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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

IRAN

Foreign Ministry spokesman: Dead-ends are resolvable in Vienna talks

Tehran Times, January 17, 2022

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Monday that dead-ends in Vienna are not unsolvable. Speaking at his weekly press briefing, Khatibzadeh said that senior negotiators from Iran and three European countries had returned to the capitals for further consultations and during this time the expert meetings were ongoing. He went on to say that the focus of the meetings was on "four main texts on various issues". The four steps includes sanctions removal, verification of steps that each side must take, technical issues and guarantees. He added, "Many tables have been prepared and the columns of these tables are also ready and some of the parentheses have been cleared and agreements have been reached and agreements on ideas have been done to a great extent and are being converted into sentences and words."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/469182/Foreign-Ministry-spokesman-Dead-ends-are-resolvable-in-Vienna>

Commander: Iran Ready to Supply Neighboring, Friendly States with Military Technologies

Fars News Agency, January 19, 2022

Deputy Commander of the Iranian Army for Coordination Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari said that his country is ready to supply the neighboring and friendly states with its state-of-the-art scientific and military technologies. The Islamic Republic stands ready to provide advanced scientific and military technologies to friendly and neighborly states, Rear Admiral Sayyari said on Tuesday, addressing a meeting with foreign military attachés residing in Iran. "Besides

progressive relations with various countries, Iran is engaged in military cooperation with some of them and is interested in sharing its advanced scientific and military technologies with other friendly and neighboring countries as well," Rear Admiral Sayyari said.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001029000355/Cmmander-Iran-Ready-Spply-Neighboring-Friendly-Saes-wih-Miliary>

Spokesman: N. Cooperation on Agenda of Iranian President's Visit to Moscow

Fars News Agency, January 20, 2022

Spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Behrouz Kamalvandi said that broadening cooperation between Tehran and Moscow in the nuclear field is on the agenda of President Ebrahim Rayeesei's trip to Russia. Nuclear cooperation was "one of the most strategic issues" on the agenda of the Wednesday meeting between Rayeesei and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, Kamalvandi said in an interview with presstv on Thursday. Tehran and Moscow are in talks over the construction of new units at the Bushehr nuclear power plant as part of their efforts to promote bilateral strategic cooperation in the fields of energy and nuclear technology, he added.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001030000502/Spkesman-N-Cperain-n-Agenda-f-Iranian-Presiden's-Visi-Mscw>

Iran, Russia, China Kick Off Joint Wargames in Indian Ocean

Fars News Agency, January 21, 2022

The joint naval drill participated by naval and airborne forces the Iranian Navy, Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy, and vessels from China and Russia kicked off in Indian Ocean on Friday. In a relevant development on Thursday, a spokesperson for the 2022

Marine Security Belt drills Second Admiral Mostafa Tajoddini said that the exercises would take place in the North of the Indian Ocean and is the third joint naval drills among the three countries. According to the spokesman, the purpose of the exercises is to expand multilateral cooperation between Iran, China, and Russia and to demonstrate the goodwill of these countries to jointly support world peace, maritime security. A variety of tactical exercises such as rescuing a floating vessel, releasing a hijacked vessel, shooting at specific targets, shooting at air targets at night, and other operational exercises are planned to be held in this naval drill, he added.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001101000185/Iran-Russia-China-Kick-Off-Jin-Wargames-in-Indian-Ocean>

Commander: Enhancing Naval Cooperation Main Achievement of 2022 Naval Drills in Indian Ocean

Fars News Agency, January 21, 2022

Deputy Commander of the Iranian Army for Coordination Rear Admiral Habibollah Sayyari underlined that strengthening of naval cooperation has been the main purpose for holding '2022 Marine Security Belt' joint drills in the North Indian Ocean on Friday. Pointing to the significance of a trilateral combined naval drill between Iran, Russia and China in the Indian Ocean, Rear Admiral Sayyari said that establishing maritime trade security in North Indian Ocean and better coordination and closer communication between navy force of countries in the region is the main objective of the joint naval drill in line with exchanging maritime experiences in relief and assistance in maritime accidents.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001101000417/Commander-Enhancing-Naval-Cooperation-Main-Achievement-of-2022-Naval-Drills>

