



Volume 2 | Issue 22

SYLLOGE ON WEST ASIA

**FOCUS, NUCLEAR, MISSILES & OTHER
SECURITY ISSUES IN WEST ASIA**

16 November - 30 November 2022



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES

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Iran

100 aligned to separatist militants detained after IRGC strike on northern Iraq: report

Tehran Times, November 16, 2022

As many as 100 elements aligned to separatist terrorist groups have been arrested following the first wave of military attacks of the IRGC on hostile targets in northern Iraq, an informed source has said. The informed source told the Tasnim news agency on Tuesday that the IRGC would consider as “enemy soil” anywhere from which a threat is posed against Iran or an action is taken against the country’s national security. Commenting on the several rounds of military attacks that the IRGC has carried out against the positions of terrorists in northern Iraq in the past weeks, the source said Iran reserves the right to launch any military operation to combat the threats, including ground, missile, artillery and drone operations. Pointing to the latest round of strikes on the terrorists in northern Iraq on Monday, the source said such operations will continue until those hostile groups are fully disarmed or expelled from the Kurdistan Region.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47873/3/100-aligned-to-separatist-militants-detained-after-IRGC-strike>

Biden’s humbug: Tells Iran ‘in hurry’ to revive JCPOA; tells US media ‘not a priority’

Press Tv, November 16, 2022

Iran’s foreign minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian says Americans are sending messages, stressing that they are “in hurry” to return to the 2015 nuclear deal, while “hypocritically” hoodwinking the Western

media that the accord is not a priority for them currently. Speaking to reporters on Wednesday on the sidelines of a cabinet session in Tehran, Amir-Abdollahian pointed to the latest developments in the stalled talks on reviving the nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and lifting sanctions. Messages with the American side are constantly being exchanged, he asserted, adding that the last message was conveyed “in the past 72 hours”. “Americans are sending messages through some foreign ministers that they are in hurry for [returning to] the JCPOA, but when Rob Malley speaks to media, he hypocritically says the JCPOA ‘is not our focus right now’ and points to provocations that they seek to have about riots ... in Iran,” said the top diplomat.

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2022/11/16/692833/Iran-FM-says-US-in-hurry-for-JCPOA-return>

Oil ship affiliated with Israeli billionaire hit by drone off Oman coast

Tehran Times, November 16, 2022

Based on some reports, an explosive-laden drone attack off the coast of Oman hit a Liberian-flagged oil ship affiliated with an Israeli tycoon. Under the condition of anonymity, a West Asian defense official told The Associated Press that a drone carrying a bomb had attacked the oil ship Tuesday night off the coast of Oman. The official recognized the ship as Pacific Zircon, an oil tanker owned by Eastern Pacific Shipping, bearing the Liberian flag. The Singapore-based corporation is owned by Israeli billionaire Idan Ofer. A commercial vessel was involved in an incident in the Gulf of Oman, the Fifth Fleet

of the U.S. Navy informed Reuters. The attack has not yet been attributed to anyone.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47876/6/Oil-ship-affiliated-with-Israeli-billionaire-hit-by-drone-off>

U.S. slaps fresh sanctions on certain Iranian companies

Tehran Times, November 16, 2022

New sanctions have been put in place by the U.S. Treasury Department on firms that are allegedly engaged in the manufacturing or transfer of drones to Russia. The Shahed Aviation Industries Research Center is one of the companies that the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the U.S. Department of the Treasury believes is involved in the manufacturing of Iranian unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or their continuous transfer to Russia. The new embargo list singles out Iran's Shahed Aviation Industries Research Center, the United Arab Emirates' Success Aviation Services FZC (Success Aviation), and the United Arab Emirates' iJet Global DMCC (iJet) based on unfounded allegations that these companies are producing and facilitating the transfer of Iranian-made drones to Russia.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47876/7/U-S-slaps-fresh-sanctions-on-certain-Iranian-companies>

Iran warns IAEA resolution will have 'adverse effects' on resolving remaining issues

Tehran Times, November 18, 2022

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors passed a resolution against Iran on Thursday, a move that drew strong opposition from Iran's

envoy to the IAEA who described it as unconstructive and politically motivated. The resolution criticized Iran for what it claimed Tehran's lack of cooperation with the UN nuclear body. The resolution was drafted and submitted to the IAEA board by the U.S. and its three European allies – Britain, France and Germany. "The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly condemns the approval of this nonconsensual resolution presented by three European countries and the United States in today's meeting of the Board of Governors as a political, unconstructive and incorrect action and considers it unacceptable and rejected," Ambassador Mohsen Naziri-Asl said. Iran's ambassador to the Vienna-based IAEA said the architects of resolution have invested on the riots in Iran to increase political pressure on Tehran.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47877/7/Iran-warns-IAEA-resolution-will-have-adverse-effects-on-resolving>

Iran vehemently denies allegations of smuggling missile fuel to Yemen

Tehran Times, November 18, 2022

Iran has unequivocally denied the U.S. Navy's allegations that it attempted to sneak 70 tons of a missile fuel component onto a ship headed for Yemen and concealed it amid bags of fertilizer. The Islamic Republic of Iran's Permanent Mission to the UN in New York denied the accusations as unfounded in a statement on Thursday, saying Tehran is firmly committed to UN Security Council Resolution 2216, which places an arms embargo on Yemen. The statement said that none of the allegations made against Iran over the smuggling of guns to Yemen had been proven. Iran "has not taken any action against the resolution and is actively complying with the

sanctions committee constituted to supervise the arms embargo," it said. Iran is "doing its utmost to restore the truce agreement and enable talks between Yemeni factions as soon as feasible in order to achieve peace and stability in Yemen," the diplomatic mission added.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478806/Iran-vehemently-denies-allegations-of-smuggling-missile-fuel>

Iran to respond to IAEA resolution firmly: Nuclear chief

Islamic Republic News Agency, November 20, 2022

Eslami, who is also deputy president, noted on Sunday that as said before, the issuance of the resolution is clearly an unconstructive measure to put maximum pressure and it will not help the engaged sides to resolve the remaining issues. We had heard from IAEA Director General (Rafael Grossi) that he underlined the resolution would not be helpful for the progress of the issue, the Iranian official argued. Seemingly, the three European countries and the United States are accustomed to utilize different ways of exerting pressure, including the issuance of resolution and sanction, he added, warning that it is completely clear such pressures would bear no fruit.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84948108/Iran-to-respond-to-IAEA-resolution-firmly-Nuclear-chief>

Iran didn't provide Russia with drones for use in Ukraine: envoy

Tehran Times, November 20, 2022

Iran's Ambassador to Vienna and Slovakia, Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani, has once

again reiterated Iran's position on the Ukraine war, saying that Tehran has not provided Moscow with weapons for use in Ukraine. "We are not a party to the Ukraine conflict, and we are not providing arms to the parties. Like many other countries, we have cooperation with Russia in various fields and away from the Ukraine situation. This is neither new nor hidden. Nevertheless, we have not provided the Russians with weapons or drones to be used in the Ukraine war," Ardekani said in an interview with Pravda Slovak newspaper. He added, "In the phone call last week between the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and his Ukrainian counterpart we again presented our proposal to hold a technical meeting between the Iranian and Ukrainian experts to look into the alleged documents, and we are still working on it to hold this meeting. This proposal has already been on agenda and even at one point an agreement was made between Iran and Ukraine to hold this technical meeting in Poland and the Iranian technical team went there. But, at the last minute, the Ukrainian side did not show up due to foreign pressure."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478891/Iran-didn-t-provide-Russia-with-drones-for-use-in-Ukraine-envoy>

U.S. set to send unmanned warships to Persian Gulf amid Iran stark warnings

Tehran Times, November 20, 2022

Despite severe warnings from Tehran against foreign military presence in the Persian Gulf, the chief of United States Central Command (CENTCOM) has said a U.S.-led task force would deploy over 100 unmanned vessels in the vital waterways of the Persian Gulf. The deployment,

according to General Michael Kurilla, would be finished by the end of the next year and is intended to fend off marine threats. Kurilla, who was sanctioned by the Islamic Republic last month for supporting terrorism and inciting violence against the Iranian people during the recent riots, said, "By this time next year, Task Force 59 will bring together a fleet of over 100 unmanned surface and subsurface vessels operating together, communicating together and providing maritime domain awareness."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478882/U-S-set-to-send-unmanned-warships-to-Persian-Gulf-amid-Iran>

Iran initiates new round of drone-missile attack on separatist

Islamic Republic News Agency, November 21, 2022

The Public Relations Department of the IRGC Ground Forces issued a statement on Monday, declaring that the new round of attacks by the Hamza Seyed al-Shohada Camp in northwestern Iran has been kicked off in order to destroy remaining headquarters and centers of the anti-Iran separatists in Iraq's Kurdistan region. The centers, which have been used for hatching plots and training terrorists, are being stricken from early morning, the statement mentioned. Regions of Jazhntan, Zaragoza and Koi Sanjaq, which are located in the Iraqi Kurdistan or Southern Kurdistan, were pounded in the drone and missile attack and the IRGC inflicted a heavy blow on terrorists in the areas.

