WEST BANK (Dispatches) - A 53-year-old Palestinian man has died in an Israeli prison just one week after his arrest from the town of Rummana, near Jenin in the northern occupied West Bank, the Palestinian Detainees' Affairs Commission and the Palestinian Prisoners' Society (PPS) announced, according to the Palestinian

Wafa news agency. Samir Mohammad Yousef al-Rifai, a father of five, was taken from his home by Israeli occupation forces on July 10 and was scheduled to appear at the Salem Mili-tary Court on Thursday, according to the organizations. Medical reports from his amily indicate that al-Rifai had pre-existing heart conditions that required intensive



Thought for Today

If a pedestrian walks alongside a rider it is corruption, (ie, a false sense of superiority) for the rider and humiliation for the pedestrian.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

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# Israeli Public 'Fed Lies' About **Defeating Hamas, Commander Says**

WEST BANK (Dispatches) The Zionist regime's public is being "fed lies" about the progress made against Hamas, a senior military commander has said, warning the Palestinian resistance movement will not be defeated for years.

In an interview with Ynet published on Friday, the unnamed officer stressed that dismantling Hamas is a "tedious" task that could take up to five years, with the military needing to return to Gaza to "mow the grass" con-

"In today's populist era, the public is being fed lies and spins, just like they were before October 7 and after every round of fighting with Hamas," the commander

Hamas, he explained, still maintains "massive infrastructure" in Gaza. The fight against the group is far from over, he said.

"This is work that will need to continue for a year, for five years, to maintain the achievements.



Zionist troops deploy by Gaza border on July 15.

It doesn't matter if the enemy is ress in killing Palestinian fighters, called Hamas, Islamic Jihad, or any other name," he added.

"It's a shame the public is being misled into thinking this will end soon and that we will defeat the enemy in the foreseeable future."

"This is ongoing fighting, just like in Judea and Samaria [the occupied West Bank], where the battles continue."

According to the report, while the army claims significant progdestroying tunnels and targeting Hamas infrastructure, these results show that the group is far from defeated.

"These achievements mean that Hamas is still standing, its command and control capabilities may be limited and damaged, but it remains operational," the report

The Ynet report paints a picture of slow military progress since the

Zionist regime broke the ceasefire and resumed the war on Gaza on

Although the army stated that it had deployed four to five divisions, Ynet reported that only a limited number of soldiers are directly involved in combat.

The announcements were made to "create the impression that tens of thousands of soldiers" were fighting in Gaza.

In reality, the operation on the ground is "limited and restricted", with only a few battalion-sized units in action.

The vast majority of the fighting is concentrated on the outskirts of major cities in the Gaza Strip.

"We are advancing too slowly, too transparently, and in a crooked manner," two senior officers told

"We are still tackling peripheral areas like Zaytoun and Shujaiya, waiting for the green light from political leadership to move into the city center and west."

## Houthi Warns of Broader Israeli Plan to Invade Entire Region



Newly recruited members of the Yemeni army march during a parade in Sana'a, Yemen

SANA'A (Dispatches) – Yemen's Ansarullah leader says the recent escalation of the Zionist regime's aggression against Damascus is part of a broader strategy to establish the equation of "occupation without facing any response."

In a televised speech on Thursday, Abdul-Malik al-Houthi said the Israeli regime aims to invade all countries in the region without encountering retali-

"Despite the public stance of those in power in Syria toward normalizing relations with Israel, the aggressions against Syria continue," he said.

The occupying regime's military aggression in Syria has intensified since the rise of the new regime led by former al-Qaeda and Nusra Front leader Abu Mohammad al-Jolani in December.

In a significant escalation of its ongoing atrocities, Israel launched airstrikes on Wednesday targeting key military and government sites in Damascus and the southwestern province of Dara'a.

Israel is manipulating an ongoing strife between local Sunni Bedouin tribes and Druze armed factions in the southern province of Suwayda which began with tit-for-tat kidnappings to attack Syria.

Regional leaders say Israel seeks to break Syrian unity and turn the country into a theater of chaos.

Houthi said the occupying regime seeks to shape the internal dynamics of Syria by using the pretext of supporting the Druze and minority communities.

The ruling Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) regime in Damascus led by Jolani has repeatedly indicated that it wants to "normalize relations" with Israel, recognize the regime, and exchange ambassadors by the end of 2026.

Israeli forces, nevertheless, have seized a UN-patrolled buffer zone on Syrian territory along the border with the Golan Heights and launched hundreds of airstrikes on Syria.

Israel claims that the escalation in

its aggression campaign is aimed at defending the Druze, who have been involved in days of clashes with HTS forces, and at pushing these forces away from the border.

According to the Houthis, Israel is exploiting the flawed policies of militant groups in their dealings with minorities in Syria, adding that the HTS regime has "engineered sectarian and religious divisions to sow discord within the Islamic nation."

The Ansarullah leader added that Israel also aims to control a significant portion of Syrian territory up to the outskirts of Damascus, as well as to dictate Syria's relationships and policies to ensure its own security.

Addressing the rising Israeli aggression against Lebanon, Houthi touched on U.S. pressures on Lebanese factions to accept Israel's plan to disarm Hez-

He also condemned the occupying regime's relentless genocide against the Palestinian people, highlighting the destruction of Gaza's cities and residential neighborhoods.