Raisi, Putin discussed nuclear cooperation: AEOI

Tehran Times, January 22, 2022

The spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) has commented on the recent meeting between Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Moscow, saying nuclear cooperation was "one of the most strategic issues" on the negotiating table. "The subject of nuclear industry may be separated into two sections: energy-related and non-energy-related enterprises," Kamalvandi said in an interview with Press TV. "The relationship between the two countries is excellent in both spheres. We get our radioisotopes from... numerous sorts of radioisotopes that are employed in medicine, business, agriculture, and other fields," he noted. He added that the collaborative effort to build further units at the Bushehr nuclear plant was in keeping with Iran's goal of generating at least 10,000 megawatts of electricity from nuclear power.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/469352/Raisi-Putin-discussed-nuclear-cooperation-AEOI>

Blinken: Iran nuclear talks reach 'decisive moment'

Al-Monitor, January 22, 2022

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday that Iran's nuclear weapons program is one area where the United States and Russia can work together and that the two countries are on a "clearer path" to understanding each other's concerns. The top US diplomat met with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov and discussed the ongoing talks in Vienna aimed at restoring a landmark nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

The talks have reached a “decisive moment,” Blinken said, adding that a deal must be reached in the next few weeks or Iran’s nuclear advances will make a return to a deal meaningless.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/01/blinken-iran-nuclear-talks-reach-decisive-moment#ixzz7KB81Ff5j>

Iran: Interim nuclear agreement never been on our agenda

Tehran Times, January 24, 2022

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Monday that the Vienna talks are moving forward in the right direction. “What we are witnessing today in Vienna is the progress of the talks in the right direction. We have made good progress in all four areas (sanctions removal, verification, guarantees, and nuclear issues)..., some documents the parentheses and discrepancies have decreased,” Saeed Khatibzadeh said in his weekly press briefing. He also said that the great success in Vienna has been the fact that many of Iran's initiatives have become “words”, including in the field of guarantees.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/469432/Iran-Interim-nuclear-agreement-never-been-on-our-agenda>

AEOI Chief: Using Renewable Energies, Development of N. Reactors on Iran’s Agenda

Fars News Agency, January 25, 2022

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Mohammad Eslami announced that development of nuclear reactors and extensive use of renewable energies are on the agenda of the government. “Development of nuclear reactors is an important necessity, which is a priority in the national strategies, and special attention is paid to it in national development plans,” Eslami said during his

visit to the Darkhovein nuclear site in the Southwestern city of Shadegan in Khuzestan province. He said that in the world, too, the general approach is using renewable clean energies, and this important task is one of the priorities of the 13th government, as well.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001105000407/AEOI-Chief-Using-Renewable-Energies-Development-of-N-Reactors-on-Iran%E2%80%99s>

Iranian Navy Sends 80th Fleet of Warships to Int'l Waters

Fars News Agency, January 27, 2022

The 80th flotilla of the Iranian Navy set off for high seas to safeguard maritime routes used by Iranian vessels in international waters. Iran’s 80th naval fleet embarked for the international and free waters via Bandar Abbas on Thursday in a see-off ceremony attended by the military commanders of Iran’s Army Navy Force. The 80th naval fleet of Iran’s Army Navy Force was sent to the internship of students of the Imam Khomeini University of Marine Sciences and Technology. In the maritime mission, Tonb logistics ship, Bandar Abbas logistics ship and Alvand class destroyer of the strategic Navy of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran are present. The Iranian Navy has been conducting anti-piracy patrols in the Gulf of Aden since November 2008, when Somali raiders hijacked the Iranian-chartered cargo ship, MV Delight, off the coast of Yemen.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14001107000401/Iranian-Navy-Sends-Oh-Flee-f-Warships-In'l-Waers>

IRAQ

Iraqi Air Force targets an ISIS gathering east of Makhoul, Rasool says

Iraqi News Agency, January 24, 2022

Iraqi Air Force carried out by using F-16 aircraft, four air strikes targeting a

gathering of four terrorists east of Makhoul Mountains within the sector of Salah Al-Din Operations Command. The spokesman for the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Major General Yahya Rasool, said in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), on Monday, that "According to the directives of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, and to avenge the death of our righteous martyrs, and based on accurate intelligence information from the Agency of Intelligence and Federal Investigations (AIFI) at the Ministry of Interior, the Air Force carried out by F-16 aircraft four air strikes targeting a gathering of four terrorists east of Makhoul Mountains within the sector of Salah al-Din Operations Command, as they were all killed.