<https://en.irna.ir/news/84949181/Iran-initiates-new-round-of-drone-missile-attack-on-separatist>

IAEA's Grossi dismisses allegations Iran has nuclear weapons program

Tehran Times, November 21, 2022

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi said on Sunday that there is no evidence that Iran's nuclear activities have been diverted to a weapons program. Speaking with U.S.-based feature program "60 Minutes" broadcast on the CBS television, Grossi said that the IAEA does not believe the moment has come to recognize Iran as a nuclear power or to have any evidence suggesting that Iran is actively working on a nuclear weapons program. When asked how near he believed Tehran was to developing a nuclear weapon, Grossi said, "Iran already has a sufficient supply of enriched uranium at its present rate of production to build several weapons, should they so choose. However, we don't currently have any information that would suggest that Iran has a nuclear weapons program." When asked if Iran had crossed a line and if it was time to recognize it as a nuclear power, he responded, "No, we haven't reached that stage." "But in order to avoid getting there, we must work really hard," he added.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478919/IAEA-s-Grossi-dismisses-allegations-Iran-has-nuclear-weapons>

Before firing missile, Iraq had been warned

Tehran Times, November 21, 2022

Iran has started a fresh round of shelling the Iranian Kurdish separatist groups based in Iraqi Kurdistan after asking the Iraqi central government and the local one in the autonomous Kurdistan region about disarming and expelling the groups. The

Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force announced in a short statement Monday that it resumed pummeling the bases of the separatist groups in Iraqi Kurdistan with missiles and drones. The statement said the targeted bases were used for training and organizing terrorist separatist groups in the northern region of Iraq. It also said the groups are the mercenaries of Global Arrogance, a reference to the Western great powers. According to the statement, several bases in various regions have been hit, and “heavy havoc” was wreaked.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47893/0/Before-firing-missile-Iraq-had-been-warned>

Iran censures politically-driven IAEA board resolution adopted under US-E3 pressure

Tehran Times, November 21, 2022

Nasser Kanaani, a spokesman for the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said on Monday that the U.S. and three European nations -France, Germany and Britain also known as E3 - put political pressure on the IAEA Board of Governors to adopt resolution against Iran. On Thursday, the Board of Governors of the United Nations Atomic Energy Agency endorsed an anti-Iran resolution sponsored by the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Germany, which Tehran dismissed as political pressure. The 35-member board approved the resolution with 26 votes in favor, five abstentions, and two absent. China and Russia voted against the resolution. “Iran's response is appropriate given the IAEA Board Governor's most recent decision. A resolution that

unfortunately was accepted due to the political approach taken by the U.S. administration and three European nations, who really put the Board of Governors under political pressure,” Kanaani told a regular news briefing.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47892/7/Iran-censures-politically-driven-IAEA-board-resolution-adopted>

Iran rejects Washington Post claim on drone deal with Russia, says in talks with Ukraine

Press Tv, November 22, 2022

Iran has rejected a report on an agreement between Tehran and Moscow to assemble Iranian-designed drones on Russian soil for the Ukraine war, saying the Islamic Republic has had and will have defense cooperation with Ukraine. In a report on Saturday, *The Washington Post* claimed that Moscow has quietly reached Tehran to begin manufacturing hundreds of unmanned weaponized aircraft on Russian soil. The report quoted three officials familiar with the matter as claiming that Russian and Iranian officials "finalized the deal" during a meeting in Iran in early November, and the two countries are moving rapidly to transfer designs and key components that could allow production to begin within months. In response to the allegations, the Iranian mission the the UN said important steps have been taken so far in joint interaction between the Iranian and Ukrainian defense experts, and this cooperation will continue until any misunderstanding in this regard is cleared.

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2022/11/22/693168/Iran-rejects-Washington-Post-claim-drone-deal-Russia>

60 percent enrichment at Fordow; Iran responds to IAEA

Tehran Times, November 22, 2022

In its first practical response to the recent resolution adopted by the UN nuclear watchdog's Board of Governors, Iran started spinning more advanced centrifuges at a nuclear plant that has long been in the crosshairs of the West. On Monday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani reacted to the recent resolution passed by the International Atomic Energy Agency's Board of Governors and Iran's response to it. The resolution, put forth by the United States and the E3 countries – Germany, France and the UK –, demanded that Iran answer the questions raised by the IAEA regarding the alleged nuclear material found at three sites. Despite Iran answering the questions and offering further cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog, the U.S. and its European allies moved ahead with the resolution, which Kanaani said was tabled with “political aims.”

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478971/60-percent-enrichment-at-Fordow-Iran-responds-to-IAEA>

Iranian Navy to unveil maritime combat helicopters

Tehran Times, November 23, 2022

The chief commander of the Navy announced on Tuesday that Iran will unveil for the first time a new type of combat helicopter and navy drones with a range of 2000 km. Rear Admiral Shahram Irani said the Iranian Navy has achieved various achievements in terms of manufacturing equipment. He said these achievements include a new combat maritime helicopter

and a maritime drone with a flight range of 2,000 km. The commander made the remarks during a press conference held on the occasion of Navy Day. Irani also said the Navy will hold a hybrid drill in the Sea of Oman and the Indian Ocean in the coming days. Commenting on the U.S. dispatching of dozens of unmanned surface vessels (USVs) to the Persian Gulf, Irani said, “These unmanned surface vessels have endangered the safety of navigation. And we had gathered these vessels in the past.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/478972/Iranian-Navy-to-unveil-maritime-combat-helicopters>

Roadside bombing in Syria takes life of IRGC adviser

Tehran Times, November 23, 2022

An explosive device that went off close to the Syrian capital Damascus claimed the life of a senior member of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guard Corps (IRGC) Aerospace Division. Colonel Davoud Jafari, a military advisor in the war-torn Syria, was martyred on Tuesday when a bomb planted by an Israeli agent on the side of a road close to Damascus exploded, according to a statement from the IRGC. The IRGC held Israel directly responsible for the terrorist attack. It added the fraudulent and criminal Tel Aviv regime will “unquestionably” pay the price “for this crime”. The statement stated that Jafari's body would be returned to Iran in the coming days. At the request of Damascus, Iran maintains an advisory mission in Syria with the goal of helping the war-torn Arab country get rid of the extremists who have been fighting against the Syrian government since 2011. With

Iran's help, Syria was able to eliminate the terrorist organization Daesh in 2017.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479008/Roadside-bombing-in-Syria-takes-life-of-IRGC-adviser>

Iranian, Ukrainian specialists meet to clear up drone ambiguities

Tehran Times, November 23, 2022

Defense experts from Iran and Ukraine have convened to clear up any misunderstandings over the deployment of Iranian-made drones in the Ukraine conflict. According to a European website, Oleg Nikolenko, the spokesman for the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, on Tuesday confirmed such a meeting when speaking to the American news network CNN. Nikolenko refrained from giving further details on the outcome of the conversation. The conversation of "experts" mentioned by Nikolenko takes place in a context in which the Iranian representation to the United Nations has already requested a meeting with its Ukrainian counterpart "to assess such accusations". U.S. authorities have claimed Russia received drones from Iran for use in the conflict in Ukraine. A spokesperson for the Iranian Mission to the UN had previously told CNN that it had requested a "joint expert meeting" to consider the allegations.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479010/Iranian-Ukrainian-specialists-meet-to-clear-up-drone-ambiguities>

Iran says IAEA declares dairy farm as nuclear site

Tehran Times, November 23, 2022

Head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) has stressed that the IAEA's

standards and regulations form the foundation for the new steps taken by Iran at the Fordow and Natanz nuclear sites. Speaking to reporters after a cabinet meeting on Wednesday, Mohammad Eslami stated that political pressure and acts that demonstrate a disregard for dialogue would undoubtedly be met with retaliation. Eslami also said that the AEOI had built new capacities in the Fordow and Natanz sites in accordance with the implementation of the parliamentary ratification to guard the rights of the Iranian nation. Eslami spoke one day after the AEOI injected gas into new chains of new generation of centrifuges at the Natanz nuclear site and increased the level of nuclear enrichment at the Fordow site from 20 percent to 60 percent.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479006/Iran-says-IAEA-declares-dairy-farm-as-nuclear-site>

Iranian Army Receives First Smart Air Defense System

Defaiya, November 24, 2022

Iranian Army Ground Force Commander Brigadier General Kioumars Heidari confirmed the handover of the first sophisticated and Smart Air Defense System to his forces. Heidari made the remarks in an exclusive interview with Fars News Agency (FNA) earlier this week, stressing that it is absolutely essential that the ground force units acquire state-of-the-art armaments in order to enhance their efficiency and be capable of responding to present-day operational needs. The modern system was developed and manufactured by the country's military experts and technicians. He went on to highlight that the Iranian Army's Ground Force has already

submitted three grandiose plans, dubbed Labbaik (Allegiance) 1, 2 and 3, to the Commander-in-Chief of the Iranian Armed Forces Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei. The first plan, called Labbaik 1, is aimed at redesigning the structure and mobilization of the armed forces, and enabling them to impose their military might on the enemy in close-range ground battles.

