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Iran Warns U.S. Militarization of Space Could Trigger Arms Race

GENEVA -- Iran's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva has warned that U.S. efforts to establish military and strategic dominance in outer space could accelerate an arms race and turn space into a theater of military confrontation.

Speaking at the Conference on Disarmament on Thursday, Ali Bahraini said Washington's efforts to gain military superiority in outer space were undermining international efforts to preserve space as a peaceful domain.

"The U.S. pursuit of military and strategic superiority in outer space undermines the imperative of preserving space as an entirely peaceful domain and increases the growing risk of its militarization and weaponization," he said.

Bahraini said the development of U.S. military and offensive space capabilities, including the establishment of dedicated space forces and the designation of outer space as a new domain of warfare, could encourage other countries to develop countervailing capabilities.

"Such efforts could push other countries toward developing corresponding capabilities and intensify the dangerous cycle of an arms race in outer space," the Iranian envoy said.

He also stressed that discussions on outer-space security should include ground-based infrastructure supporting space activities.

"The international community must condemn the deliberate attacks by the US and Israeli regimes against Iran's civilian and scientific infrastructure related to peaceful space activities," Bahraini said.

Such attacks, he said, violate in-

ternational law and threaten countries' legitimate right to peacefully use outer space.

The Iranian diplomat further warned against the use of commercial space systems for hostile purposes.

"Satellite constellations, commercial satellites and other space systems must not become tools for hostile actions against other countries or violations of their sovereignty," he said.

Bahraini also said companies providing space-based services, including satellite internet providers, should not use the commercial nature of their activities as a cover for continuing to provide military services or support for aggressive or hostile actions against other countries.

He emphasized that developing countries have the same equal and non-discriminatory right as technologically advanced nations to peacefully use outer space.

"Security in outer space must not be defined solely from the perspective of developed countries," Bahraini said.

The Iranian ambassador also stated that voluntary and non-binding approaches are insufficient to ensure security in outer space and could not replace a legally binding instrument.

He called on the international community to use the UN Conference on Disarmament, which is the only multilateral negotiating body in this field, to promptly begin negotiations on a comprehensive, non-discriminatory and legally binding instrument aimed at preventing an arms race in outer space.

Border Forces Kill Terrorist, Foil Infiltration in Southeast

TEHRAN -- Iranian border forces have killed one terrorist and foiled an attempted infiltration by an armed terrorist group in the country's southeastern border region, police said on Friday.

Border guards in Saravan county, Sistan-Baluchestan province, identified movements of an armed terrorist group attempting to illegally enter the country and carry out sabotage operations late Thursday, police spokesman General Saeed Montazer al-Mahdi said.

"The guards blocked the entry path of the armed elements and, during the clash, killed one of the group's members," al-Mahdi said.

He added that the remaining members fled back across

the border after encountering the border guards' response. During a clearance operation, authorities seized quantities of weapons and communication equipment.

The operation comes amid heightened tensions along Iran's borders, with Iranian officials repeatedly pointing to U.S. and Israeli backing for terrorist groups operating near the country's frontiers. Iran has previously documented American and Israeli efforts to use terrorist groups for attacks on Iranian territory.

In March, reports emerged that U.S. officials had encouraged Kurdish terrorist groups based in Iraq to carry out cross-border operations, with Israeli

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Ghalibaf: Iran-Iraq Unity 'Unbreakable' as Two Nations Stand Against U.S.



Iranian Parliament Speaker Muhammad Bagher Ghalibaf visits the grave of martyred Hashd al-Sha'abi commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis at the Wadi al-Salam cemetery in Najaf, Iraq.

BAGHDAD -- Iranian Parliament Speaker Muhammad Bagher Ghalibaf has described the unity between Iran and Iraq as "unbreakable," saying the two countries will continue to stand against the United States and the Israeli regime.

Speaking after paying tribute to Martyr Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis at the Wadi Al-Salam Cemetery in Najaf, Ghalibaf said the United States and Israel should understand that unity within the Muslim world, particularly between Iran and Iraq, is "unbreakable."

This relationship, he added, is cemented by shared religious and cultural foundations. Ghalibaf recalled the fight against the Daesh terrorist group, saying Iranian and Iraqi forces stood alongside one another when they needed each other most.

He also pointed to the recent aggression against Iran, saying the Iraqi people rose up during the "Ramadan War," referring to the war launched by the U.S. and Israel against Iran in late February.

Furthermore, he cited the U.S. assassination of anti-terror commanders Lieutenant General Qas-

sem Soleimani and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis in January 2020 as a symbol of the close ties between the two nations.

"The symbol of this struggle is the blood of the martyr Abu Mahdi and the dear martyr Haj Qassem, which was mixed in this land," he said.

Ghalibaf said the cooperation between the two countries will continue. "Iraq and Iran will stand against the arrogance," he said. "Just as they brought America to its knees in the Ramadan War and made it taste the bitter flavor of defeat, this path will continue."

Speaking Thursday evening at a ceremony in Karbala marking the 40th day following the funeral ceremonies for Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, Ghalibaf conveyed the greetings of the Iranian people to Iraq and praised Iraqis for their participation.

He said the large turnout reflected the depth of the brotherly ties between the two peoples, describing Iran-Iraq relations as rooted in geography, history and shared religious beliefs.

"We will be remembered in history as two nations that refused to become footnotes in the narratives of others, and whose fate was not written in the capitals of Western governments," he said.