<https://ina.iq/eng/17031-iraqi-air-force-targets-an-isis-gathering-east-of-makhoul-rasool-says.html>

Rockets hit Baghdad airport compound near US airbase

Aljazeera, January 28, 2022

At least three rockets have landed in the Baghdad International Airport compound and near an adjacent US airbase, damaging one disused civilian aeroplane, Iraqi police sources said. The rockets hit Baghdad International Airport's runways or parking areas, a source at the interior ministry said, noting that a "civilian plane has been hit and damaged". The attack was not immediately claimed. The officials did not report any other damage or any injuries in Friday's attack, adding that the damaged Iraqi Airways aircraft was out of use.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/1/28/rockets-hit-baghdad-airport-compound-damage-disused-plane>

3 Arab terrorists killed in the air strike that targeted the terrorist cell in Al-Adheem

Iraqi News Agency, January 30, 2022

A security source reported that 3 Lebanese were killed while fighting in Iraq in the air

strike that targeted the terrorist cell in Al-Adheem in Diyala Governorate. The source told the Iraqi News Agency (INA), that "3 Lebanese were killed while fighting alongside Daesh terrorist gangs in Iraq during the air strike that targeted the terrorist cell in Al-Adheem in Diyala Governorate,". "The three terrorists are from Wadi Nahla in northern Lebanon, and they are Omar Seif, Bakr Seif, and Anas Seif, nicknamed the butcher," added the source.

<https://ina.iq/eng/17183-3-arab-terrorists-killed-in-the-air-strike-that-targeted-the-terrorist-cell-in-al-adheem-.html>

Iraqi air force kills 6 terrorists in Nineveh

Iraqi News Agency, January 30, 2022

The Security Media Cell announced the killing of 6 terrorists inside their hideout, in a strike by the Air Force, within the sector of the Nineveh Operations Command. And the Cell stated in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), that "as we promised you yesterday with later good tidings, and through the tactical operations carried out by the formations and joints of our heroic security forces, and after following up on the field military intelligence in the Nineveh Operations Command and increasing its efforts to reach the terrorists' hideouts." The Cell added, "With the planning and supervision of the Joint Operations Command, the Air Force Hawks, using Iraqi F16 aircraft, carried out an air strike targeting a terrorist detachment of Daesh gangs members, consisting of 6 terrorists inside their hideout in a hill near the village of Sheikh Yunis within the Nineveh Operations Command sector, where they were all Killed."

<https://ina.iq/eng/17199-iraqi-air-force-kills-6-terrorists-in-nineveh.html>

Iraqi Hizbullah Brigades Launch Campaign To Finance Houthi Drones With Initial Pledge Of One Billion Dinar (\$685,000)

MEMRI TV, January 31, 2022

On January 31, 2022, Al-Etejah TV (Iraq) aired a report about a campaign launched by the Iraqi Hizbullah Brigades to collect money to finance the Yemeni Houthis' drone project. The report explained that the campaign, which is titled "Your Money Means Drones," has already collected one billion Iraqi dinars, which is roughly the equivalent of \$685,000. An unidentified Shiite scholar said in the report that "everyone must stand with the Yemeni people" and that the drones will be used to "retaliate" against Saudi Arabia and the UAE. He explained that the only way to defeat the United States, Saudi Arabia, and Israel is by giving them a "taste of their own medicine."

<https://www.memri.org/tv/iraqi-hizbullah-brigades-campaign-finance-drones-houthis-attack-ksa-uae>

ISRAEL

Bennett: Only Iran deal acceptable to Israel is no nuclear weapon program

The Jerusalem Post, January 18, 2022

An Iran deal acceptable to Israel would not allow the Islamic Republic to enrich uranium at high levels, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said Tuesday in a video conference with the World Economic Forum in Davos. Asked what kind of agreement between world powers and Iran would be one Israel approves of, he responded: "Effectively, that Iran has to give up its nuclear-weapon program." "Why would anyone legitimize their right to enrich uranium at a massive capacity?" Bennett asked. "They are now enriching at 60% grade in these huge factories. Why are they doing it? You don't need 60%

[enriched] uranium for anything but a nuclear weapon."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/politics-and-diplomacy/article-693857>

Israel successfully tests Arrow 3 anti-ballistic missile system

The Times of Israel, January 18, 2022

Israel conducted a successful test of its Arrow 3 anti-ballistic missile system on Tuesday morning outside the Earth's atmosphere, the Defense Ministry said. The trial tested a number of "breakthrough" capabilities for the missile defense system, which can be used immediately by the Israeli Air Force, the Defense Ministry's Missile Defense Organization head Moshe Patel told reporters on Tuesday. "We have made a breakthrough in every part of the system, in the detection arrays, in the launches, even in the interceptors themselves, so that they match the threats that are expected in the region. There were highly, highly significant technological breakthroughs here that were assessed and can be used by the air force in its operational systems immediately," Patel said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-carries-out-test-of-arrow-anti-balistic-missile-system/>