<https://www.defaiya.com/news/Defense%20News/Asia/2022/11/24/iranian-army-receives-first-smart-air-defense-system>

Iran, India hold political consultations

Tehran Times, November 25, 2022

The deputy foreign ministers of Iran and India held political consultations in New Delhi on Thursday, according to a statement by the Iranian foreign ministry. The meeting was attended by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Ali Bagheri Kani and his Indian counterpart, Vinay Mohan Kwatra. In the meeting, the most important issues of national interest in bilateral, regional and international arenas were discussed, the statement said. The parties shared views on ways to develop political relations, including exchanging high-level delegations, future meeting of the joint commission of economic cooperation and business council to improve the level of trade ties as well as Indian investment in Chabahar.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479041/Iran-India-hold-political-consultations>

Iran reinforces armored units along the border with Iraqi Kurdistan

Tehran Times, November 25, 2022

General Mohammad Pakpour, the chief commander of the Islamic Revolution

Guards Corps Ground Force, announced the deployment of new military reinforcements along the border with Iraqi Kurdistan. General Pakpour said the special and armored units currently deployed along the Iraqi border will be further reinforced as Iran continues its military campaign against Iranian Kurdish separatist groups based in northern Iraq. "This action has been taken with the aim of preventing the infiltration of terrorist teams affiliated with the separatist groups that are based in Iraq's northern region as well as preventing the smuggling of arms into the country," Pakpour said of the new military reinforcements, according to Iran's state news agency, IRNA. He said the reinforcements were done after the separatist groups created insecurity in northwest Iran.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479042/Iran-reinforces-armored-units-along-the-border-with-Iraqi-Kurdistan>

Germany was 'main provider' of chemical arms to Saddam, Iran says

Tehran Times, November 26, 2022

Iran has strongly reacted to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) that voted on Thursday for a resolution to create an independent fact-finding mission to investigate alleged human rights abuses in Iran, particularly against women and children. The resolution backed by 25 countries, including the United States and some European, Latin American, Asian and African nations, was put forward by Germany and Iceland. However, six countries - China, Pakistan, Cuba, Eritrea, Venezuela and Armenia opposed the move. 16 others abstained. Khadijeh Karimi, deputy of Iran's vice president for Women and Family Affairs, criticized the Western effort as part of a "politically motivated

move of Germany to distort the situation of human rights in Iran.”

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479047/Germany-was-main-provider-of-chemical-arms-to-Saddam-Iran>

60% enrichment a response to IAEA resolution: Iranian MP

Tehran Times, November 27, 2022

A senior Iranian lawmaker has lambasted the censure resolution against Iran by the UN nuclear watchdog's Board of Governors as “political,” saying that Iran's uranium enrichment to up to 60 percent was a response to that resolution. Alireza Salimi, who is a member of the Parliament's presiding board, said Iran's move to enrich uranium up to this purity was a “proper response” to the resolution adopted by the board. “This resolution is completely political and lacks technical value,” Salimi said in remarks to Iran's state news agency IRNA. “The proponents of this resolution seek to advance their political goals and objectives through international organizations, including the International Atomic Energy Agency.” He added, “The 60% enrichment of uranium by the Islamic Republic of Iran was a proper response to the resolution of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency. They should receive the answer that our position towards them is one of authority, not passivity.”

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479122/60-enrichment-a-response-to-IAEA-resolution-Iranian-MP>

Unrest fails to impact Iran nuclear redlines

Tehran Times, November 28, 2022

Iranian officials have reiterated Tehran's adherence to the redlines on many policy

issues amid unconfirmed news about some Western inkling of Iranian leniency on some of those issues due to the unrest in the country. The wave of unrest that engulfed Iran in the past two months appears to have impacted the approach of many Western countries toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. Some of the harshest criticism of Iran came from European countries that have long been advocating diplomacy with Iran, especially in relation to the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), whose fate is now in doubt.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479163/Unrest-fails-to-impact-Iran-nuclear-redlines>

Germany had vital role in arming Saddam with chemical bombs: Foreign Ministry

Tehran Times, November 28, 2022

Germany played an undeniable role in assisting Saddam Hussein by supplying the Iraqi despot with chemical weapons in the 1980s who inflicted irreparable damages on Iranian citizens and military forces, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said on Monday. To highlight Germany's supply of chemical weapons to the Iraqi dictator during his eight-year war against Iran, Kanaani made an appearance showing a chemical mask to reporters. “For Iranian civilians and members of our military forces, this frightening mask brings back memories. I was on the battlefronts during the Sacred Defense when I was a 16–17-year-old youngster. We carried this mask, which has a spooky aspect, in various locations, even behind the front,” he told reporters.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479161/Germany-had-vital-role-in-arming-Saddam-with-chemical-bombs>

German, US companies should be brought to justice: Deputy FM

Mehr News Agency, November 28, 2022

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Reza Najafi said that German and American companies equipping ex-Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein with the chemical weapons must be brought to justice. Speaking at the 27th edition of Conference of Member States of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons in the Hague, Najafi said that Islamic Republic of Iran, as the biggest victim of the systematic use of chemical weapons in the contemporary world, neither forgives nor forgets the perpetrators and supporters of this heinous crime. During the Iraqi imposed war against Iran (1980-1988), German and American companies equipped former deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam's regime with equipment and chemical weapons, and these countries are complicit in Saddam's crimes committed against Iranian nation.

<https://en.mehrnews.com/news/194227/German-US-companies-should-be-brought-to-justice-Deputy-FM>

Iran's supersonic missiles render enemy defenses inoperable for decades: IRGC general

Tehran Times, November 29, 2022

The most recent supersonic missiles developed by Iran, according to a senior commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), can disable an adversary's missile defense system for a very long time. Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, commander of the IRGC

Aerospace Force, made the declaration on Monday while seeing a display of the force's accomplishments. "The Guards' Aerospace Force has managed to achieve a remarkably high level of deterrence in the area of missile, drone, air defense, aircraft, radar and space industries. Its latest supersonic missile achievement is capable of disabling missile defense shields of the enemies of Iran, including the United States, the Zionist regime and their proxy governments, for many decades," the commander remarked.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/479179/Iran-s-supersonic-missiles-render-enemy-defenses-inoperable-for>

Amir Abdollahian and Cavusoglu discuss flareup near Turkey's border with Syria

Tehran Times, November 30, 2022

In a phone conversation on Tuesday night, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu and his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amir Abdollahian reviewed the rising military tension near the Turkish border with Syria. Amir Abdollahian maintained that Tehran is prepared to utilize its resources to assist resolve the issues between the two neighbors and that Tehran is aware of Turkey's security worries near the Syrian border. The top Iranian diplomat added, "We understand Turkey's security concerns and stress the need to address them. The key to the problem, however, requires continuation of security talks between the two countries and not ground military operations. These steps will not help resolution of existing problems; but would cause losses and complicate the situation." The Iranian

foreign minister added his country is ready to assist in finding a diplomatic solution to the ongoing disputes between Ankara and Damascus.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/47924/5/Amir-Abdollahian-and-Cavusoglu-discuss-flareup-near-Turkey-s>

Iraq

Iran says attacks on Iraqi Kurdistan will continue

Al-Monitor, November 16, 2022

Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency, which has close links to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), announced today that the attacks on Iranian Kurdish opposition groups in Iraqi Kurdistan will continue until these groups are disarmed or leave the region completely. The IRGC bombed the Koyseinjaq area in Iraq's Kurdistan region Nov. 14, with at least five rockets, causing two deaths and leaving dozens injured. The news agency quoted an unnamed military official as saying that yesterday's attack was the beginning of series of operations under the name of Rabi' 2, which will continue until Tehran reaches its goal.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/iran-says-attacks-iraqi-kurdistan-will-continue>

Al-Sudani and Stoltenberg discusses strengthening the NATO mission in Iraq

Iraqi News Agency, November 17, 2022

Prime Minister Mohammed Shia Al-Sudani and Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Jens Stoltenberg discussed today, Thursday, views on strengthening NATO's mission in Iraq. The media office of the Prime

Minister said, in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), that "Prime Minister Muhammad Shia al-Sudani received, today, a phone call from the Secretary-General of NATO (NATO) Jens Stoltenberg." He added, "During the call, they discussed strengthening security and military cooperation between the NATO countries and Iraq, in a way that contributes to supporting Iraq's efforts in the field of combating terrorism and ending its remnants," noting that "the two sides exchanged views on strengthening the NATO mission in Iraq, within the framework of providing advice." and training support for the Iraqi security forces, and their levels of readiness and performance.

<https://ina.iq/eng/23023-al-sudani-and-stoltenberg-discusses-strengthening-the-nato-mission-in-iraq.html>

Five-pronged search operation launched in Hamrin Mountains

Iraqi News Agency, November 19, 2022

The Popular Mobilization Forces-PMF announced on Saturday, launching of a five-pronged search operation in Hamrin mountain range in Diyala province to hunt down the remnants of the terrorist ISIS. "Diyala Ops Command at PMF has begun to implement a qualitative and accurate operation based on the intelligence information provided by the General Directorate of Security and Discipline of PMF, by determining the locations of the terrorists' hideouts, accurately monitoring their movements and pursuing them up by our command's intelligence department," The commander of Diyala Ops, Talib al-Moussawi, said in a statement, received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA). He pointed

out, "The security operation was launched to track down the terrorist ISIS and destroy its hideouts in Hamrin mountain range, northeast of Al-Azim district, in the area confined between Baghdad-Kirkuk road and Ain Laila road in Qara Taba district, through five main axes and with the participation of the reserve force."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23049-five-pronged-search-operation-launched-in-hamrin-mountains.html>

