U.S....
(Continued From Page One)

"The Strait of Hormuz is closed, and any aggression by the American enemy will be met with a harsher and more crushing response," the statement said.

The IRGC further stressed that its response to hostile actions would be calculated and proportionate to the nature of the aggression, adding that further attacks would not go unanswered.

The announcement followed an earlier statement on Friday in which the IRGC said its Aerospace Force had destroyed a U.S. military early-warning radar in Bahrain in a precision operation.

The force described the strike as a serious warning to the United States to stop aerial provocations and attempts to smuggle oil through the Strait of Hormuz.

In a separate statement on Sunday, the IRGC Navy's Public Relations Office announced that two oil tankers suffered powerful explosions after striking naval mines while attempting to pass through an unauthorized southern route in the Strait of Hormuz.

According to the statement, both vessels caught fire following the explosions.

The IRGC Navy said the tankers had switched off their identification, detection and positioning systems in an attempt to cross the waterway covertly, with the assistance and support of the U.S. military.

It added that the vessels struck naval mines in the designated area, causing powerful explosions and extensive fires.

One of the two vessels was identified as a supertanker carrying more than two million barrels of crude oil. According to the IRGC Navy, the tanker sank in the southern waters of the Persian Gulf following the explosion and subsequent fire.

The naval force also released footage showing explosions and the sinking of the two tankers in the Strait of Hormuz.

In its statement, the IRGC Navy warned tanker owners, shipping company managers and vessel crews against approaching restricted areas of the waterway and urged them not to disregard Iranian maritime warnings.

It also advised fishermen operating in the area to observe safety precautions and avoid the wreckage of the sunken supertanker.

The IRGC Navy said vessels violating the maritime arrangements announced by Iran and entering restricted or hazardous areas would face serious consequences.

Meanwhile, Iran's Army Air Defense Force announced that its personnel had shot down an enemy unmanned aerial vehicle of the Orbiter 4 type in the country's western region.

According to the announcement, the drone was intercepted and destroyed on Saturday in the heights of Nahavand in Hamadan Province.

The wreckage was discovered in the mountainous area on Sunday and transferred for specialized examination and technical investigations.

Ghalibaf...
(Continued From Page One)

Forces Chief of Staff Major General Ali Abdollahi and IRGC Aerospace Force Commander Brigadier General Majid Mousavi.

The unveiling followed an earlier announcement by IRGC spokesman Brigadier General Hussein Mohebbi that the force is developing underground missile production facilities, expanding beyond storage complexes to establish missile production cities deep beneath the ground.

Mohebbi said Iran has been moving missile and drone production lines from surface installations to underground facilities to ensure that manufacturing can continue despite enemy bombardment. He said Iran's domestic expertise, geographical scale and flexible production infrastructure will make it difficult for adversaries to disrupt its weapons production.

Ghalibaf praised the Aerospace Force, linking its achievements to the experience of older generations and the commitment of younger personnel.

"Today, the Aerospace Force is a combination of the experience of the young people of the 1960s and the faith of the young people of the 1980s and 1990s," he said, referring to the Iranian calendar decades.

He said the organization has relied on domestic capabilities and religious conviction to overcome difficulties and achieve previously impossible objectives.

Ghalibaf added that the force's achievements has strengthened morale inside Iran and given hope to people across the region and the world, particularly Palestinian children.

He said the Aerospace Force has deprived Israel of sleep and become a source of confidence for oppressed and freedom-seeking nations.

The parliament speaker then turned to the prospect of renewed confrontation with Washington, saying Iran will not remain indefinitely in a state of "neither war nor peace."

"For us, it does not matter at all whether America wants negotiations or war," he said.

Ghalibaf said the door to an agreement remains open if Washington accepts seven conditions put forward by Tehran, which he described as the outcome of the Iranian people's sacrifices and resistance.

However, he warned that any further American military action will change the scope of the war.

"If the Americans make a mistake this time, the geography of the battlefield will be determined by the capabilities and resolve of Iran's Armed Forces, not by their wishes and decisions," he said.

"The smoke of a new war will affect many," he added, warning that the consequences of renewed hostilities would extend beyond the immediate parties to the confrontation.