Israel signs agreement to buy three more German submarines

Al-Monitor, January 20, 2022

Israel reached an agreement today to purchase three submarines from German ship builder ThyssenKrupp. The megadeal will see the first upgraded diesel-electric submarine out of the three purchased constructed and delivered to the Israeli navy within nine years. The purchase agreement was inked at the Defense Ministry's Tel Aviv headquarters by director Amir Eshel and by ThyssenKrupp

CEO Rolf Wirtz, in the presence of Israeli naval commander David Salama. The new submarines will form a new class called Dakar, in honor of the Israeli submarine that mysteriously disappeared in 1968 en route from the United Kingdom to Israel with 69 crew members on board. These new vessels are essentially an upgraded version of the Dolphin-class diesel-electric model (also purchased from ThyssenKrupp) that the Israeli navy has been using these past few years. The new contract also includes the construction of a training simulator in Israel and the supply of spare parts.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/01/israel-signs-agreement-buy-three-more-german-submarines#ixzz7KBJ8KP63>

Israel rejects selling Iron Dome defence system to UAE

Middle East Monitor, January 29, 2022

Israeli security agencies have rejected selling the Iron Dome and David's Sling Weapons System to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Israel Hayom and Maariv reported military analysts revealing on Friday. According to Maariv, military analyst Alon Ben David said that the Israeli security agencies rejected the potentiality to sell developed technologies to its new partners, referring to the Arab countries that have signed Abraham Accords. Meanwhile, Yoav Limor told Israel Hayom that Israel is afraid that selling this technology to the UAE means secrets could be passed to a third-party state. "Mossad, which paved the way for the normalisations, has begged the security agencies to stop looking at these countries as 'Arabs'," Ben David explained.

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/2022/01/29/israel-rejects-selling-iron-dome-defence-system-to-uae/>

LEBANON

U.S. Denies Brokering 'Lebanese-Israeli Gas Deal'

Naharnet, January 17, 2022

"Media reports that the United States has brokered an energy deal between Israel and Lebanon are false," the U.S. State Department tweeted. Israeli Channel 12 news had said that the U.S. had brokered an agreement for Israel to indirectly supply natural gas to Lebanon through Jordan and Syria. The report said the agreement was approved by the United States in coordination with Russian President Vladimir Putin. The Lebanese Ministry of Energy affirmed, for its part, that the natural gas is Egyptian, denying the media reports as well.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/287195-u-s-denies-brokering-lebanese-israeli-gas-deal>

Rocket launched from Southern Lebanon towards Israel

Ya Libnan, January 20, 2022

A rocket was launched towards Israel on Wednesday night, according to Lebanese media. Al markazieh reported that an explosion was heard in the Wadi Al-Aziya area, located between the municipality of Zebqin and Al-Hanya, south of Tyre in south Lebanon, the causes of which were not known. The report added that witnesses reported that unidentified persons fired a missile, toward Israel Wednesday evening from that area. While no information has yet been released by any Lebanese security authority explaining the nature of the explosion, Israeli army sources revealed that no missile was found in Israel that was launched from Lebanon

<https://yalibnan.com/2022/01/20/rocket-launched-from-southern-lebanon-towards-israel/>

U.S. Treasury Sanctions 'International Hezbollah Network'

Naharnet, January 21, 2022

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) on Friday designated "Hezbollah-affiliated financial facilitator Adnan Ayad," as well as "members of an international network of facilitators and companies connected to him and to Adel Diab, Adnan Ayad's business partner and fellow Hezbollah financier who was designated by OFAC on January 18, 2022," it said in a statement. "The sanctions evasion efforts of those designated today demonstrate how Hezbollah gains access to the international financial system and raises funds in support of its acts of terrorism and other illicit activities. These actions undermine the stability, security, and sovereignty of the Lebanese people," the Treasury added.

It said "Hezbollah-linked financial facilitators" like Adnan Ayad and Adel Diab have "helped Hezbollah obtain funds through networks of companies that operate under the guise of legitimate business enterprises."