Al-Fayyad: PMF is a military entity obeys the orders of the Commander-in-Chief

The Iraqi News Agency, November 19, 2022

The head of the Popular Mobilization Authority, Faleh Al-Fayyad, confirmed today, Saturday, that the authority is a military entity that obeys the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. Al-Fayadh said in a speech at the memorial festival on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the martyrdom of the Director of Field Engineering, Commander Jassem Shubar, which was attended by the correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency (INA), that "the Popular Mobilization Authority is a military entity that obeys the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.". He added, "The blood of the martyrs represents the highest degree of sincerity and preserved the PMF, and we will not forget the incident of the martyrdom of the leader Abu Mahdi Al-Muhandis, and the martyrs represent the glory and pride of Iraq."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23064-al-fayyad-pmf-is-a-military-entity-obey-the-orders-of-the-commander-in-chief.html>

Turkey bombs Syria, Iraq in response to Istanbul terror attack

Al-Monitor, November 20, 2022

Turkey launched airstrikes on Syria's majority-Kurdish region on Saturday night in apparent retaliation for a bombing that struck a crowded market in Istanbul last week. Syrian Kurdish officials reported strikes in the areas of Kobani, Derik, Darbasiyah and Ayn Issa, key cities along the border between Syria's northeastern autonomous region and Turkey. It was not immediately clear which sites were specifically targeted, nor how many people may have been hurt or wounded. A source on the ground in Derik told Al-Monitor that a local power station had been hit. Turkey's pro-government NTV reported aircraft also bombed Iraq's disputed Sinjar region, in which Ankara has alleged the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) retains a presence. In Syria, Turkish aircraft used Russian-controlled airspace to conduct the strikes, according to NTV.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/turkey-bombs-syria-iraq-response-istanbul-terror-attack>

Iran strikes Iraqi Kurdistan again, warns of possible ground operation

Al-Monitor, November 21, 2022

A massive orange fireball lit up the sky in an area outside the capital of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq on the night of Nov. 20-21, as sirens sounded at the US Consulate within the city itself. In the early morning hours of Nov. 21, reports trickled in of rockets and drones that had targeted several areas of the autonomous region bordering Iran to its east. The attacks came amid

surging tensions across the region. During a recent visit to Baghdad, the commander of the Quds Force in Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), Esmail Ghaani, threatened a military ground operation in the Kurdistan Region if "the Iraqi army does not fortify the countries' shared borders against Kurdish opposition groups," the Associated Press reported Nov. 18.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/iran-strikes-iraqi-kurdistan-again-warns-possible-ground-operation>

Iraqi air forces destroy four ISIS hideouts in Kirkuk, SMC reports

Iraqi News Agency, November 21, 2022

The Security Media Cell (SMC) announced on Monday, that the Iraqi air forces destroyed four ISIS hideouts in Kirkuk province. SMC said in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA): "According to accurate intelligence from the Federal Intelligence and Investigations Agency in the Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the targeting cell of the Joint Operations Command, the Air Force targeted four terrorist dens in Wadi Zghaitoun within the sector of the advanced headquarters of the joint Operations Command in Kirkuk."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23105-iraqi-air-forces-destroy-four-isis-hideouts-in-kirkuk-smc-report.html>

Maj. Gen. Rasool announces the capture of six prominent ISIS elements

Iraqi News Agency, November 21, 2022

The spokesperson for the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Major General

Yehia Rasool, announced on Monday, the capture of six prominent ISIS elements. Major General Rasool said in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), According to the directives of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and with high-level intelligence coordination between the Counter-Terrorism Service and the General Directorate of Asayish in the Erbil in the Kurdistan Region, the intelligence hawks were able to overthrow prominent elements of the ISIS terrorist gangs who were active within the sectors north of Baghdad and Anbar."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23109-rasool-announces-the-capture-of-six-prominent-isis-elements.html>

An army plane crashed due to a technical fault in Samarra, MOD reports

Iraqi News Agency, November 22, 2022

The Ministry of Defense (MOD) announced on Tuesday, that an armed plane crashed near the Al-Jalasi station in Samarra, due to a 'Technical failure'. "An armed plane belonging to the Army Aviation Command crashed near the Al-Jalasi station in Samarra, due to a technical failure'in the plane's engine," A statement from the ministry, received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), stated. The statement pointed out that "the plane was carrying (2) officers, and a member of the command, as they have been taken Samarra Hospital to receive the necessary treatment."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23131-an-army-plane-crashed-due-to-a-technical-fault-in-samarra-mod-reports.html>

PMF seizes a stack of 11 "Austrian" missiles, east of Anbar

Iraqi News Agency, November 23, 2022

Popular Mobilization forces (PMF) announced on Wednesday, the seizure of a stack of 11 Austrian missiles, east of Anbar. PMF said, in a statement received by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), that "a force from the second regiment in the 27th Brigade of PMF/ Special Missions seized, today, a stack of equipment containing 11 Austrian-type missiles and two 107-mm Katyusha rocket launchers in the Al-Garmah district, east operations Anbar." The statement added, "This came during a security operation carried out by the force after accurate intelligence information was received," noting that "the stack was detonated under control by the engineering of the second regiment."

<https://ina.iq/eng/23163-pmf-seizes-a-stack-of-11-austrian-missiles-east-of-anbar.html>

Joint Ops: Operation Wadi al-Shay is a leap in pursuit of terrorism

Iraqi News Agency, November 23, 2022

Joint Operations Command confirmed that the operation to enter Wadi al-Shay 3 days ago represented a qualitative leap in the pursuit of terrorism, using thermal cameras for the first time instead of aerial surveillance. "We are working constantly, with high capabilities and new plans as what we carried out a qualitative operation 3 days ago in Wadi al-Shay in particular. We used thermal cameras for the first time in setting up ambushes at midnight. It represented a qualitative leap, as our forces entered Wadi al-Shay without air cover, and

four terrorists were killed. We continued securing the area until the early morning hours, and we found very large numbers of weapons, as well as important information," said the spokesman for Joint Ops, Major General Tahseen Al-Khafaji, to the Iraqi News Agency – INA.

<https://ina.iq/eng/23169-joint-ops-operation-wadi-al-shay-is-a-leap-in-pursuit-of-terrorism.html>

Iran's Khamenei tells Iraq to move against Kurdish groups

Al-Monitor, November 29, 2022

Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei criticized the presence of Iranian Kurdish opposition groups based in Iraqi Kurdistan and called on Baghdad to use its power against them. Khamenei made the request at a meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani, who was in Tehran on Tuesday. Prior to the meeting, according to Iranian state media, Sudani announced at a joint presser with Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi that Iraq will not allow its soil to be used to destabilize other countries. Despite that pledge, Khamenei still said that anti-Iran activity "is unfortunately happening in some areas of Iraq," in an apparent reference to Iranian assertions that opposition groups are operating from Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdish region. "The only solution is that the central Iraqi government expand its authority to those areas as well," the Iranian leader told Sudani.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/irans-khamenei-tells-iraq-move-against-kurdish-groups>

Israel

Israel, US point at Iran after 'projectile' hits tanker off Oman

TRT World, November 16, 2022

Israel and the United States have blamed Iran after what they said was a drone strike against a tanker operated by an Israeli-owned firm carrying gas oil off the coast of Oman. Tehran didn't immediately comment on the allegations. The Pacific Zircon was "hit by a projectile approximately 150 miles off the coast of Oman" on Tuesday, Singapore-based firm Eastern Pacific Shipping, which operates the vessel, said in a statement, adding that there were no reports of casualties or any leakage of the cargo. "There is some minor damage to the vessel's hull but no spillage of cargo or water ingress," said the company which is owned by Israeli billionaire Idan Ofer — one of two sons of shipping magnate Sammy Ofer, who died in 2011. The tanker was carrying 42,000 tonnes of gas oil and bound for Buenos Aires, according to Samir Madani, co-founder of the website TankerTrackers.com, an oil shipping online research firm.

<https://www.trtworld.com/middle-east/israel-us-point-at-iran-after-projectile-hits-tanker-off-oman-62612>

Readout of U.S.-Israel Defense Policy Advisory Group

US Department of Defense, November 17, 2022

Pentagon Spokesman Lt. Col. David Herndon provided the following readout: Under Secretary of Defense for Policy Dr. Colin Kahl led a senior-level delegation to Israel for the annual Defense Policy Advisory Group (DPAG) on November 17

with Israel's co-chair Ministry of Defense Director General (DG) Amir Eshel. The dialogue reaffirmed the enduring partnership between the United States and Israel, and the U.S. commitment to ensuring Israel's Qualitative Military Edge. The leaders discussed the wide range of threats posed by Iran's nuclear program, Iranian support for terrorism and regional aggression, and steps to advance cooperation to address these threats. Under Secretary Kahl and DG Eshel also led discussions on expanding Israel's bilateral and multilateral relationships in the Middle East, and opportunities to further integrate Israel into U.S. Central Command. Other sessions of the dialogue focused on defense acquisition, emerging technology and capabilities, and increasing collaboration on climate resiliency and space.

