

UN Chief: U.S. Airstrikes in Caribbean, Pacific Violating Int'l Humanitarian Law



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) - UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres supports the views of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk that the U.S. airstrikes in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific violate international human rights law, a UN spokesperson said.

UN spokesperson Farhan Haq said on Friday that UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres supports the views of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Turk, that the U.S. airstrikes in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific violate international human rights law.

Echoing the views of Turk, the spokesperson said, "none of the individuals on the targeted boats appear to pose an imminent threat to the lives of others or otherwise justify the use of lethal armed force against them under international law."

The spokesperson added, "We want to

make sure that established law enforcement methods are used to deal with questions of illegal trafficking on the high seas," the spokesperson said.

On October 31, Turk issued a statement urging the United States to stop its attacks. The Trump administration "must halt such attacks and take all measures necessary to prevent the extrajudicial killing of people aboard these boats, whatever the criminal conduct alleged against them."

However, U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth remained defiant, announcing on Thursday that U.S. forces had targeted another vessel in the Caribbean and will continue to do so as long as the Trump administration sees it as necessary.

Hegseth, in a statement posted on X, claimed the U.S. forces' latest attack was on a boat allegedly smuggling drugs across the Caribbean Sea. The attack left

three more people dead, bringing the death toll to 70.

A total of 18 vessels have been destroyed so far by the Trump administration, which claims, with undocumented accusations, that Caracas is involved in drug trafficking. However, political analysts say the U.S. is planning "regime change" in Venezuela.

Steve Ellner, an associate managing editor of the journal Latin American Perspectives and a retired professor at the Universidad de Oriente in Venezuela, told Press TV website in an interview that U.S. President Donald Trump's comments regarding his intentions are "contradictory," referring to the U.S. president claiming that he is not considering strikes on the Latin American country.

"Recently, he denied that he plans on attacking Venezuela, but prior to that, he indicated that some kind of military action on the ground is forthcoming. I believe the military threats against Venezuela are designed to pressure the Venezuelan military to move against Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro," Ellner said.

"That is also the reason why he increased the bounty on Maduro's head from \$25 million to \$50 million, twice the amount offered for the capture of Osama Bin Laden. The first Trump administration tried to intimidate the Venezuelan military into overthrowing Maduro, and now it's employing the same tactic by intensifying the threats."

A U.S. military buildup near the shores of Venezuela, combined with the American forces' strikes on boats in the region over unsubstantiated allegations of drug smuggling, has escalated tensions in the Caribbean to a level unprecedented in decades.

NATO to Pay More Attention to Its Own Nuclear Potential, Says Rutte



NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte speaks during the NATO-Industry Forum (NIF) 2025, in Bucharest, Romania, on Nov. 6, 2025.

BERLIN (TASS) - NATO intends to place greater emphasis on the power of its own nuclear potential in the future in order to convincingly deter potential adversaries, the alliance's Secretary General Mark Rutte said in an interview with the Welt am Sonntag newspaper.

"It is important to talk more with our societies about nuclear deterrence to help them understand how it con-

tributes to our common security," he said. In his opinion, in light of "dangerous and blunt nuclear rhetoric," NATO citizens should understand that "there is no reason to panic" and that the alliance has sufficient capabilities in this area.

"NATO's nuclear deterrence is the perfect guarantee of our security," Rutte emphasized. He added that it must remain "credible, reliable, and effective." At the same time, the

NATO chief noted that "a nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought." Commenting on the alliance's annual Steadfast Noon nuclear deterrence drills held in October, Rutte said they sent a clear signal to all adversaries that NATO can and will defend its partners against all threats.

At a meeting with the Russian Security Council on November 5, President Vladimir Putin instructed the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Ministry, the special services, and civil agencies to gather and analyze additional information and "submit coordinated proposals on the possible start of preparations for nuclear weapons testing." Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told a TASS correspondent that the president did not instruct them to begin preparations for tests; rather, he "instructed them to study the advisability of beginning preparations for such tests."

Earlier, U.S. President Donald Trump said he had instructed the Pentagon to resume nuclear weapons testing immediately, citing the fact that other countries were already doing so. Trump did not specify what kind of tests he was referring to or whether this included the detonation of nuclear warheads.

North Korea Warns of More 'Offensive Action'

SEOUL (Reuters) - North Korea's defense minister warned Saturday of more "offensive action," as Washington and Seoul criticized Pyongyang's latest ballistic missile launch.

North Korea's defense minister, No Kwang Chol, condemned the arrival of a United States aircraft carrier at a port in South Korea and warned that Pyongyang will take "more offensive action" against its enemies.

"We will show more offensive action against the enemies' threat on the principle of ensuring security and defending peace by dint of powerful strength," the Korean Central News Agency on Saturday quoted No as saying.