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/287362-u-s-treasury-sanctions-international-hezbollah-network>

U.S. imposes sanctions on 3 Lebanese and 10 companies linked to Hezbollah network

Ya Libnan, January 22, 2022

The United States on Friday imposed sanctions on three Lebanese nationals and 10 companies it said were part of an international Hezbollah network, accusing them of evading sanctions on the powerful group with an armed militia that is designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by Washington. The U.S. Treasury Department in a statement said it designated Adnan Ayad, who it said was a Hezbollah member and businessman, as well as other members of an international

network of facilitators and companies connected to him and his business partner, Adel Diab, who was designated by Washington on Tuesday. "Treasury is committed to disrupting Hezbollah's illicit activity and attempts to evade sanctions through business networks while the group doubles down on corrupt patronage networks in Lebanon," Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Brian Nelson said in the statement on Friday.

<https://yalibnan.com/2022/01/22/u-s-imposes-more-sanctions-on-3-lebanese-and-10-companies-linked-to-hezbollah-network/>

Lebanon-Israel Sea Border Talks to Resume Next Week

Naharnet, January 27, 2022

The indirect negotiations between Lebanon and Israel over the demarcation of their maritime border will resume next week under the sponsorship of the U.N. and the U.S., Israel and media reports said. "The U.S.-mediated border negotiations with Lebanon will be resumed next week," Israeli Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz said, adding that Israel has agreed to take part in these negotiations. This indicates that U.S. Special Envoy and Coordinator for International Energy Affairs Amos Hochstein will soon arrive in the region.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/287504-lebanon-israel-sea-border-talks-to-resume-next-week>

US to reroute \$67m in aid towards Lebanon's army

Ya Libnan, January 29, 2022

The United States plans to reroute \$67m of military assistance for Lebanon's armed forces to support members of the military as the country grapples with a debilitating financial crisis. According to a notification sent to Congress, the State Department intends to change the content of previously appropriated foreign military

funding for Lebanon to include “livelihood support” for members of the Lebanese military, citing economic turmoil as well as social unrest. “Livelihood support for (armed forces) members will strengthen their operational readiness, mitigate absenteeism, and thus enable LAF members to continue fulfilling key security functions needed to stave off a further decline in stability,” said the notification to Congress, seen by Reuters.

<https://yalibnan.com/2022/01/29/us-to-reroute-67m-in-aid-towards-lebanons-army/>

QATAR

'Major Non-NATO Ally' Designation Will Enhance U.S., Qatar Relationship

US Department of Defence, January 31, 2022

During a meeting today with Qatari Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, President Joe Biden indicated plans to nominate Qatar as a "major non-NATO ally" for the United States. The designation will change the way the United States and its military interact with that country, said Pentagon Press Secretary John F. Kirby. "It does open up a full new range of opportunities: exercises, operations and you know, perhaps, the ... acquisition of capabilities as well," Kirby told reporters during a briefing today at the Pentagon.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/2917336/major-non-nato-ally-designation-will-enhance-us-qatar-relationship/>

SAUDI ARABIA

F-15 destroys two ballistic missile in Sanaa

Saudi Gazette, January 18, 2022

Brig. Gen. Turki Al-Maliki, spokesman of the Coalition to Restore Legitimacy in Yemen, said that the hostile attacks of the terrorist, Iran-backed Houthi militia Monday that deliberately targeted civilians,

civilian objects and economic installations in Saudi Arabia and UAE represent war crimes. the Arab Coalition said the air force was conducting 24-hour air operations in Sanaa, and called on civilians to stay away from Houthi militia camps for their own safety. “F-15 attack aircraft destroyed two ballistic missile launchers that were in use on Monday,” confirming that “the perpetrators of hostile attacks on civilians in Saudi Arabia and the UAE will be held accountable.” The Joint Forces Command of the Coalition has intercepted a total of eight bomb-laden drones that were launched towards the Kingdom to deliberately and systematically target civilians and civilian objects.

<https://www.saudigazette.com.sa/article/615965/SAUDI-ARABIA/F-15-destroys-two-ballistic-missile-in-Sanaa>

Rosatom in talks with 'several' Middle East countries about starting nuclear power plants

S&P Global Platts, January 19, 2022

Russia's state nuclear energy producer Rosatom is in talks with "several" countries in the Middle East and North Africa to explore development of nuclear power, including nuclear research reactors, the CEO of the company's regional division said Jan. 19. Saudi Arabia is one of the countries that Rosatom is ready to work with when the kingdom puts out tenders, including to provide the fuel or build the plants, Alexander Voronkov, CEO of Rosatom Middle East & North Africa, told S&P Global Platts at Rosatom Week being held at EXPO 2020 in Dubai. Rosatom was selected to help provide the enriched uranium for the UAE's first nuclear power plant, and is building the first nuclear power plants in both Turkey and Egypt.