Ghalibaf also used his parliamentary address to respond to recent comments by U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, criticizing his offensive remarks and unethical language directed at Iran.

Bessent recently described Iran as a "dangerous cornered animal" and said he had moved from his Washington residence to a military facility following security advice from the Secret Service over alleged threats.

Responding to the remarks, Ghalibaf said Bessent's language reflects frustration over Iran's military capabilities.

"The absurd remarks and unethical language of the U.S. Treasury secretary demonstrate their deep desperation in confronting the power of the Islamic Republic," he said.

He also referred to Bessent's reported relocation to a military facility, saying the Treasury secretary should consider Washington's setbacks in the Persian Gulf instead of insulting other nations.

"Someone who, out of fear of the shadow of threats, has fled his own home to military shelters would be better advised to think about his strategic defeats in the Persian Gulf rather than insult great nations," Ghalibaf said.

Iran...
(Continued From Page One)

Council (GCC) that Iran compensate its member states for damage caused by Iranian retaliatory operations.

Baqaei dismissed the GCC demand as baseless, stating that countries in the region have actively assisted the United States and Israel in their military aggression against Iran and therefore have no grounds to seek compensation from Tehran.

"These countries, or the secretary-general of the GCC, should be careful not to reopen old wounds. The memory of regional countries' support for Saddam Hussein's regime has not faded," he said.

He recalled the financial and military assistance provided by regional governments to former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein during the 1980-1988 war against Iran, saying the support amounted to hundreds of billions of dollars and remained a documented historical grievance.

Baqaei said the same countries have now allowed the United States and Israel to use their territory, airspace and territorial waters to launch attacks against Iranian targets, making them accomplices under international law.

"How can they speak of compensation when they actively participated in military aggression against Iran and placed their land and territory at the disposal of the enemies?" he said.

Tehran has documented the involvement of the countries concerned and communicated its findings through diplomatic channels, he added, saying Iran will continue pursuing its claims.

Baqaei said the United States has itself acknowledged the active assistance provided by regional countries, making it difficult for them to deny their involvement.

The remarks over compensation also come amid continuing tensions over the Strait of Hormuz, where Washington has disrupted maritime traffic through its military aggressions and attempts to impose restrictions on Iranian shipping.

Baqaei said Tehran has been in contact with relevant United Nations bodies since the beginning of the U.S.-Israeli military aggression and has expressed readiness to facilitate the passage of humanitarian supplies, including essential goods and chemical fertilizers.

However, he said international efforts to restore normal maritime traffic should address the party responsible for the current situation rather than place the burden on Iran.

"At present, they should address the party that caused this situation and disrupted the movement of vessels," he said, referring to the United States.

He said the United Nations has a responsibility to take a clear position on the military aggression against Iran, adding that humanitarian and commercial shipping arrangements could not be considered separately from the circumstances that had led to the disruption.

Washington has been using military pressure and economic restrictions to undermine Iranian sovereignty while attempting to shift responsibility for the consequences.

Baqaei said the United States has stripped diplomacy of its meaning by repeatedly using negotiations as a cover for military action.

"America has emptied diplomacy of its meaning. Diplomacy is an instrument for preventing tensions, but the United States has used it for ambushes and surprise attacks," he said.

The spokesman said international opinion has increasingly come to view American diplomatic claims with suspicion, particularly given Iran's experience of negotiating with Washington.

He recalled that Iran previously reached an understanding with the U.S., but the arrangement failed to last even two weeks, adding that the problem is not whether negotiations are conducted directly or indirectly but whether Washington respects the rights and commitments of the other side.

For Tehran, he said, the central issue is the credibility of American diplomacy rather than the format of any future negotiations.

Baqaei also dismissed speculation about possible changes in the U.S. negotiating team, including reports concerning Vice President JD Vance, saying Iran is concerned with Washington's overall conduct rather than individual officials.

"The important issue for us is the performance of the United States, not the movement or replacement of different individuals," he said.

Against this backdrop, the spokesman reiterated that Iran will not leave further military attacks unanswered, stressing that the country is relying on its own capabilities to defend its sovereignty.