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3222185/readout-of-us-israel-defense-policy-advisory-group/>

Israel thinks Iran 2 years from being able to detonate nuke - exclusive

The Jerusalem Post, November 17, 2022

Top Israeli sources confirmed to The Jerusalem Post what has only been hinted at until now, that Jerusalem is banking on a mix of global pressure and a two-year breakout time it believes Iran would need to master nuclear weapon detonation and delivery, which means that a large-scale attack on Iranian nuclear facilities is not likely in the cards, even to prevent Tehran from crossing the threshold of 90% weaponized uranium enrichment. Nuclear detonation refers to a specialized process required to achieve an atomic bomb detonation which differs from standard explosives, while nuclear delivery refers to unusual adaptations needed to be made to a

ballistic missile for it to carry a nuclear warhead. The Islamic Republic has been enriching uranium to the very high 60% level since April 2021 and had enough low-enriched uranium for a nuclear weapon, if enriched to higher levels, as early as March 2020.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-722597>

Ukraine's full-circle on Iron Dome air defence may pan out with new Israeli PM

Army Technology, November 18, 2022

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky once more asked for the provision of the Israeli Iron Dome air defence system during a press conference on 16 November, with Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's recently elected Prime Minister-designate, stating that he would consider the proposition. As early as 15 February, in advance of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Israeli daily newspaper *Yedioth Ahronoth* was reporting that Ukraine had unsuccessfully sought the Iron Dome system which has been responsible for intercepting over 90% of the 4,000 rockets and missiles fired at Israel during recent operations in the region. But by mid-July, Ukraine's Defence Minister Oleksii Reznikov described a turn in Ukraine's view of the defence system: "Iron Dome was built [for protection] against slow, low-altitude, low-impact missiles that were basically made in garages. Iron Dome does not protect against cruise and ballistic missiles," said Reznikov, speaking at a Forbes summit.

<https://www.army-technology.com/news/ukraines-full-circle-on-iron-dome-air-defence-may-pan-out-with-netanyahu/>

Israeli air strikes kill four soldiers in Syria

The National News, November 19, 2022

Four soldiers were killed and one was injured in Israeli air strikes on central and coastal regions of Syria early on Saturday, the Syrian military has said. A military official said the strikes on military positions happened at about 6.30am, the state-run Sana news agency reported. The attacks caused "material damage", the official said.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/syria/2022/11/19/israeli-air-strikes-kill-four-soldiers-in-syria/>

IDF chief presses US to step up joint plans to counter Iran militarily

The Times of Israel, November 22, 2022

Israel Defense Forces chief Aviv Kohavi told American defense officials in Washington that the two militaries must accelerate joint plans for offensive actions against Iran, the Israeli military said Tuesday. Kohavi landed in the US on Sunday morning for five days of meetings with senior officials focused on the Iranian threat, the IDF said. On Monday, Kohavi met with Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley, US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan, and CIA Director William Burns. He also met with the Israel Ambassador to the US Michael Herzog. "During the discussions, it was agreed that we are at a critical point in time that requires the acceleration of operational plans and cooperation against Iran and its terrorist proxies in the region," Kohavi said in remarks provided by the IDF Tuesday.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-chief-presses-us-to-step-up-joint-plans-to-counter-iran-militarily/>

Striking From Chabahar, Iran Launched Shahed-136 UAV To Strike Israeli Tanker, US Navy Investigation Report

The Eurasian Times, November 23, 2022

The drone strike on the oil tanker Pacific Zircon occurred on November 15 off the coast of Oman. The incident looks like part of a protracted shadow war between Israel and its arch-enemy Iran, which has also seen Iran attacking Israel-affiliated ships in crucial Mideast waterways. The recent incident, which damaged the ship but left no one hurt, was reportedly carried out from a base of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps in the city of Chabahar in southeast Iran, according to Western and Israeli officials. The US Navy said that explosives specialists entered the ship to inspect the damage, which included a 30-inch (76-centimeter) hole punched in its side, and to gather debris and bomb remnants. The evidence was brought to a lab in the Gulf Arab nation of Bahrain, home to the US Fifth Fleet's headquarters.

<https://eurasianimes.com/chabahar-iran-launched-shahed-136-uav-to-hit-israeli/>

Israel's National Drone Initiative enters second phase

Israel Defense, November 24, 2022

Following the previous pilot program (2020-2022), which successfully met all pre-defined metrics, starting January, a number of companies will participate in one week of flights across the country every month for the next two years – 24 trials in total. The demonstrations will take place nationwide under managed airspace. The drones will carry heavier loads, including

some that in the future will be capable of human transportation. This pilot will be carried out in cooperation with the Civil Aviation Authority of Israel (CAAI), the Israeli Air Force, Israel Airports Authority (IAA), and other relevant regulatory entities. Israel's national drone initiative is introducing concepts that have never before been fielded, breaking new ground internationally.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/56421>

Iran nuclear program must be destroyed, says Israeli nuclear physicist

Dr Rafael Ofek

Israel Defense, November 27, 2022

Allow me to take the liberty of starting this essay with writing a few things about myself, in order to point out that what I will present later on is based on many years of knowledge and experience. I would like to mention, that my background includes, among other things, nearly thirty years of service in the Israeli intelligence community – in the IDF Intelligence Division as well as the Prime Minister's Office. I was trained for this service following the scientific-technical background in physics and nuclear engineering that I had acquired at the Bar-Ilan and the Ben-Gurion universities. Between 1976-1981 I served as the technical intelligence officer of the nuclear reactor that France had set up in Iraq. I worked on intelligence gathering and was also a partner to the countermeasure plans, including at the time the reactor was destroyed by the Israeli Air Force, on July 7th, 1981.

<https://www.israeldefense.co.il/en/node/56435>

Israel, US to hold air drill simulating striking Iran nuclear program

The Jerusalem Post, November 28, 2022

The Israel Air Force this week will hold one of its largest drills in years with the United States Air Force simulating offensive strikes against Iran's nuclear program. The drill will take place from Tuesday until Thursday over the Mediterranean Sea and Israel. It will include long-range flights such as those that Israeli pilots might need to make in order to reach the Islamic Republic. The exercise will include refuelers as well as fighter jets from both forces.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-723558>

Israel Believes Chance of New Iran Nuclear Deal 'Near-zero' Due to Russia Aid

Haaretz, November 28, 2022

The growing closeness between Iran and Russia dramatically undermines the likelihood of a deal being signed with Tehran – and potentially strengthens the Islamic Republic's offensive capabilities. Israel is increasingly concerned that Iran will gain knowhow and experience from its cooperation with Russia in the war on Ukraine that will improve its abilities to attack targets in the Middle East.

<https://www.haaretz.com/world-news/2022-11-28/ty-article/.premium/israel-fears-russian-cooperation-will-strengthen-iran/00000184-baac-d05a-a3b4-fbece3790000>

Report: Senior Ukraine defense ministry mission visited Israel

The Times of Israel, November 28, 2022

A senior Ukrainian military delegation visited Israel last week in a bid to secure defense assistance, Channel 13 reports. The report says that the delegation included the Ukrainian deputy chief of staff, with the group holding several meetings with IDF and defense ministry officials. The delegation reportedly sought to push ahead with creating a missile alert system, which Israel has promised to build for Ukraine. The delegation also pushed Israel to supply weapons systems, which Israel has so far refused to do, sending only humanitarian aid and protective equipment. Though it has sent repeated shipments of humanitarian aid to Ukraine, Israel has consistently rebuffed Kyiv's requests for defense weapons, specifically missile defense systems that could be used to fend off Russian airstrikes, despite expressing sympathy for the country's plight.

https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/report-senior-ukraine-defense-ministry-mission-visited-israel/

World must force Israel to dismantle its nuclear arsenal

Arab News, November 28, 2022

As Western countries float the theory that Russia could escalate its conflict with Ukraine to a nuclear war, many of these governments continue to turn a blind eye to Israel's nuclear weapons capabilities. Luckily, many countries around the world do not subscribe to this endemic Western hypocrisy.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2207641>

How Israel is preparing the next generation of cyber soldiers

Défense News, November 29, 2022

Israel's new cyber defense training school is set inside a high-tech park in the southern city of Beersheba. Opened in August, the modern campus is part of the J6 and Cyber Defense Directorate, and it's part of a broader move by the Israel Defense Forces to shift units south. Defense News spoke with three senior officers at the training center to discuss their goals and how cyberspace is changing how Israel's military functions. Capt. Noa Givner, who leads the school's department of data science, has served with the IDF for seven years; Maj. Noam Bright, head of the department of computer science, has served for 12 years; and Maj. I, chief of the department of cybersecurity, has served for 10 years.

<https://www.defensenews.com/interviews/2022/11/29/how-israel-is-preparing-the-next-generation-of-cyber-soldiers/>

Israeli parts found in Iranian drones used by Russia - WSJ

The Jerusalem Post, November 29, 2022

Israeli-made infrared lenses, along with over 200 other components from the US, Europe and other allied nations, have been found in Iranian drones used by Russia in its invasion of Ukraine, *The Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday. About three-quarters of the components of the drones were American-made, according to Ukrainian documents shown to *WSJ* by the Kyiv-based nonprofit Independent Anti-Corruption Commission (NAKO). Ukrainian investigators made the discovery while examining downed Iranian-made drones, including a Mohajer-6 which was

hacked mid-flight and landed intact. Out of over 200 technical components in the captured Mohajer-6, about half were made by US-based firms and about a third were made by companies in Japan. The servomotors in the drone were made by Japan's Tonegawa-Seiko Co. according to the report.

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-722571>

If China increases nuke arsenal to 1,500, what does it mean for Israel? - analysis

The Jerusalem Post, November 30, 2022

For decades, the world has had two premier nuclear powers: the US and Russia. Combined, they have consistently possessed around 90% of the world's nuclear weapons. A US Pentagon report issued on Tuesday indicated that China is on the verge of drastically changing that picture. Besides the security implications for Washington, what impact might this have on the nuclear standoff with Iran, including for Israel? First, it is important to understand the broader picture. Depending on your estimate and how you count, the US and Russia each have around 5,400 or 5,900 nuclear weapons, respectively, of which around 1,600 for each country are deployed (as opposed to stockpiled or intact-retired).