<https://www.spglobal.com/platts/en/market-insights/latest-news/electric-power/011922-rosatom-in-talks-with-several-middle-east-countries-about-starting-nuclear-power-plants>

Arab Coalition strikes in Yemen kill 40 Houthi 'terrorists,' destroy five vehicles

Alarabiya News, January 22, 2022

Arab Coalition strikes in Marib against the Iran-backed Houthis have killed more than 40 "terrorists" and destroyed five military vehicles in the last 24 hours, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported on Saturday. It comes as a part of the coalition's eight targeted strikes, during a time when tensions are rising with Yemen's Iran-backed Houthis. Permanent members of the Arab League are expected to host an extraordinary meeting of the council upon the UAE's request to discuss the recent attack in Abu Dhabi. The Houthi militia attack backed by Iran has attracted global outcry, with statements condemning the attack from over a 114 international organizations and countries.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/22/Arab-Coalition-strikes-in-Yemen-kill-40-Houthi-terrorists-destroy-five-vehicles>

Houthi' allegations of Coalition targeted a detention center in Saada is incorrect: Brig. Gen. Al-Maliki

Saudi Gazette, January 22, 2022

The Joint Forces Command of the Coalition denied on Saturday morning the allegations of the Iranian-backed terrorist Houthi militia regarding the coalition's targeting of a detention center in Saada Governorate in Yemen. In a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA), coalition spokesman Brigadier General Turki Al-Malki said the Joint Forces followed up what was reported on the media after the terrorist Houthi militia announced that the coalition had targeted a detention center in Saada Governorate at dawn Friday, January 21, 2022, and claiming that there were victims among the detainees inside. The allegations were confirmed to be incorrect after a comprehensive review of the post-action procedures (AAR) was conducted according to the internal mechanism of the

Joint Forces Command of the Coalition, Al-Malki said, while noting that the Joint Forces takes such reports seriously.

<https://www.saudigazette.com.sa/article/616150/SAUDI-ARABIA/Houthi-allegations-of-Coalition-targeted-a-detention-center-in-Saada-is-incorrect-Brig-Gen-Al-Maliki>

Saudi Arabia Said to Produce Ballistic Missiles

Arms Control Association, January/February, 2022

Saudi Arabia is manufacturing ballistic missiles with China's help, according to a U.S. intelligence assessment reported on Dec. 23 by CNN. Although Riyadh previously purchased missiles from Beijing, this is believed to be the first time it has produced them domestically, and the development is raising concerns about a new missile race in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia is thought to be seeking to advance its missile capabilities to bolster its capabilities in Yemen, where the kingdom remains entrenched in a war against Iran-aligned Houthi rebels. Satellite images of a site near al-Dawadmi, west of Riyadh, suggest that Saudi Arabia is producing solid-fueled ballistic missiles, as evidenced by signs of a "burn pit" that is used to dispose of solid-propellant leftover from the production line.

<https://www.armscontrol.org/act/2022-01/news/saudi-arabia-said-produce-ballistic-missiles>

UAE, Saudi Arabia thwart separate Houthi attacks

Alarabiya News, January 24, 2022

The Arab Coalition has revealed it destroyed a ballistic missile launched toward Saudi Arabia's Dhahran Al Janub early on Monday, while the UAE said they downed two missiles launched by the Iran-backed Houthis targeting Abu Dhabi. Shrapnel from the destroyed missile fired at Saudi Arabia landed in the town's

industrial zone and material loss was reported, but no injuries or fatalities. The Coalition stated that they had destroyed the launch pad where ballistic missiles were fired from in Yemen's Al-Jawf. The UAE's Defense Ministry said they themselves intercepted two ballistic missiles fired at Abu Dhabi, without reported casualty or injury.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/24/Arab-Coalition-Ballistic-missile-downed-over-Saudi-town-of-Dhahran-Al-Janub>

Saudi Arabia, Romania sign defense deal renewing commitment to peace

Alarabiya News, January 25, 2022

Saudi Arabia and Romania have entered a defense cooperation deal that will see an exchange of expertise in technology, communication systems, and medical services, in addition to training, according to the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA). It comes as part of an agreement signed by the Kingdom, represented by Dr. Khalid bin Hussein al-Bayari, Assistant Minister of Defense for Executive Affairs, and Romania, represented by Simona Cojocaru, State Secretary and Chief of the Department for Defense Policy, Planning and International Relations.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/25/Saudi-Arabia-Romania-sign-defense-deal-renewing-commitment-to-peace>