"We will not leave any military attack or aggression unanswered, and we have demonstrated this in practice," he said.

He rejected suggestions that Iran should refrain from responding to American military actions, saying the country is engaged in a full-scale confrontation with hostile actors and could not afford to show weakness.

The same argument underpinned Tehran's criticism of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which Baqaei slammed for failing to adequately address the consequences of U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iranian nuclear facilities.

He said the agency has adopted a one-sided approach under American influence, undermining its credibility as an independent technical institution.

Baqaei said the IAEA has acknowledged in its latest report that the attacks against Iran have created an unprecedented situation and disrupted the agency's access to nuclear facilities. However, he criticized it for failing to explicitly identify the U.S. and Israeli strikes as the main cause of the disruption.

"The agency must decide whether it is a technical institution or an organization under the influence of certain countries," he said.

He said the agency cannot demand the return of inspectors without taking into account the circumstances that have prevented normal inspections, including the military attacks and the agency's silence over them.

As long as the situation remains unchanged, he said, Iran sees little prospect of an improvement in relations with the IAEA.

Baqaei also rejected speculation about undeclared nuclear facilities in Tehran, describing such claims as non-technical conjecture arising from the agency's inability to conduct normal inspections.

He said Iran's right to uranium enrichment derives from its membership in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), adding that Tehran will not surrender its sovereign and fundamental right to peaceful nuclear energy.

The spokesman also criticized Germany and France for failing to honor their commitments under the 2015 nuclear agreement, stating that their alignment with Washington undermined international efforts to preserve the non-proliferation framework.

The question of international responsibility extended beyond the United States and regional governments, Baqaei said, pointing to European countries that continue supplying weapons to Israel.

He singled out Germany, describing it as Israel's second-largest arms supplier after the United States, and said Berlin cannot absolve itself of responsibility for the consequences of Israeli military operations.

Germany and other weapons suppliers should be held accountable for the damage inflicted on Iran, he said.

Baqaei also rejected accusations by France and Belgium linking Iran to incidents involving refrigeration systems in shops, describing the allegations as entirely unfounded and part of a broader pattern of European governments making accusations without presenting evidence.

He suggested that Israel is seeking to enlist European countries in its campaign against Iran through fabricated allegations and false-flag operations.

The spokesman called on France to stop making accusations against Iran, warning that such actions could have consequences under international law.

Yemeni...
(Continued From Page One)

failed to protect their forces, who were compelled to flee following the Yemeni army's offensive," the source said.

A separate report by Al-Masirah described the operation as the largest flanking and encirclement maneuver in the mountainous areas of Lahj, spanning more than 60 kilometers from the Kabub mountains in the west and al-Muqatirah in the east toward al-Mudaribah.

The Saudi-backed militants were forced to withdraw from Dhubab airport, the surroundings of Kabub, and areas around Bab al-Mandab and al-Suqya, the report said. The withdrawals continued along the coastal strip beyond Khawr Umayrah and the Jibal Kharaz heights.

The source said the operation consolidated Yemeni control over all areas considered the strategic and vital depth of the Bab al-Mandab Strait, from Kabub to Khawr Umayrah.

Field sources told Al-Mayadeen on Sunday that Yemeni forces had secured positions and extensive areas in the Dhubab district on the Bab al-Mandab Strait after fierce clashes with Saudi-backed troop concentrations comprising the Giants Brigades and Nation's Shield Forces.

The advances coincided with the rapid withdrawal of Giants Brigades forces toward Aden following the collapse of their fortifications and reinforcement lines, the sources said.

The Saudi-backed fugitive regime's Southern Armed Forces acknowledged the redeployment on Sunday, describing it as a "calculated military move" to reinforce defenses around Aden.

Araghchi...
(Continued From Page 2)

table and remains committed to previous agreements, including the JCPOA and the Islamabad Memorandum of Understanding.

The envoy stressed that negotiations are only possible through respect for Iran's legitimate rights and from a position of equality, warning that otherwise Tehran will rely on its strategic independence and military strength to resist "bullying and excessive demands".

"Whenever Washington accepts our conditions, Tehran can sit at the table for more balanced negotiations," Amiri Moghaddam said.