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-723763>

The Israel-India partnership has incredible potential: HE Naor Gilon to ETILC CXOs

The Economic Times, November 30, 2022

The relationship between India and Israel is deep and steady and 2022 marks 30 years of bilateral ties between the two countries.

While this is certainly helped by the friendship between PM Narendra Modi and prime minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu, it is not dependent on it. Merchandise trade, engagement in defense equipment, cultural exchange - there's been tremendous progress on all fronts. There are further plans to identify joint areas that will address large-scale water solutions in water-scarce regions of India. Many of these efforts are being supported by the Ambassador of Israel to India, H. E. Naor Gilon. In fact, apart from his diplomatic duties, the Ambassador makes a special effort to connect entrepreneurs between the two countries. The ambassador interacted with The Economic Times India Leadership Council (ETILC) in Delhi, outlining his vision and facilitating genuine partnerships with Israeli entrepreneurs.

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/the-israel-india-partnership-has-incredible-potential-he-naor-gilon-to-etilc-cxos/articleshow/95881738.cms>

WATCH: Israeli Navy vessels gain ability to intercept cruise missiles in landmark test

The Jerusalem Post, November 30, 2022

A long-range interceptor (LRAD) launched from an Israeli naval vessel for the first time successfully detected and intercepted a target that resembled an advanced cruise missile, the IDF and Defense Ministry announced on Wednesday morning. The successful operation of the LRAD, launched with a Barak Magen air defense system from a Sa'ar 6-class corvette, represents a major milestone for a system that according to the Israeli defense

services would constitute a central pillar to defending assets in Israeli economic waters. "The demonstration of the capability and the success of the trial of the Barak Magen system is a significant milestone in the process of carrying out the defense ships, and is a significant addition to the basket of capabilities of the naval arm in realizing the defense of the strategic maritime sites belonging to the State of Israel," said naval equipment division head Lt. Col. Ariel Shir. "The Barak Magen system in general, and the LRAD interceptors in particular, allow the defense ships improved detection and interception capabilities, at significantly greater ranges and against the range of air threats.

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-723703>

Jordan

Jordan army tirelessly tries to stop Syria smugglers

Albawaba, November 27, 2022

Eastern Military Zone personnel thwarted an attempt to infiltrate and smuggle a "large" cache of narcotics coming from neighboring Syria at dawn on Saturday. A source at Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army (JAF) said that border guard patrols, in coordination with security agencies, spotted an armed group of smugglers illicitly crossing into northern Jordan from Syria, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

<https://www.albawaba.com/news/jordans-army-works-hard-stop-smugglers-syria-1500199>

Army chief receives Bahraini military delegation

Ammon News, November 30, 2022

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Jordan Armed Forces-Arab Army (JAF), Maj. Gen. Yousef Huneiti on Tuesday met with a Bahraini military delegation headed by Commander of the Bahraini Royal Shields, Major General Rashid bin Abdullah Al Noaimi. The meeting covered aspects of joint cooperation and coordination, ways to enhance bilateral ties, and exchange expertise in various military fields between the armed forces in the two countries.

<https://en.ammonnews.net/article/61909>

Lebanon

Lebanon ditches Independence Day military parade for national security reasons

Arab News, November 21, 2022

Lebanon will on Tuesday ditch its traditional military parade for 79th Independence Day celebrations due to the continued presidential vacuum in the country. Army chiefs said the decision had been made with the “national interest” in mind and to maintain “security and stability.”

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2203721/middle-east>

Oman

Israel blames Iran as 'drone strike' hits tanker off Oman

Naharnet, November 16, 2022

Israel blamed Iran on Wednesday after what it said was a drone strike hit a tanker

operated by an Israeli-owned firm carrying gas oil off the coast of Oman. The Pacific Zircon was "hit by a projectile approximately 150 miles off the coast of Oman ... on 15 November," Singapore-based firm Eastern Pacific Shipping which operates the vessel said in a statement, adding that there were no reports of casualties or any leakage of the cargo.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293774-israel-blames-iran-as-drone-strike-hits-tanker-off-oman>

HM presides over 52nd National Day Military Parade

Naharnet, November 18, 2022

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander, presided over a military parade staged at Al Nasr Square in the Governorate of Dhofar today on the occasion of the 52nd Glorious National Day. The event saw the participation of symbolic units representing the Royal Army of Oman (RAO), the Royal Air Force of Oman (RAFO), the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO), the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO), the Sultan's Special Force (SSF), the Royal Oman Police (ROP), ground and mounted military music bands, as well as Firqah Forces.

<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1128608/oman/his-majesty/hm-presides-over-52nd-national-day-military-parade>

Palataine

Palestinians: Israeli forces kill man in West Bank

Naharnet, November 21, 2022

The Palestinian Health Ministry said Monday that Israeli forces shot and killed a

young man near the occupied West Bank city of Jenin. The ministry said in a statement that the man died of a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Palestinian media identified the man as 18-year-old Mahmoud al-Saadi.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293876-palestinians-israeli-forces-kill-man-in-west-bank>

Qatar

US approves sale of counter-drone systems to Qatar in \$1B deal

Daily Sabah, November 30, 2022

The potential sale of counter-drone systems and other equipment to Qatar in a deal worth \$1 billion with the United States was approved by Washington, the Pentagon said on Tuesday. The principal contractors will be Raytheon Technologies Corp., SRC and Northrop Grumman Corp., the Pentagon said in a statement. It added that the Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of the possible sale on Tuesday. "The proposed sale will improve Qatar's capability to meet current and future threats by providing electronic and kinetic defeat capabilities against Unmanned Aircraft Systems," the U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said separately in a statement. "The total estimated program cost is \$1 billion. This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the U.S. by helping to improve the security of a friendly country," it added.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/us-approves-sale-of-counter-drone-systems-to-qatar-in-1b-deal>

Saudi Arabia

Saudi delegation attends Gulf Military Media Coexistence program in Kuwait

Arab News, November 26, 2022

The Saudi Ministry of Defense, represented by the General Administration of Strategic Communication at the ministry's Agency for Strategic Affairs, participated in the Gulf Military Media Coexistence program, which was recently hosted by the armed forces in Kuwait. The Saudi delegation was headed by the administration's Director-General Abdul Rahman bin Sultan Al-Sultan.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2206696/saudi-arabia>

Saudi crown prince's South Korea visit heralds 'a new, future-oriented strategic partnership'

Arab News, November 18, 2022

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman concluded his official visit to South Korea on Thursday, having secured multiple trade deals and reaffirmed the long-standing relationship between both countries. A number of officials, including Saudi Energy Minister Abdulaziz bin Salman and Interior Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Saud bin Naif, accompanied the crown prince on his two-day visit, which followed his attendance at the G20 Summit in Bali, Indonesia.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2201826/world>

Syria

Mikdad arrives in New Delhi on an official visit

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 17, 2022

Foreign and Expatriates Minister, Fayssal Mikdad, arrived Thursday evening in the Indian capital, New Delhi, on an official visit. Mikdad will meet with Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Indian External Affairs Minister, and a number of senior officials there. The visit is aimed at strengthening political and economic relations besides discussing bilateral issues, and the latest political developments. Upon their arrival at the airport in New Delhi, Minister Mikdad and his accompanying delegation were received by Ambassador Pradeep Singh Rajpurohit and Dr Bassam Alkhatib, Syria's Ambassador to India.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290503>

Mikdad meets Vice President of India, talks deal with latest developments

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 18, 2022

Indian Vice President Jagdeep Dankhar discussed with Foreign and expatriate Minister, Faysal Mikdad, the latest developments in the region and the historical relations between Syria and India. During the meeting, Dankhar asked Mr. Mikdad to convey greetings of his country and the Indian leadership to President Bashar al-Assad, stressing their adherence to the historical relations that connect the two countries. Dankhar stressed that India has maintained its stance in support of Syria

in the most difficult times. He referred to the progress of the Indian economic experience, showing readiness to cooperate with Syria in the technical domains.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290524>

Khaddour: Israel's nuclear weapons threaten region's stability

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 18, 2022

Syria's permanent representative to the United Nations and other international organizations in Vienna, Ambassador Hassan Khaddour said that the security and stability of the region and the world will continue to be threatened if "Israel" remains outside the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. Delivering a speech at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors Meeting, November 2022, Ambassador Khaddour explained the fact that Israeli occupation entity is outside the framework of the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and its rejection of all initiatives to establish a zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction represents a threat to the security and stability in the Middle East region. The Ambassador noted that the Israeli aggression in September 2007 on a region in Deir Ezzor was used as a platform to attack Syria, distort its image and put pressure on it instead of being condemned because it represents a flagrant violation of international law.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290564>

Mikdad, Jaishankar discuss cooperation, war on terror

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 19, 2022

Foreign and Expatriates Minister, Fayssal Mikdad, discussed Saturday with his Indian counterpart, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, bilateral relations and the latest developments in Syria and the world. During a session of talks held in the Indian capital of New Delhi, Mikdad briefed Jaishankar on the efforts Syria exerts in the war on terror sponsored by external powers, stressing that resilience of the army and people in Syria has contributed to the victory on terrorism. Mikdad referred to the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures imposed on the Syrian people and their suffering due to the blockade. He called on Indian companies to invest in Syria and help reconstruct what has been destroyed by the war.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290596>