SYRIA

Ambassador Ala: Israel's continued development of its arsenal, including nuclear, main source of destabilization

Syrian Arab News Agency, January 27, 2022

Syria reaffirmed that the Israeli occupation continued development of its arsenal of weapons, including the nuclear one is the main source of threat to the security and stability in region, which requires from the

international community to implement its commitments of the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and take serious steps to ensure Israel's accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Syria's permanent representative to the United Nations Office and International Organizations in Geneva, Ambassador Houssam al-Din Ala said in a statement on Thursday before the 2022 Disarmament Conference. "Syria has given great interest to make the Middle East a region free from weapons of mass destruction, and it was one of the first countries that joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation treaty of 1969 and the Chemical Weapons Convention of 2013," Ala said.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=261777>

TURKEY

France delivers 6 Rafale fighter jets to Greece

Daily Sabah, January 19, 2022

Six advanced Rafale jets purchased from the French air force on Wednesday flew in low formation over Athens before their official handover to the Greek armed forces at a nearby air base. The multirole combat aircraft with a distinctive triangle-shaped wing were the first major delivery to result from multi-billion-euro defense deals the Greek and French governments sealed last year. NATO allies Greece and Turkey have longstanding disagreements over boundaries and oil and gas drilling rights in the Eastern Mediterranean, a dispute that flared into a tense naval stand off in 2020. Turkey and Greece mount competing air force patrols in the eastern Aegean Sea around Greek islands facing Turkey's coastline. The tensions in the region prompted Athens to speed up its military upgrade program and strengthen defense ties with allies France and the United States.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/france-delivers-6-rafale-fighter-jets-to-greece>

Turkish military receives domestic air defense system HISAR O+

Daily Sabah, January 20, 2022

The domestically produced HISAR O+ missile defense system was delivered late Thursday for use by the Turkish military. With the delivery of HISAR O+, Turkey has now become self-sufficient in very low, low and middle altitude missile defense. HISAR O+ was developed indigenously in cooperation with Turkey's defense industry giants Aselsan and Roketsan. The air defense system, which has a 360-degree defense capability, is capable of engaging and firing against at least nine different targets simultaneously. Dedicated to the air defense of stationary forces and critical assets against fighters, helicopters, drones, cruise missiles and air-to-surface missiles, HISAR O+ intercepts targets at a range of 25 kilometers (15.5 miles).

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-military-receives-domestic-air-defense-system-hisar-o>

Turkish Aerospace, Pakistan to jointly develop satellite projects

Daily Sabah, January 27, 2022

Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) signed a cooperation agreement with Pakistan's Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) on Wednesday to develop space and satellite projects. Turkish defense giant TAI and SUPARCO will carry out joint studies on electric communication satellites and other space projects within the scope of the agreement. "We have signed a cooperation deal with the SUPARCO to develop satellite projects. We wish good luck for the two countries," said TAI in a statement on Twitter.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-aerospace-pakistan-to-jointly-develop-satellite-projects>

Turkey to kickstart production of domestic assault boat prototype

Daily Sabah, January 31, 2022

Turkey to start the construction of a prototype ship within the scope of the Turkish-type assault boat project, head of the Presidency of Defense Industries (SSB) said Monday. "We will initiate the construction of a prototype ship within the scope of the Turkish-type assault boat," Ismail Demir said. He was speaking at a meeting about the defense industry's 2022 objectives at the headquarters of the Turkish defense contractor Havelsan in the capital Ankara. Within the scope of the Turkish Type Assault Boat Project initiated by SSB, the "Turkish Type Assault Boat Project Term-1 Contract Design Agreement" was signed between the SSB and leading defense contractor STM on Aug. 31, 2020.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkey-to-kickstart-production-of-domestic-assault-boat-prototype>

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

South Korea to sell billions worth surface-to-air missiles to UAE

Daily Sabah, January 16, 2022

South Korean President Moon Jae-in reached a preliminary multibillion-dollar agreement to sell surface-to-air missiles to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) during a visit to the country on Sunday. After meeting Emirati Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in Dubai, the countries signed a memorandum of understanding for the UAE's purchase of a South Korean mid-range missile defense system valued at some \$3.5 billion, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported. During Dubai's weeklong aviation trade show last November, the Emirati Ministry of Defense tweeted it planned to acquire South Korea's M-SAM, an advanced air defense system designed to intercept

missiles at altitudes below 40 kilometers (25 miles), saying it would “constitute a qualitative addition to the capabilities of the national air defense.”