U.S. ...
(Continued From Page 2)

manufacturing units that worked with such substances to alternative technologies.

Iran acceded to the Montreal Protocol on October 3, 1990, and established its National Ozone Unit within the Department of Environment in 1995.

The Kigali Amendment, adopted in 2016 and in force since January 1, 2019, commits countries to the gradual reduction of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which, while not ozone-depleting, are potent greenhouse gases.

The amendment is estimated to reduce global warming by approximately 0.4 to 0.5 degrees Celsius by 2100. Iran has not yet ratified the amendment, according to the UN Treaty Collection.

The Kigali meeting also addressed financing for the Multilateral Fund for the 2027-2029 period, institutional capacity building, HFC-23 emissions reporting, regional atmospheric monitoring, and compliance and reporting by parties.

Iraqi...
(Continued From Page 2)

We are negotiating with the American side because it is not feasible."

More than a third of the natural gas consumed by Iraq's power plants is supplied from Iran, and border trade sustains livelihoods in the southern provinces and the Kurdish region.

A U.S. official familiar with the discussions acknowledged that shutting down commercial routes could provoke "civil insurrection" among Iraqi, Pakistani and Turkish communities living along the borders.

Iraqi economic analyst Nasser al-Kinani said the closure of southern border crossings while northern ones continue operating will harm southern traders and weaken their competitiveness.

"These measures, which had no necessity, were imposed by America and led to economic losses," he said, calling on the government to review the measures and ensure fairness among traders and all regions of Iraq.

The Al-Maalomah report also cited Ayatollah Sayyed Yasin al-Mousavi, the Friday prayer leader in Baghdad, warning against hasty economic decisions that increase pressure on citizens, particularly the poor, and calling for careful assessment of decisions related to border crossings and foreign trade.

The controversy has already drawn opposition from political groups. The Badr Organization, led by Hadi al-Amiri, has demanded the reopening of the al-Sheib crossing in Maysan province, which Iraq closed in October citing security concerns, describing the closure as compliance with U.S. pressure.

Hezbollah...
(Continued From Page 2)

He warned that "the horrific crimes committed by the U.S. and the Israeli regime in Palestine, Iran, Lebanon and Yemen will lead them, God willing, to a path of torment and destruction".

On Lebanon's domestic debate over Hezbollah's weapons, al-Sayyed condemned factions calling for a state monopoly on arms, saying: "Some in Lebanon constantly raise the issue of the monopoly on weapons, and this is deliberate talk aimed at disarming the resistance."

He asked: "How can this matter be raised while the Zionist aggression and occupation continue? This proposal falls entirely on the basis of Israeli interests and indicates that Lebanon is surrendering to the Zionist enemy."

He maintained that Israel's wars on Lebanon failed to achieve their objectives, citing Israeli figures who acknowledged the security situation had not improved.

On Yemen, al-Sayyed praised its support for Palestine, saying: "The great, strong, steadfast and brave Yemeni people have paid a heavy price in confronting the Zionist entity and in solidarity with the Palestinian people."

He urged Saudi officials to reconsider their policy, stating that accepting the Yemeni people's demands would bring greater benefits than "showing hostility toward this people and destroying their country".

Week...
(Continued From Page 3)

According to Khorasani, organizers have contacted the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, the Ministry of Education and university institutions to encourage professors and educational centers to dedicate part of their November 15 activities to introducing Allameh Tabatabaei's scholarship and character.

The program extends beyond universities and seminaries, with activities planned in several Iranian cities and cooperation involving religious institutions and cultural organizations abroad. A special event is also being coordinated with Iran's cultural representation in Tunisia.

Mashhad is scheduled to host a program on November 19, while another gathering is planned in Kermanshah on November 21, coinciding with the final day of the newly established cultural week.

The initiative also includes the 16th gathering of scholars specializing in rational sciences, scheduled for November 18, alongside documentary productions, educational materials and a revised edition of a documentary about Al-Mizan.

Organizers have additionally prepared 25 posters presenting statements about Tabatabaei's intellectual and spiritual contributions. The National Commission for UNESCO in Iran has also been approached regarding international activities introducing his legacy during 2026.