In a separate report, South Korea's Yonhap news agency quoted the North Korean Defense Minister as saying, "All threats encroaching upon the sphere of the North's security" will become "direct targets" and be "managed in a necessary way."

The North Korean defense minister cited a visit to the demilitarized zone (DMZ) border area between North and South Korea and talks between the two countries' military leaders in Seoul as proof that

Washington and Seoul were conspiring to integrate their nuclear and conventional weapons forces against Pyongyang.

"We have correctly understood the hostility of the U.S. to stand in confrontation with the DPRK to the last, and will never avoid the response to it," No said, using the initials of the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Seoul, meanwhile, hosted the annual South Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting (SCM).

Before the meeting, the USS George Washington aircraft carrier and the Fifth Carrier Strike Group arrived at a southern port in Busan.

The Strike Group's arrival took place as American and South Korean forces were engaged in large-scale joint military drills, known as Freedom Flag.

Simultaneously, U.S. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth visited South Korea to take part in the SCM talks.

From the meeting and during his visit to the DMZ, Hegseth posted several photo shots on social media.

Hegseth told reporters during his visit

that Washington's military alliance with Seoul would remain focused on countering North Korea's influence in the region.

He said the Trump administration will be looking for ways to create flexibility for U.S. troops stationed in South Korea to operate against regional threats.

North Korea denounced Hegseth's visit as "a stark revelation and an unveiled intentional expression of their hostile nature to stand against the DPRK."

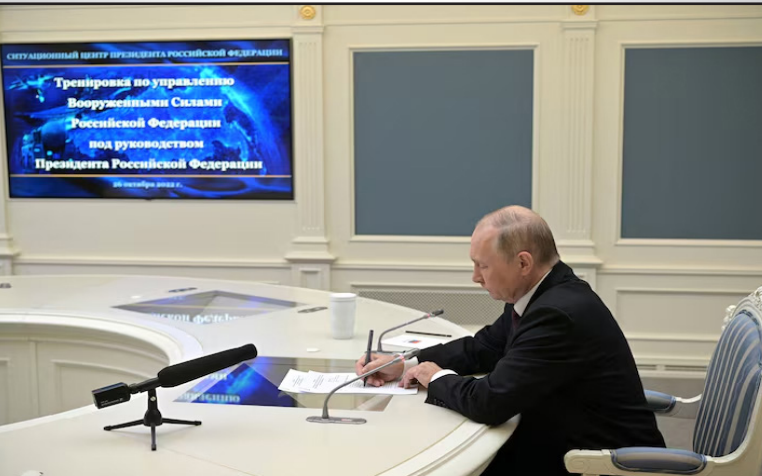
On Friday, the U.S. said it was "consulting closely" with allies and partners over a ballistic missile launch ordered by Pyongyang, which Japan said had landed outside its exclusive economic zone.

The U.S. military downplayed the importance of the ballistic missile launch.

"While we have assessed that this event does not pose an immediate threat to U.S. personnel or territory, or to our allies, the missile launch highlights the destabilizing impact" of North Korea's actions, the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said in a statement.

The launch came just over a week after U.S. President Donald Trump visited the region.

Russian FM: Work Under Way on Putin's Order on Possible Nuclear Test



Russian President Vladimir Putin observes exercises held by Russia's strategic nuclear forces, as he takes part in a video link in Moscow, Russia October 26, 2022.

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Saturday that work is under way on President Vladimir Putin's order to prepare proposals for a possible Russian nuclear test, state news agency TASS reported.

According to TASS, Lavrov said: "Regarding President Vladimir Putin's instruction at the Security Council meeting on November 5, it has been accepted for implementation and is being worked on. The public will be informed of the results."

The order was in response to Presi-

dent Donald Trump's surprise announcement last week that the U.S. would resume testing.

TASS also cited Lavrov as saying that Russia had received no clarification from the U.S. regarding Trump's order.

Russia-U.S. relations have deteriorated sharply in the past few weeks as Trump, frustrated with a lack of progress towards ending the war in Ukraine, has cancelled a planned summit with Putin and imposed sanctions on Russia for the first time since returning to the White House in January

U.S. Judge Rules Trump Illegally Ordered National Guard to Portland, Oregon



A federal officer detains a protester during a protest against increased activity by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and potential National Guard deployment in Portland, Oregon on Oct. 12, 2025.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump unlawfully ordered National Guard troops to Portland, Oregon, a federal judge ruled Friday in a legal setback to the administration's use of the military in American cities.

The ruling by U.S. District Judge Karin Immergut is the first to permanently block Trump's use of military force to quell protests against immigration authorities. Trump is also attempting to do that in Democratic-led Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington, D.C. It replaces her interim order that had prevented the Portland deployment.