He revealed that Israel has "completely wiped out some families" and noted a 41% drop in Gaza's birth rate compared to last year, alongside a 10% decrease in the overall population.

"The genocide of the people of Gaza is a shared objective of the United States and Israel," he stressed, adding that Israel is heavily relying on American bombs, with explosives reportedly being dropped more frequently than

He also said the US military support for Israel is funded largely by the wealth of Arab countries, with trillions of dollars sent to the US under the guise of investments.

The Ansarullah leader said the aggression against Gaza reflects American aggression more than Israeli actions, saying, "Israel's role is merely to carry out these crimes."

## Report: U.S. Refuses to Sell Advanced AI Chips to Company Run by UAE Spy Chief

DUBAI (Dispatches) - The UAE's bid to buy hundreds of thousands of advanced AI chips from Nvidia is being held up by U.S. officials concerned that China could gain access to advanced American technology, The Wall Street Journal report-

U.S. officials are weighing whether or not to sell chips directly to a company owned by Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed al-Nahyan, the UAE's powerful national security advisor.

Tech CEOs, diplomats, security officials and investors have all been waiting for clarity on whether the U.S. would begin exporting Nvidia AI chips to the UAE as part of a much-hyped deal that President Donald Trump announced during a visit to the Persian Gulf in May.

Bloomberg reported earlier this month that neither Saudi Arabia nor the UAE have been approved to receive the chips by the Commerce Department.

On Thursday, the WSJ reported that plans to export chips to the UAE have been delayed, as the U.S. weighs new terms for a deal. The original agreement en-

visioned the UAE purchasing up to 500,000 of Nvidia's most advanced AI chips annually, starting in 2025. Of that amount, 400,000 would go to U.S. firms working on data centers and AI projects inside the oil-rich Persian Gulf state.

But a big slice - 100,000 chips - is supposed to go directly to G-42, the state-owned AI firm run by Sheikh Tahnoon, who is also the UAE's AI czar.

Tahnoon, who sports aviator sunglasses because of an eye

condition, manages the UAE's most ambitious tech investments and has personally overseen outreach to the U.S.

His lobbying has been framed as a bet by the Persian Gulf state on American technological prowess over China. He visited U.S. President Donald Trump at the White House in March to lay the groundwork for the deals announced in

White House AI czar David Sacks, who spearheaded the deal, is seen as an advocate for pushing the sales through.

#### 2nd Flight Since Taliban's Return

### **Germany Deports 81 Afghan Nationals to Homeland**

BERLIN (AP) - Germany deported dozens of Afghan nationals to their homeland on Friday, the second time it has done so since the Taliban returned to power and the first since a new government pledging a tougher line on migration took office in Berlin.

The Interior Ministry said a flight took off Friday morning carrying 81 Afghans, all of them men who had previously come to judicial authorities' attention. It said in a statement that the deportation was carried out with the help of Qatar, and said the government aims to deport more people to Afghanistan in the future.

More than 10 months ago, Germany's previous government deported Afghan nationals to their homeland for the first time since the Taliban returned to power in 2021. Then-Chancellor Olaf Scholz vowed to step up deportations of asylum-seekers.

New Chancellor Friedrich Merz made tougher migration policy a central plank of his campaign for Germany's election in February.

Just after he took office in early May, the government stationed more police at the border and said some asylum-seekers trying to

enter Europe's biggest economy would be turned away. It also has suspended family reunions for many migrants.

The flight took off hours before German Interior Minister Alexander Dobrindt plans to meet his counterparts from five neighboring countries - France, Poland, Austria, Denmark and the Czech Republic — as well as the European Union's commissioner responsible for migration, Magnus Brunner. Dobrindt is hosting the meeting to discuss migration on the Zugspitze, Germany's highest peak, on

the Austrian border.

## Baghdad, Irbil Agree to Resume **Kurdish Oil Exports**

BAGHDAD (AFP) - The Iraqi government announced Thursday an agreement to resume crude exports from the semi-autonomous Kurdistan region after a more than two-year halt and amid drone attacks on oil fields.

Lucrative oil exports have been a major point of tension between Baghdad and Irbil, with a key pipeline through Turkey shut since 2023 over legal disputes and technical issues.

The Kurdistan regional government shall "immediately begin delivering all oil produced" in the region's field to Bagh-

dad's State Oil Marketing Orga-

nization (SOMO) "for export," the Iraqi government said in a statement.

The quantity should be no less than 230,000 barrels per day, and Baghdad will pay an advance of \$16 a barrel.

The Kurdistan regional government said in a statement it "welcomes" the deal, and hoped all agreements would be respected.

Oil exports were previously independently sold by the Kurdistan region, without the approval or oversight of the central administration in Baghdad, through the port of Ceyhan in Turkey.

But the region's official oil exports have been frozen since March 2023 when the arbitration tribunal of the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris ruled oil exports by the regional government illegal and said that Baghdad had the exclusive right to market all Iraqi oil. The decision halted the re-

gion's independent exports by pipeline via Turkey.

Ever since, the federal and regional governments have been haggling over the production and transport costs payable to the region and its commercial partners among other financial