

TEHRAN -- Defense Minister Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh said here Monday Iran is fully ready to provide strategic assistance to Zimbabwe in its fight against terrorism.

"Terrorism and its spillover from various regions to the south of the African continent are among the most important threats and concerns of the governments in this region," Nasirzadeh said in a meeting with Zimbabwe's Minister of Defense and War Veterans Affairs Oppah Muchinguri.

TEHRAN -- The number of people killed in the recent blasts and fires at Iran's Shahid Rajaei Port has risen to 70, the governor of Iran's Hormozgan Province said Monday.

Muhammad Ashouri noted that search and rescue operations are ongoing at the site of the explosions. Ashouri said an operation has started to remove the containers damaged or destroyed by the blasts from the site.

Viewpoint

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Remember Tabas
O' Fickle-Minded Enemies of Iran

Koocheh Festival
Cut Short Over
Bandar Abbas
Tragedy



U-20 Basketballers
Learn Fate in
Women's Asian
Cup Qualifiers



Several
Palestinians
Martyred in
Zionist Strikes



Yemen Targets USS Truman After 68 Killed in U.S. Strikes

SANAA (Dispatches) – Yemeni forces on Monday carried out two separate retaliatory operations against the USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier and its escorts in the Red Sea, and a vital target deep inside the Israeli-occupied territories after U.S. strikes killed nearly 70 people in the country.

Military spokesman Yahya Saree said Yemeni naval and air force units conducted a joint operation against the Nimitz-class vessel of the United States Navy and other American warships, using a number of homegrown cruise and ballistic missiles as well as combat drones.

The strikes forced the USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier and its escorts to retreat northward.

Saree stated that the attacks came in reprisal for deadly U.S. air raids against the Yemeni capital Sana'a and on a migrant detention center in the country's northwestern city of Sa'ada.

Corpses covered in dust and debris were scattered in the wreckage of a detention centre for African migrants in Yemen, after a U.S. airstrike that killed 68 people.

The attack was one of the deadliest so far in six weeks of intensified U.S. airstrikes against the country.

Yemen's Al Masirah television showed images of the aftermath of the strike in Sa'ada, on a route used by African migrants to cross impoverished, conflict-riven Yemen to reach Saudi Arabia.

The footage showed bodies covered in dust amid blood-stained rubble. Rescue workers carried a man who was moving slightly on a stretcher. A survivor could be heard calling "My

mother" in Amharic, the main language of Ethiopia.

Other survivors interviewed by Yemeni television in hospital described being woken by the dawn blast. "I was thrown into the air and fell to the ground," one said.

The American administration had committed a "brutal crime" by bombing the Sa'ada detention centre which held more than 100 undocumented African migrants, Ansarullah spokesperson Mohammed Abdulsalam said on X.

The group vowed to continue its attacks on Red Sea shipping in a statement from its military spokesman Saree.

Additionally, Yemeni drone units struck a strategic position in the city of Ashkelon in the southern side of the occupied lands with a domestically-developed Yaffa unmanned aerial vehicle.

The Yemeni military spokesman noted that the retaliatory operation came in solidarity with the Palestinians in the besieged Gaza Strip amid the unrelenting Israeli genocidal war on the territory.

"We will continue to prevent the navigation of Israeli-affiliated vessels in the Red and Arabian Seas, and confront the US aggression. We will keep on support for our steadfast brethren in the Gaza Strip until the ongoing onslaught against them stops and the tight siege is completely lifted," Saree underscored.

In reaction to the atrocities committed by Israel in Gaza and the aggression of the U.S. and UK against Yemen, Ansarullah fighters and their allies in the army have initiated a series of strikes aimed at Israeli, American, and British interests in the Red Sea and adjacent regions.

President Pezeshkian Visits Baku With 120 Delegates Iran, Azerbaijan Sign 7 'Strategic' Documents



This combo shows Presidents Pezeshkian and Aliyev meeting in Baku on Monday.



BAKU (Dispatches) – Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian met Monday with his Azerbaijani counterpart in a rare visit to Baku, which saw the two neighbors sign seven cooperation documents.

"Iran will make efforts to ensure that its relations with Azerbaijan are strategic across all spheres," Pezeshkian said at a joint press conference.

Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev said Pezeshkian's visit "is a reflection of the high level of relations between the two countries".

"Our peoples have lived for centuries in an atmosphere of friendship and brotherhood. Today, our interstate relations are developing on this solid foundation," he added.

Last week, Pezeshkian expressed hopes for a "rapid and serious improvement" in relations and cooperation between the two countries as part of a broader ef-

fort to "mend ties".

"The two countries can resolve all issues jointly, through negotiations... and strengthen relations, with mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity," he said on Monday. "We must not allow others to set us against one another."

In a recent sign of rapprochement, Iran and Azerbaijan held two days of joint naval exercises in the Caspian Sea in November.

Pezeshkian, who headed a 120-strong delegation to Baku, characterized the agreements signed between Iran and Azerbaijan as strategic and important.