The establishment of the Week of Wisdom and Philosophy gives this year's observance a broader institutional dimension, linking the anniversary of Allameh Tabatabaei's passing with November 21, the anniversary of the Persian philosopher Abu Nasr al-Farabi and UNESCO's World Philosophy Day.

Scholars...
(Continued From Page 3)

than 500 books and references and around 50 academic articles. He also highlighted its descriptive-analytical research approach, structured presentation and reliance on historical evidence rather than ideological judgments.

Responding to the reviews, Rafiei said his research originated from a longstanding question about whether Shah Ismail I had independently established the Safavid state and made Twelver Shiism the official religion, or whether these developments had emerged from deeper historical processes.

He described Shah Ismail as having harvested the fruit of a tree that had grown over centuries through Iran's political and religious transformations.

Rafiei explained that the book examines four major stages: Iranian movements and uprisings during the early Islamic centuries; the emergence of Iranian dynasties and efforts to restore political independence; the consequences of the Mongol invasion and the fall of the Abbasid caliphate, which created new conditions for Shiite movements; and finally, the establishment of the Safavid state under Shah Ismail.

He stressed that understanding Iran's post-Islamic political history requires examining religious movements, scholarly networks and social developments alongside political events.

Rafiei acknowledged that some more recent research, including Alviri's work on Shia intellectual and political life between the fall of Baghdad and the rise of the Safavids, could have strengthened the book's research background. He attributed its omission partly to the lengthy preparation and publication process.

Major...
(Continued From Page 3)

categories: adult poetry, including classical, modern and colloquial forms; children's and young adult poetry; and poetry studies, encompassing academic research and criticism.

Eligible submissions must be original Persian-language poetry collections first published in Iran during 1404 (2025–2026), with authorization from the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance. Joint collections and anthologies of previously published works are excluded.

The submission deadline is December 21, 2026, with winners scheduled to receive cash prizes, commemorative plaques and festival trophies at the closing ceremony in winter 2027.

Publishers, poets and researchers can register through fajr.ketab.ir and submit four copies of eligible publications to the festival secretariat at the House of Book and Literature of Iran in Tehran.

Meanwhile, the second Kheir Iran Photography Festival has opened submissions to photographers and visual artists interested in documenting philanthropy, solidarity and social responsibility across Iranian society.

The competition seeks images portraying kindness, assistance, volunteering, environmental protection, wildlife conservation, organ donation, disaster relief, water crisis management, social entrepreneurship, school construction and support for vulnerable communities.

Organizers emphasize that philanthropy extends beyond financial donations, encompassing broader efforts to improve people's lives through solidarity, care and practical assistance.

The festival has two categories: single photographs and photographic series. Single submissions must be documentary photographs grounded in realism, while series may consist of five to 10 photographs from completed or ongoing projects, accompanied by an artist's statement or proposal.

Ten projects will be selected for a three-month educational and photography grant program, providing participants with professional guidance and support before their completed projects undergo final judging.

Three outstanding single photographs will each receive 40 million tomans, while the selected photographic series will receive 80 million tomans. Three additional works will receive recognition from the philanthropic community, each carrying a 10-million-toman award.

Photographs must have been taken in Iran from 2021 onward. The deadline for initial photographic series submissions is December 21, 2026, while single photographs and completed projects selected for the grant program must be submitted by April 9, 2027.

An exhibition and awards ceremony are scheduled for May 2027. Registration and submission guidelines are available at festival.kheir.ir.

Persian...
(Continued From Page 3)

importance of academic and cultural cooperation between Iran and Serbia. He highlighted the literary heritage of Persian, particularly the works of Saadi, Hafez and Rumi, and referred to Saadi's celebrated poem Bani Adam as an expression of empathy, compassion and human solidarity.

He noted that Iran's cultural representation in Serbia has pursued language education for nearly three decades, with former students going on to teach Persian and translate literary works into Serbian.

The opening session also featured a presentation on Iran's natural and cultural attractions, including the Persian Gulf, accompanied by Iranian music. The first lesson introduced the Persian alphabet, its writing system and pronunciation.