from the usual pattern, being located far from the main combat area and in a mostly Christian area.

An AFP photographer at the site of the strike in Aito said it had leveled a residential building at the entrance to the village.

Body parts were scattered in the rubble, with Red Cross volunteers searching for survivors while ambulances evacuated wounded people.

Lebanon’s health ministry said that among dozens of people killed in Israel’s strikes over the weekend were 16 in Maaysra, a village in a Christian-majority area north of Beirut.

Israel also faced new criticism over their alleged attacks on United Nations peacekeepers in southern Lebanon.

On Sunday, Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on the UNIFIL mission to withdraw for their own safety.

Five peacekeepers were injured in a series of incidents last week, with the latest seeing the UN force accuse Israeli troops of breaking through a gate and entering one of their positions.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez, whose country is a major troop contributor, said on Monday that there would be “no withdrawal” of the UN peacekeeping force from southern Lebanon.

Under Security Council Resolution 1701, only UNIFIL’s roughly 9,500 troops and the Lebanon’s army should be deployed in Lebanon’s south.

In a call with his U.S. counterpart Lloyd Austin, Israeli war minister Yoav Gallant discussed Sunday’s night’s drone attack, his office said in a statement on Monday.

Just before Sunday’s attack, the Pentagon said it would deploy a high-altitude anti-missile system known as THAAD and its U.S. military crew to Occupied Palestine.

Netanyahu...

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us to see the most horrendous images. And whenever civilians and children die, it is nothing but horrendous,” Fischer said.

The Generals’ Plan was presented to the parliament last month by a group of retired generals and high-ranking officers, according to publicly available minutes. Since then, officials from the prime minister’s office called seeking more details, according to its chief architect, Giora Eiland, a former head of the security council.

Israeli media reported that Netanyahu told a closed parliamentary military committee session that he was considering the plan.

“They will either have to surrender or to starve,” Eiland said.

Human rights groups are appalled.

“I’m most concerned by how the plan seems to say that if the population is given a chance to evacuate and they don’t, then somehow they all turn into legitimate military targets, which is absolutely not the case,” said Tania Hary, executive director of Gisha, an Israeli organization dedicated to protecting Palestinians’ right to move freely within Gaza.

The copy of the plan shared with the AP says that if the strategy is successful in northern Gaza, it could then be replicated in other areas, including tent camps further to the south sheltering hundreds of thousands of Palestinians.

Iran...

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accountable for this crime,” it said.

On Friday, officials announced the discovery of the body of Gen. Nilforoushan, the Quds Force commander in Lebanon, who was attending a meeting with Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in the southern suburbs of Beirut when they were targeted by Israel on Sept. 27.

The IRGC public relations department announced on Sunday that funeral services for Nilforoushan would be held in the Iraqi holy cities of Najaf and Karbala as well as in Iran’s northeastern holy city of Mashhad on Monday.

In Tehran, a ceremony of commemoration will be held on the Imam Hussein (AS) Square Tuesday. The martyr will be laid to rest on Wednesday in Iran’s central city of Isfahan.

Ghalibaf...

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laws, no one can expect the establishment of peace and security.

He stressed the importance of addressing the Palestinian issue, saying participants at the IPU summit should take steps towards the adoption of a resolution given positive coordination among Arab, Muslim and Asian countries.

‘Extremely Valuable’ Secret Tomb Uncovered in Jordan’s Petra

LONDON (Arab News) – Archaeologists have uncovered human remains and hundreds of artifacts in a hidden tomb in Petra, Jordan, The Times reported.

The discovery of the 2,000-year-old underground site could help researchers solve long-running questions over the origins of the ancient city and those who built it.

Located underneath Petra’s Treasury, the tomb contained 12 well-preserved skeletons and hundreds of bronze, iron and ceramic artifacts.

The joint U.S.-Jordanian archaeological team that made the discovery worked underneath the famous edifice, which has been featured in films including “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.”

Based on the central location of the tomb within the UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is believed to have been commissioned by inhabitants of prominent social standing.

Hundreds more items are expected to be recovered as excavation continues, according to lead

archaeologist Dr. Pearce Paul Creasman, executive director of the American Center of Research.

Petra’s Treasury was named as such because of an early theory that it held the treasure of a pharaoh, but most researchers today believe that it was a tomb built by Nabataean King Aretas IV, who ruled from about 9 B.C. to 40 A.D.

This has been supported by the latest discovery, as archaeologists believe the uncovered tomb predates the Treasury.

Creasman said his team dated the hidden tomb to the first century B.C. using luminescence dating, which tracks the last exposure of mineral grains to sunlight. The archaeologists first discovered the tomb using ground-penetrating radar.

The recovery of its contents is a rare event. Many other tombs have been discovered across Petra over the years but most were empty, having been used multiple times throughout the centuries.

“It is rare to find a tomb with human remains

in Petra,” Creasman said. “So, when you do find one, that becomes extremely valuable.”

The first historical record of the Nabataean civilization was in 312 B.C. They had repelled an invasion launched by Antigonos, the former general and successor of Alexander the Great who inherited large parts of the Macedonian Empire.

“They just appear in the historical record and then it goes over a hundred years before we read about them in text again, by which time they have this fully fledged society and Petra is being built in the sense that we know it today,” Creasman said.

Little is known of early Nabataean society, though ancient recordings suggest that the civilization was remarkably egalitarian, as there is little difference between noble and common Nabataean tombs.

The discovery of the Petra tomb may offer new clues about the ancient Arab society, including diet and nutrition, Creasman said.