"My dear brother Ilham Aliyev has instructed Azerbaijan's respected officials and ministers to implement the joint strategic program. We have also tasked our foreign minister to follow up on this strategic plan more intensively so that we can enhance cooperation in all fields, including

scientific, political, economic, and security.

"We are determined to fully implement all agreements with the Republic of Azerbaijan, and God willing, we will create a new framework for a better future for Iran, Azerbaijan, and the Middle East region," he said.

Pezeshkian said Iran and Azerbaijan can work together to establish peace and security in the region and resolve challenges through mutual cooperation.

Aliyev said the primary goal for both sides is to enhance mutual activities and deepen ties across all sectors.

"Several crucial documents were signed today. Their endorsement at the presidential level demonstrates our shared commitment to advancing comprehensive cooperation in all fields," he added.

After the Soviet Union's collapse, Iran recognized Azerbai-

jan's independence in 1991, and was among the first countries to establish diplomatic relations and open its embassy in Baku.

Diplomatic relations have run hot and cold for years, but they have always enjoyed a rich foundation of historical and cultural commonalities. In addition to geographical proximity, Iran and Azerbaijan have deep kinship affinities, which transcend official relations between governments.

Pezhastian's visit to Baku took place at a time when the specter of a thirty-year war between Azerbaijan and Armenia over the Karabakh region has been lifted, and the two neighbors have agreed the text of a peace agreement to end nearly four decades of conflict.

The South Caucasus has been gaining strategic importance on the global arena and benefiting from shifting geopolitical dynamics in the region. The war in Ukraine has boosted the region's strategic value, particularly with the expanding corridors linking Asia and Europe.

These corridors offer the shortest overland connection between Europe and China, Eurasia's two largest economies, as an alternative to the traditional route.

In October 2023, Tehran and Baku agreed to establish a transit route called the Aras Corridor, which allows Azerbaijan to access its Nakhchivan exclave through Iranian territory.

Bypassing Armenia, the Aras Corridor presents an alternative to the Zangezur Corridor with the potential of reducing Iran's concerns for its common border with Armenia.

The corridor also aligns with the

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Tens of Millions Hit by Huge Power Cut Across Europe

MADRID (Dispatches) -- A massive power outage on Monday plunged much of Spain, Portugal, France, and even Andorra into darkness, causing widespread disruption.

The blackout brought railway services and airport operations to a standstill, with underground metro services halted and major stations evacuated.

Traffic lights across affected regions are not functioning, creating chaos in urban centers like Madrid, Barcelona, and Valencia.

The causes of the grid failure remain unclear, and authorities are urging residents to remain calm.

In Spain, regions such as Ceuta, Melilla, and the Canary Islands were spared due to their in-

dependent power networks, but mainland cities and entire communities, including Murcia and Castilla-Leon, remained without electricity.

Airports like Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas International suspended operations, with telecommunications also affected. Initial reports suggested the blackout may be linked to a fire in southwestern France damaging a high-voltage line or a possible issue with the European electricity grid.

However, the Spanish National Cybersecurity Institute (INCIBE) has not ruled out the possibility of a cyberattack, though no direct evidence has been found.

An emergency meeting was con-

vened by the Spanish government to address the crisis, as thousands turned to social media for updates amid the lack of information.

The blackout also reportedly affected parts of Belgium, further highlighting the potential scale of the disruption.

Reports indicated that the outage began around midday, affecting transportation, businesses, and essential services.

The massive power outage also disrupted mobile phone networks, leaving many struggling to connect. People in Madrid and Barcelona took to the streets, holding their smartphones in the air in an attempt to find a signal. With network connectivity limited, many

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BRICS Nations Meet to Counter Trump Trade War

RIO DE JANEIRO (Dispatches) -- Foreign ministers from the BRICS group of developing nations met on Monday to discuss a shared defense of the global trade system, coordinating their response to the barrage of new tariffs from U.S. President Donald Trump.

The meeting in Rio de Janeiro was expected to produce a joint statement criticizing "unilateral measures" on trade from the group formed by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa and recently expanded to include six more nations.

"The ministers are negotiating a declaration to reaffirm the centrality of... multilateral trade negotiations as the main axis of action in trade," Brazilian Ambassador Mauricio Lyrio said. "They will reaffirm

their criticism of unilateral measures of any origin, which has been a longstanding position of BRICS countries."

The expanded BRICS group, which added Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Iran last year, faces daunting challenges from U.S. trade actions.

China, which was hit with 145% tariffs on its exports to the United States, has pushed for a harsher tone in the communique.

The BRICS group as a whole has come under fire from Trump, who threatened another 100% in tariffs if the bloc moves ahead with a single currency to replace the dollar in trade relations.

With an eye on the United Nations climate summit Brazil is hosting in

November, the BRICS ministers also would discuss a shared position on climate finance, a key priority for Brazil's presidency.

Major developing nations including China face growing pressure from wealthier nations to contribute to financing adaptation and mitigation initiatives in the poorest countries.

"What is not on the agenda is the revision of which countries have to pay for the energy transition and the countries that can eventually, voluntarily, also finance it. This distinction is absolutely fundamental," said Lyrio.

"The financial obligation to finance the fight against climate change and the energy transition in developing countries lies with rich countries," he added.