<https://www.dailysabah.com/world/asia-pacific/south-korea-to-sell-billions-worth-surface-to-air-missiles-to-uae>

Israel offers UAE security, intelligence support after deadly Houthi attack

Reuters, January 18, 2022

Israel has offered security and intelligence support to the United Arab Emirates against further drone attacks after a deadly strike by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi group, according to a letter released on Tuesday by Israel's leader. Three people were killed and six wounded on Monday when three tanker trucks exploded in Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital. A Houthi military spokesman said the group fired "a large number" of drones and five ballistic missiles in the attack. "We stand ready to offer you security and intelligence support in order to help you protect your citizens from similar attacks," Bennett wrote. "I have ordered the Israeli security establishment to provide their counterparts in the UAE with any assistance, should you be interested."

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-offers-uae-security-intelligence-support-after-deadly-houthi-attack-2022-01-18/>

Unit 2 of UAE's nuclear plant to start operations within months

Zawya, January 19, 2022

The second unit of the United Arab Emirates' Barakah nuclear power plant is set to begin commercial operations in coming months, the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation's (ENEC) CEO said on Wednesday. The third unit of the plant's planned four reactors will start operations in late 2022, Mohammed al-Hammadi told

a sustainable finance conference in Abu Dhabi. Barakah's Unit 1 was connected to the national power grid in August 2020, and Unit 2 in September 2021. When completed Barakah, which is being built by Korea Electric Power Corp (KEPCO), will have four reactors with 5,600 megawatts (MW) of total capacity - equivalent to around 25% of the UAE's peak demand.

https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/business/story/Unit_2_of_UAEs_nuclear_plant_to_start_operations_within_months-TR20220119nL8N2TZ1TSX1/

UAE forces destroy Houthi launch site that targeted Abu Dhabi: Defense ministry

Alarabiya News, January 24, 2022

United Arab Emirates forces have destroyed the launch site from which the Iran-backed Houthi militia fired two blocked missiles toward Abu Dhabi early Monday morning, according to the UAE Ministry of Defense. An F-16 fighter jet struck the location in al-Jawf, in northern Yemen, at 4:10 a.m. The two missiles were intercepted over the UAE capital Abu Dhabi and there were no reported casualties or injuries, the defense ministry revealed in an earlier statement. The attempted attack came one week after Iran-backed Houthis targeted Abu Dhabi with two drones, causing three fatalities.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/24/UAE-forces-destroy-Houthi-launch-site-that-targeted-Abu-Dhabi-Defense-ministry>

US forces fired Patriot missiles during Houthi attack on UAE: White House

Alarabiya News, January 31, 2022

US military forces deployed Patriot surface-to-air missiles at the ballistic missiles fired by the Houthis during the weekend attack on Abu Dhabi, a senior White House official said Monday. The

UAE said it had intercepted and destroyed a ballistic missile launched by the Iran-backed Houthis before destroying the launching site in Yemen early Monday. “I can tell you... US military personnel responded to an inbound missile threat on the UAE. This involved the employment of Patriot interceptors [along with] efforts by the armed forces of the UAE,” White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said during a press conference.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/31/US-forces-fired-Patriot-missiles-during-Houthi-attack-on-UAE-White-House>

YEMEN

Yemen government forces sweep through Marib in setback for Houthis

Alarabiya News, January 26, 2022

Forces of Yemen’s internationally recognized government swept through a strategic central province, forcing Houthi fighters out of its second largest district, officials said Wednesday. The development in Marib province is another setback for the Iran-backed Houthis, who for a year attempted to take control of the oil-rich province. Their offensive crumbled when the Giants Brigades helped reclaim the nearby Shabwa province earlier this month before advancing in Marib under air cover from the Arab Coalition. Government forces and the Giants Brigades retook the district of Harib and its center south of Marib city after nearly two weeks of fighting, pushing their way to the nearby district of Juba, said Brigadier Abdou Megali, a military spokesman. The Houthis had taken the two districts last year, part of their offensive on Marib.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/gulf/2022/01/26/Yemen-government-forces-sweep-through-Marib-in-setback-for-Houthis>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

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