Jumpstart your morning with the latest legal news delivered straight to your inbox from

White House spokeswoman Abigail Jackson said in a statement Friday that Trump had exercised his lawful authority to protect federal officers.

"President Trump will not turn a blind eye to the lawlessness plaguing American cities and we expect to be vindicated by a higher court," Jackson said.

The Oregon Attorney General's Office did not immediately respond to an email seeking comment.

Immergut, a Trump appointee, said the administration had no lawful basis to claim that there was a rebellion in Portland or that the government was unable to enforce federal law due to the

protests.

"The occasional interference to federal officers has been minimal, and there is no evidence that these small-scale protests have significantly impeded the execution of any immigration laws," she said in her 106-page opinion and order.

Trump's attempts to use military force to tamp down unrest are a sharp break with longstanding but rarely tested norms against deploying troops on U.S. soil.

The Trump administration is likely to appeal Friday's ruling, and the case could ultimately reach the Supreme Court.

The City of Portland and Oregon Attorney General's Office sued in September, alleging the Trump administration was exaggerating occasional violence to justify sending in troops under a law permitting presidents to do so in cases of rebellion.

Dueling narratives emerged during a three-day bench trial.

Justice Department lawyers described a violent siege overwhelming federal agents, echoing Trump's description of the city as "war-ravaged." Lawyers for Oregon and Portland said violence has been rare, isolated and contained by local police.

Democrats have said Trump is abusing military powers meant for genuine emergencies such as an invasion or an armed rebellion.

News in Brief

WASHINGTON (AFP) - U.S. airlines and travelers flogged a second day of flight cuts across the country on Saturday as the government shutdown was expected to drive more cancellations in the days to come. The Federal Aviation Administration instructed airlines to cut four percent of flights on Saturday at 40 major airports because of the shutdown. The cuts will rise to six percent on Tuesday and then to 10 percent by November 14. The cuts, which began at 6 a.m. ET (1100 GMT) on Friday, include about 700 flights from the four largest carriers — American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- The U.S. administration has granted Hungary a one-year exemption from U.S. energy sanctions on Russia after President Donald Trump met with Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban at the White House on Friday, multiple media outlets reported, citing anonymous White House officials. "We're looking at it, because it's very difficult for him (Orban) to get the oil and gas from other areas. As you know, they don't have the advantage of having the sea," Trump told reporters at the White House with Orban earlier on Friday. Orban stressed that the access to Russian energy is "vital" for Hungary's economy.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Former U.S. president Joe Biden accused current U.S. leader Donald Trump of embarrassing the country. I just want you to know that you work for us, Mr. President. We don't work for you. You work for us, not just billionaires and millionaires. I mean, sincerely, I'm angry. This is democracy, and the fact of the matter is that there are no kings in democracies, none. But you act in a way that embarrasses us as a nation," Biden said at a Democratic Party event in Omaha, Nebraska.

SAO PAULO (AP) — The justices on Brazil's Supreme Court panel reviewing former President Jair Bolsonaro's appeal unanimously rejected his request on Friday. Justice Alexandre de Moraes, the case's rapporteur, rejected all defense arguments, calling them "unfeasible," and said there were no omissions in the sentencing. He was later followed by Justices Flávio Dino, Cristiano Zanin and Carmen Lucia. The panel has until Nov. 14 to submit their votes, and the decision won't be finalized until then. Although unlikely, justices could change their votes before then. Bolsonaro was convicted in September of attempting a coup following his 2022 electoral defeat and was sentenced to 27 years and three months in prison. He has been under house arrest since August.

DAK LAK, Vietnam (AP) — Typhoon Kalmaegi brought fierce winds and torrential rains to Vietnam, killing at least five people, flattening homes, blowing off roofs and uprooting trees. In the Philippines, where the storm left at least 204 dead earlier in the week, survivors wept over the coffins of their loved ones and braced for another typhoon. As the storm moved on, recovery work began in battered towns and villages in both countries. Across central Vietnamese provinces, people cleared debris and repaired roofs on their homes. n Cebu, 141 people died, mostly in floodings. Villagers on Friday gathered to say goodbye to their dead, including at a basketball gym turned funeral parlor where relatives wept before a row of white coffins bedecked with flowers and small portraits of the deceased.

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The Netherlands has ordered the culling of around 120,000 chickens at a poultry farm in the northern province of Friesland after a highly pathogenic strain of bird flu was detected, the agriculture ministry announced on Friday night. To prevent further spread of the virus, the Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority (NVWA) will cull all birds at the site in the village of Drogeham. A transport ban has been imposed immediately within a 10-km radius region, covering the movement of poultry, eggs, manure, and used bedding. Another poultry farm located 1 km from the infected site is being tested for bird flu and will be intensively monitored for 14 days, while three other farms within 3 km are being screened, according to the statement.