Chairman of Planning and International Cooperation Commission visits NASSCOM

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 19, 2022

Chairman of Planning and International Cooperation Commission Dr. Fadi al-Khalil accompanied by Syria's ambassador to India Bassam al-Khatib visited the National Association of Software and Services Companies Center (NASSCOM)). The visit comes in the framework of the visit paid by Foreign and Expatriates Minister Dr. Faysal Mikdad and the accompanying delegation to India. Head of the center briefed the Syrian side of the NASSCOM which includes more than 3000 companies in its membership. For his

part, Dr. al-Khalil appreciated the success achieved by India in this domain, stressing the importance of providing support to Syria in the agricultural and health domains and benefiting from the Indian experience.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290621>

Syrian- Iraqi talks on enhancing security cooperation

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 19, 2022

Minister of Interior Mr. Abdul Amir Al-Shammari discussed on Saturday with the Syrian Ambassador to Iraq Sattam Jadaan al-Dandah the bilateral relations and means to develop cooperation in the security domain. The two sides discussed enhancing joint coordination and developing bilateral relations, especially in security domains between Syrian Interior ministry and its Iraqi counterpart. The Syrian Ambassador hailed the efforts exerted by the Iraqi Interior Ministry in enhancing security and stability in various areas in the Iraqi country and its continued work to consolidate relations with the neighboring and the friendly countries to serve the mutual interests. Al-Dandah told SANA reporter in a statement that the two sides discussed during the meeting the brotherly relations between Syria and Iraq and means to strengthen these relations in all security and economic domains.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290618>

Mikdad gives presentation on latest developments in Syria, the region and Syrian-Indian relations

Syrian Arab News Agency, November 20, 2022

Foreign and Expatriates Minister Dr. Faysal Mikdad held a dialogue session with

researchers at the Institute (Manohar Parrikar) for Defense Studies and Analysis (IDSA), in the presence of a large number of military and political experts, academics, diplomatic figures and his accompanying delegation. The session comes within the framework of his visit to the Indian capital, New Delhi. Minister Mikdad gave a presentation on the latest developments in Syria, the region and the world, and the Syrian-Indian relations, pointing out to Syria's achievements in the field of combating terrorism and the dangers posed by the presence of the occupation in some regions and some countries continued support of terrorism and use it to serve their agendas.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=290701>

Turkey bombs Syria, Iraq in response to Istanbul terror attack

Al-Monitor, November 20, 2022

Turkey launched airstrikes on Syria's majority-Kurdish region on Saturday night in apparent retaliation for a bombing that struck a crowded market in Istanbul last week. Syrian Kurdish officials reported strikes in the areas of Kobani, Derik, Darbasiyah and Ayn Issa, key cities along the border between Syria's northeastern autonomous region and Turkey. It was not immediately clear which sites were specifically targeted, nor how many people may have been hurt or wounded. A source on the ground in Derik told Al-Monitor that a local power station had been hit. Turkey's pro-government NTV reported aircraft also bombed Iraq's disputed Sinjar region, in which Ankara has alleged the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) retains a presence. In Syria, Turkish aircraft used Russian-

controlled airspace to conduct the strikes, according to NTV.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/turkey-bombs-syria-iraq-response-istanbul-terror-attack>

Rockets fired from Syria kill 3 in Turkish border town

The National News, November 21, 2022

Three people, including a child, were killed on Monday when rocket fire from Syria hit a Turkish border town, Ankara has said. "Three of our citizens lost their lives. One of them is a child, another a teacher," Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu said on live TV, promising a "strong response". Education Minister Mahmut Ozer said 10 people were wounded in the strike.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/syria/2022/11/21/three-dead-as-rockets-hit-turkish-town-amid-wave-of-air-strikes/>

Turkey strikes near US base in Syria after Pentagon calls for de-escalation

Al-Monitor, November 22, 2022

A suspected Turkish drone strike hit a Kurdish-led militia base in northeast Syria on Tuesday, killing two members of a local US-backed Syrian counterterrorism unit and wounding three others, spokespeople for the group told Al-Monitor. The strike hit the perimeter of the Syrian Democratic Forces' (SDF) base at Shamuka, which lies adjacent to the main US military base in the area some 45 kilometers from the Turkish border, a third well-placed source in Syria confirmed. The sites have been known to house US

diplomatic delegations and SDF commander Mazlum Abdi in the past, but it remains unclear if any such officials were present at the time of the attack. No US personnel were hurt in the incident, a defense official told Al-Monitor.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/turkey-strikes-near-us-base-syria-after-pentagon-calls-de-escalation>

Syrian Kurdish commander says Kobani likely target of threatened Turkish ground offensive

Al-Monitor, November 22, 2022

In his first interview with international media following Tuesday's drone strike on his main headquarters in northeast Syria, Mazlum Kobane (also known as Mazloum Abdi), the commander of the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), said that the most likely target of a potential Turkish ground offensive against the Kurdish-controlled areas would be his native city of Kobani. Two members of the US-backed group died in that attack, which marks the first time a Turkish drone has targeted an area in such close proximity of a US base in Syria. A bastion of Kurdish nationalism in Syria, Kobani is where the anti-Islamic State alliance between the US-led coalition and the Syrian Kurds was formed.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/syrian-kurdish-commander-says-kobani-likely-target-threatened-turkish-ground>

The Takeaway: Syria's Kurds turn to US as Turkey threatens ground operation

Al-Monitor, November 23, 2022

As Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan warns of a possible new ground

incursion into neighboring Syria, officials from the Kurdish-controlled region are pleading with the Biden administration to intervene. Ilham Ahmed of the Syrian Democratic Council, the political arm of the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in northeast Syria, has written to Secretary of State Antony Blinken, urging the administration to speak out forcefully against a potential Turkish invasion, Al-Monitor has learned. In a letter to Blinken sent Tuesday, the SDC's executive committee president described concerns that Turkey was seeking to occupy new Syrian land with its threatened ground incursion. Ahmed argued that a renewed offensive would undermine the SDF's ability to fight the Islamic State as well as secure the notoriously overcrowded Al-Hol camp that's holding displaced families linked to the extremist group.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/takeaway-syrias-kurds-turn-us-turkey-threatens-ground-operation>

Why is Turkey bombarding Kurdish militants in Syria?

The National News, November 24, 2022

Turkey is warning of a possible ground operation attacking Kurdish groups in what Ankara says is retaliation for a lethal bombing in a busy Istanbul street. The explosion on November 13 killed six people and injured more than 80, with Ankara blaming Kurdish groups for the deadly deed. The Kurds have denied responsibility but Turkey has been bombarding areas of Iraq and Syria, which are home to the suspected groups, from the air. "While we press ahead with air raids uninterrupted, we will crack down on terrorists also by land at the most

convenient time for us,” Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said late on Wednesday.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/syria/2022/11/24/why-is-turkey-bombarding-kurdish-militants-in-syria/>

Turkey’s strikes in Syria put US troops in danger, Pentagon says

Al-Monitor, November 24, 2022

The Pentagon warned on Wednesday that Turkey’s airstrikes against Kurdish forces in northeast Syria endanger US troops and threaten to undermine years of progress in the war against the Islamic State. Press secretary Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder said the Defense Department “is deeply concerned” by escalating attacks in Syria, Iraq and Turkey, but did not specify which parties were responsible. “Recent airstrikes in Syria directly threatened the safety of US personnel who are working ... with local partners to defeat ISIS and maintain custody of more than ten thousand ISIS detainees,” Ryder said in a press release.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/turkeys-strikes-syria-put-us-troops-danger-pentagon-says>

US again tries to thwart Turkish invasion of northern Syria

Al-Monitor, November 26, 2022

The Biden administration is seeking to restrain Turkish military operations in Syria, but President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is so far undeterred. Erdogan said that Operation Claw Sword, launched with air, artillery, and drone attacks on Kurdish-controlled cities in northern Syria on Nov. 20, is just getting started, meaning he may

soon send in ground forces. “Payback time! The scoundrels are being held to account for their treacherous attacks,” Turkey’s Ministry of National Defense wrote in a tweet announcing the operation. The goal is to establish a “security line” that Erdogan said would ultimately “ensure the territorial integrity of Syria and Iraq.”

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/us-again-tries-thwart-turkish-invasion-northern-syria>

Rockets target US Syria base in latest strike

Naharnet, November 26, 2022

Two rockets targeted a U.S. patrol base in northeastern Syria late Friday, the third such attack in nine days, U.S. Central Command said. Centcom did not indicate who fired the rockets but said, in a statement, that they aimed at “coalition forces at the U.S. patrol base in Al-Shaddadi, Syria.” The strike at about 10:30 pm (1930 GMT) caused no injuries or damage to the base or coalition property, said Centcom, which covers the Middle East region.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293970-rockets-target-us-syria-base-in-latest-strike>

Syrian Kurdish commander slams US response to Turkish attacks as US diplomats evacuated from Syria

Al-Monitor, November 29, 2022

The United States’ chief partner in the fight against the Islamic State in Syria said he has credible intelligence that Turkey is preparing a ground invasion of Kurdish-controlled northeast Syria in keeping with

Ankara's threats. Mazlum Kobane, also known as Mazlum Abdi, the commander of the Syrian Democratic Forces, told a news conference via Zoom that Turkey was gathering forces around the Kurdish-controlled towns of Manbij and Kobani and that Turkish-backed Sunni opposition fighters were building up between Manbij and Tell Rifaat. Speaking through a translator, Kobane vowed that his forces were "ready to repel the attacks and to defend our lands." Kobane rued the lack of Western pushback from the United States and Russia, noting that Turkey's threats were "far louder" than the condemnatory statements "made by our allies."