Ghalibaf urged the two countries to move beyond political statements and pursue concrete joint projects to strengthen security, stability and economic welfare.

"We have been friends and brothers in the most difficult days," he said, recalling how the two countries had stood together through periods of crisis.

Ghalibaf said bilateral trade could be conducted using national currencies rather than relying on the U.S. dollar.

"We can conduct trade using national currencies and strike at the dominance of the US currency," he said.

"The era of America's domination of the world has passed, but we do not pay attention to this and do not focus on the opportunities that have emerged. This is our problem."

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Ex-Envoy: U.S. Behind False-Flag Attacks to Undermine Iran-Arab Ties

TEHRAN -- Washington is seeking to exploit false-flag operations and unsubstantiated accusations against Iran to undermine Tehran's relations with neighboring countries, says a former Iranian ambassador to Kuwait.

The United Arab Emirates claimed on Tuesday that its forces had detected and intercepted two ballistic missiles allegedly launched from Iran. The UAE provided no further details about the missiles' flight paths or any possible damage. It subsequently announced the suspension of trade and financial ties with Iran. Iran rejected the allegation, with Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baghaei describing the UAE's claim as "completely baseless."

Reza Mirabian, a West Asia affairs analyst and former Iranian ambassador to Kuwait, said the United States has failed to achieve its objectives through military confrontation and is now seeking to create tensions between Tehran and its regional neighbors.

"The Americans did not achieve results in their war against Iran, and the pressure they designed has so far produced no outcome," Mirabian said. "They are currently designing plans to create disorder in relations between Iran and neighboring countries."

According to Mirabian, Washington is seeking to preserve the image of U.S. power in West Asia despite a decline in American regional influence.

The UAE's move came amid a broader series of incidents in which Iran has been blamed for attacks that Tehran has rejected as false-flag operations.

A day earlier in Iraq, a drone attack targeted the office of the Kurdistan Regional Government Prime Minister. Iranian officials rejected claims of involvement.

Mirabian said the UAE is using the missile allegation as a pretext to suspend trade relations with Iran. However, he added that Tehran has already reduced its dependence on the UAE in economic affairs.

"Since the beginning of the 40-day war on Iran, the UAE's role in Iran's financial affairs has diminished significantly," Mirabian said. "Many of these economic activities have already shifted to other neighboring countries."

The former ambassador warned that similar incidents could emerge elsewhere in the Persian Gulf, with Iran once again being blamed.

"We must remain vigilant, particularly in the media sphere," he said. Mirabian also stated that the UAE could not have independently taken

such a major decision without U.S. approval.

"They are playing on America's field and fundamentally cannot make such a major decision on their own," he said.

According to Mirabian, Persian Gulf Arab states understand that Iran will remain their neighbor even as the United States eventually reduces its presence in the region.

He noted that U.S. warships were no longer able to enter the Persian Gulf as they had previously done. "The trend will naturally be toward a reduction in America's presence and influence in the region," he said.

Turning to the possibility of renewed hostilities, Mirabian said Iran is preparing for various scenarios but stated that the opposing side has limited capacity for further escalation.

He pointed to domestic pressures facing U.S. President Donald Trump, including declining U.S. oil reserves and rising gasoline prices.

"That is why they have turned to deflection and rumor-spreading. They want to claim the Strait of Hormuz as their own sphere, create false narratives and direct false-flag operations to maintain an image of power. But in reality, on the ground, there is nothing they can add to what they previously had."

The Holy Qur'an
Allah pardon you! Why did you give them leave until those who spoke the truth had become manifest to you and you had known the liars?
The Holy Qur'an (9.43)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:07
Evening (Maghreb)	19:04
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:28
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	03:58

Senior Defense Official: Iran Has Become an 'Emerging Power'

TEHRAN -- Iran has become an "emerging power" in the world and is standing firm against enemy aggression, a senior Iranian defense official said on Friday, as he defended the country's military buildup and rejected calls for submission to U.S. demands.

"Today, Islamic Iran has become an emerging power in the world and is resisting and standing firm against the aggression and brutality of enemies," Hojatoleslam Seyyed Ziaeddin Aghajanpour, head of the Ideological-Political Organization of the Ministry of Defense, said in a pre-Friday prayer speech in Qom/

Aghajanpour said martyred Leader Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei had consistently urged military officials to enhance defense capabilities.

"His recommendation to the officials of the armed forces has been: produce as much defense authority as you can and increase your military and defensive readiness," Aghajanpour said.

The official pushed back against past views that the country did not need advanced weapons. "Some thought the era of missiles was over and that today is the era of dialogue among civilizations," he said. "Some even said that the claim Iran has enemies is an illusion."

"But the Martyred Leader, with his penetrating insight, knew that the enemies of the Iranian nation would not leave the country alone and might attack it," Aghajanpour said.

He referenced the recent 12-day war with the United States and Israel, saying enemies "targeted the innocent women, men and children of the Iranian nation with their bombs and missiles."

"Students were targeted, and innocent children of the Iranian nation were martyred," he said, referring to an attack on a school in Minab. He also cited a strike on a residential complex in Tehran's Shahid Chamran town where "men, women and innocent children were targeted."

Aghajanpour demanded, "What was the sin of these people and for what crime were they killed?"

The official said Iran will not surrender to U.S. demands. "Enemies say the Iranian nation must submit to America's

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