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/syrian-kurdish-commander-slams-us-response-turkish-attacks-us-diplomats-evacuated>

Pentagon's concerns grow as Syria's Kurds prepare for Turkish assault

Al-Monitor, November 30, 2022

Concerns are running high in the Pentagon over Turkey's threats to launch yet another military incursion against Syria's Kurdish-led forces, officials said Tuesday, after warning last week that such a move would threaten the safety of American troops and efforts to contain the Islamic State. "We do remain concerned about a potential Turkish ground operation in Syria," Pentagon press secretary Pat Ryder told reporters today. The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) said last week it had halted operations against IS amid preparations to resist a possible assault from Turkey. That has forced the US military to reduce its

patrols alongside the SDF, Ryder acknowledged today.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/11/pentagons-concerns-grow-syrias-kurds-prepare-turkish-assault>

Turkey

Favorable developments on US' F-16 sale to Türkiye: Erdoğan

Daily Sabah, November 16, 2022

Speaking about Washington's potential sale of F-16 fighter jets to Ankara, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on Wednesday said that his U.S. counterpart Joe Biden "said that there had been favorable developments." He was speaking at a press conference on the sidelines of the G-20 Bali Summit in Indonesia. Earlier, speaking on the sidelines of the summit, Biden said that his government will continue to support the potential sale of F-16 fighter jets to Türkiye. Türkiye has been seeking to modernize its existing warplanes to update its air force and sought to buy 40 Lockheed Martin F-16 jets and nearly 80 modernization kits from the U.S. after the purchase of F-35s fell through.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/favorable-developments-on-us-f-16-sale-to-turkiye-erdogan>

Türkiye wants to enhance defense cooperation with Bangladesh: Envoy

Daily Sabah, November 16, 2022

Ankara wants to expand Türkiye-Bangladesh defense cooperation by

manufacturing weapons and transferring related technology, Türkiye's envoy said Wednesday. Ambassador to Dhaka Mustafa Osman Turan was speaking at a special program "Meet the Ambassador" organized by the Centre for Governance Studies, a Bangladeshi think-tank that conducts research and media studies on issues of good governance, corruption, human rights, and democracy. Defense cooperation is not only about selling more high-tech weapons but also about strategic cooperation, the ambassador said, adding that a Turkish company has already provided shell manufacturing technology to a local company. The ambassador also emphasized advancements in Turkish companies' production of defense products over the last 15 years.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-wants-to-enhance-defense-cooperation-with-bangladesh-envoy>

Turkish defense firms see hundreds of visitors at Pakistan fair

Daily Sabah, November 17, 2022

Hundreds of local and foreign delegates and visitors browsed Turkish companies' stalls on the second day of a major defense fair being held in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi on Wednesday. Some 28 of Türkiye's top defense manufacturers are showcasing their military hardware at the four-day fair that began on Tuesday. They include prominent developers STM, Roketson, Meteksan, ASFAD, MKE, Tualcom and others. Nearly 300 international defense manufacturers from 32 countries, along with over 260 delegates from 64 countries, are taking part in the

defense exhibition, a leading defense expo in South Asia.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-defense-firms-see-hundreds-of-visitors-at-pakistan-fair>

'Italian PM willing to solve issues on Türkiye's SAMP/T acquisition'

Daily Sabah, November 17, 2022

The problems surrounding Türkiye's possible acquisition of the SAMP/T air defense system aim to be resolved in the near future, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said Thursday. Speaking to Turkish journalists on the Indonesian island of Bali, where he just finished attending the G-20 summit, Erdoğan said that in his meeting with new Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni on the sidelines of the summit, Meloni expressed the desire to solve problems. "There are some technical problems left, let's solve them and solve the SAMP/T issue in France, Italy, Türkiye, in a short time," Erdoğan quoted Meloni as saying. The SAMP/T missile defense systems project belongs to the Franco-Italian Eurosam consortium.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/italian-pm-willing-to-solve-issues-on-turkiyes-sampt-acquisition>

Türkiye's 1st unmanned fighter jet's maiden flight due after ground tests

Daily Sabah, November 21, 2022

The Turkish pioneering drone maker has announced its unmanned fighter jet had successfully completed ground tests, as the landmark project inches closer to performing its maiden flight in the coming

days. Named Kızılelma, the National Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle System (MIUS) completed its first runway run and autonomous taxiing test at an air base in northwestern Tekirdağ province, according to a video shared by its developer Baykar on Sunday. The test was overseen by Baykar's Chief Technology Officer (CTO) Selçuk Bayraktar. The fast drone fighter jet Kızılelma is said to represent a significant expansion of capabilities for slow-moving reconnaissance and missile-carrying drones.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiyes-1st-unmanned-fighter-jets- maiden-flight-due-after-ground-tests>

Türkiye says S-400 defense system ready to use if threatened

Daily Sabah, November 23, 2022

The S-400 missile defense system acquired from Russia is ready for action and will be utilized if Türkiye is threatened, Defense Minister Hulusi Akar said on Wednesday. Speaking to Parliament's planning and budget committee in the capital Ankara, Akar said "the S-400 is in place and ready for use." "If any threats arise, we will decide where and how to use it," Akar added. Answering questions regarding the S-400 long-range defense system, he said: "We do not have a problem with the S-400." Referring to Türkiye's request for long-range regional air defense systems from the U.S., he said "without these, the S-400 procurement took place."

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkiye-says-s-400-defense-system-ready-to-use-if-threatened>

Latest Türkiye-made warship tailored for Pakistan touts strong defense co-op

Daily Sabah, November 25, 2022

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on Friday stressed what he said was a strong mutual will between Türkiye and Pakistan to further expand their defense cooperation, as the two countries launched the latest corvette warship tailored for the Pakistan Navy. Erdoğan was accompanied by Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and other officials during the inauguration ceremony for PNS Khyber, the third of the four MILGEM corvettes built by Türkiye for Pakistan, at Istanbul Shipyard. "The solidarity between us is strengthening day by day with a strategic perspective decisively based on the history, friendship and potential of the two countries," Erdoğan said. "The defense industry is one of the important pillars of this cooperation."

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/latest-turkiye-made-warship-tailored-for-pakistan-touts-strong-defense-co-op>

Turkish-built corvettes to add strength to Pakistan's littoral defense: Navy commander

Daily Sabah, November 27, 2022

Turkish-made corvettes tailored for the Pakistan Navy are set to contribute greatly to the defense of the South Asian country, Commander of the Pakistan Navy Adm. Muhammed Amjad Khan Niazi said Sunday. Niazi told Anadolu Agency (AA) in Istanbul, where the third MILGEM (National Ship) corvette's launching ceremony was held, that those vessels will "keep enemies at distance." Expressing that military weakness will bring "aggression,"

Niazi said: “But power keeps your enemies at a distance. For this reason, MILGEM corvettes will significantly strengthen the Pakistan Navy and defense.” Describing MILGEM corvettes as very capable platforms, Niazi pointed out that the ships are equipped with surface-to-surface- and surface-to-air weapon systems.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/turkish-built-corvettes-to-add-strength-to-pakistans-littoral-defense-navy-commander>

UAE

UAE defense delegation visits IMCTC headquarters in Riyadh

Arab News, November 21, 2022

The Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition on Monday received a delegation of cadets and members of the training committee of the 10th National Defense Course from the UAE National Defense College at the coalition’s headquarters in Riyadh. During the reception, the delegation was briefed on the strategies and main duties of the coalition in combating terrorism.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2203706/saudi-arabia>

Inside the UAE's all-women peacekeeping programme

The National News, November 21, 2022

An army of women have joined forces in Abu Dhabi on a mission to bring an end to tyranny and violence by being champions of peace. The National was given exclusive access to see 157 cadets go through their paces in an intensive 10-week training course at the Khawla bint Al Azwar Military School, inside the UAE’s Armed Forces base in Mahawi. All had their

reasons for being in the capital as they embarked on a key stage of their journey to enlist in the UN's peacekeeping corps. Some were spurred on by a desire to see an end to conflict in their homelands, while others relished the opportunity to be part of a military collective.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/2022/11/21/inside-the-uaes-all-women-peacekeeping-programme/>

Yemen

Fighting flares in Yemen’s Taiz as Houthis attack military base

Arab News, November 16, 2022

Heavy fighting between Yemeni government forces and the Iran-backed Houthis broke out on Wednesday in the city of Taiz after the militia bombarded and attacked a strategic hilltop military base, local army officials said. Abdul Basit Al-Baher, a Yemeni military official in Taiz, told Arab News that the Houthis shelled an air defense military base in northwest Taiz on Wednesday morning before sending ground troops to attack the base.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2201011/middle-east>

Yemen: Houthi drones attack ship at oil terminal

Naharnet, November 22, 2022

Yemen's Houthi rebels targeted a ship at an oil terminal in the south of the country on Monday, the internationally recognized government said, in the latest in a series of recent attacks that threaten to escalate the conflict after months of relative calm.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/293890-yemen-houthi-drones-attack-ship-at-oil-terminal>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

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