

UNIFIL: Israel Destroying Property, Army Infrastructure in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) has accused the Zionist regime's forces of destroying its property and a Lebanese army's infrastructure in southern Lebanon.

"This morning peacekeepers observed an IDF (Zionist troops) bulldozer destroying a blue barrel marking the line of withdrawal between Lebanon and Israel in Labbouneh, as well as an observation tower belonging to the Lebanese Armed Forces immediately beside a UNIFIL position there," UNIFIL said on social media platform X.

"The IDF's deliberate and direct destruction of both clearly identifiable UNIFIL property and infrastructure belonging to the Lebanese Armed Forces is a flagrant violation of resolution 1701 and international law," it said.

Also on Saturday, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) President Mirjana Spoljaric said during her visit to Lebanon that "civilians cannot afford for the ceasefire to lapse, plunging them back into heavy fighting that would bring more death and



The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) on Saturday accused the Zionist regime's army of deliberately destroying its property and critical infrastructure in southern Lebanon.

destruction." "Maintaining the ceasefire is essential for families to return home, rebuild their lives, and for humanitarian assistance to reach those in need," Spoljaric was quoted as saying in an ICRC statement.

"The scale of destruction and the staggering humanitarian needs in Lebanon could have been significantly mitigated if the parties to the conflict had fully adhered to the rules of war," she said.

Meanwhile, a senior Lebanese lawmaker has denounced the regime's continuous violations of

the ceasefire agreement with the Hezbollah resistance movement, stating that the Zionist entity is seeking to compensate for its defeats through such infringements.

"We will continue the path of our martyrs and will not back down from our principles. We will deal with any new development on the basis of these principles," Mohammad Raad, head of Loyalty to the Resistance Bloc – the political wing of Hezbollah – in the Lebanese parliament, said on Saturday following a meeting with Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri.

He added, "We offered Berri warm greetings from Sheikh Naim Qassem, Secretary General of Hezbollah, and our brethren in Hezbollah. We thanked him for the national efforts he made for the benefit of the entire Lebanese nation."

The top Lebanese legislator noted that concerted attempts must be made to protect Lebanon, live together with dignity, and safeguard the rights of all walks of society.

"The Zionist enemy continues to violate the ceasefire to overcome its inferiority complex, and compensate for its defeats in the field," Raad pointed out.

Israel was forced to accept the ceasefire with Hezbollah after suffering heavy losses following almost 14 months of fighting and failing to achieve its goals in its aggression on Lebanon.

The truce deal came into effect on November 27. It will last for 60 days in the hope of reaching a permanent cessation of hostilities.

Under the agreement, an international monitoring committee, headed by the US, is tasked with overseeing the implementation of the ceasefire.

Hezbollah... (Continued From Page One)

before the end of the 60 days, because Israel's ceasefire violations are becoming "unbearable." Commenting on the issue of the Lebanese presidency, Safa confirmed that Hezbollah has no issue with the candidacy of U.S.-backed Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) commander Joseph Aoun. "Our only veto is on [Lebanese Forces leader] Samir Geagea because he represents a project of sedition, civil strife, and destruction in the country," he added.

Lebanese political forces have been deadlocked on the election of a new president for three years.

A parliamentary session to elect a president is scheduled for next week.

The press conference coincided with continued Israeli army advancements and ceasefire violations in southern Lebanon.

Israeli troops pushed into Taybeh and "carried out extensive combing operations with heavy and medium machine guns," Lebanon's National News Agency (NNA) reported, adding that explosions were heard inside the town's neighborhoods.

They also continued demolition operations in Aitaroun and nearby areas, while blocking the road leading from Qantara to Taybeh.

The ceasefire agreement announced on November 27, based on UN Resolution 1701, stipulates that the Lebanese army must dismantle Hezbollah's presence and infrastructure south of the Litani River in a period of 60 days, during which Israel is also required to withdraw its forces from south Lebanon.

The agreement is being overseen by a U.S.-led tripartite mechanism involving France and the UNIFIL. It has been violated over 1,000 times by Israel.

Several recent reports have said that Israel is gearing up to maintain its presence in the south past the 60-day period. Tel Aviv is unsatisfied with the Lebanese army's efforts to implement the deal, and says Hezbollah has not left the areas south of the Litani.

According to Al Akhbar newspaper, the Lebanese army has received "serious signals" from the U.S. that Israel could potentially extend its presence in south Lebanon by 30 days.

Zionist war minister Israel Katz claimed on Sunday that Hezbollah was violating the ceasefire and had not withdrawn to behind the Litani River, adding that "if this condition is not met, there will be no agreement, and Israel will be forced to act on its own to ensure the safe return of residents of the north to their homes."

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Hypersonic... (Continued From Page One)

reinstall a Riyadh-friendly regime and crush the Ansarullah resistance movement.

The Saudi-led coalition, however, achieved none of the objectives and remained bogged down in Yemen for years in the face of stiff resistance by its nation and armed forces.

Yemen's arsenal includes long-range ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and drones capable of hitting targets up to 2,000 kilometers away, which has been on full display in recent months and weeks.

The domestically manufactured missiles have repeatedly penetrated Israel's much-hyped military systems.

In recent weeks, Yemen has notably intensified its pro-Pales-

tinian strikes on Israeli military targets within the occupied territories, employing advanced hypersonic ballistic missiles.

Fighting... (Continued From Page One)

Ankara considers the SDF an extension of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has fought a decades-long insurgency in southeastern Turkey and is banned as a terrorist organization by the government.

The Turkish military regularly launches strikes against Kurdish militants in Syria and neighboring Iraq, accusing them of being PKK-linked.

Turkey's proxies captured the cities of Manbij and Tal Rifaat in northern Aleppo province from the SDF when militants and takfiri terrorists launched an onslaught on November 27 that overthrew Syrian president Bashar al-Assad just 11 days later.

Turkish Defense Minister Yaşar Guler recently announced that Ankara intends to expel SDF militants from the northern Syrian cities of Kobani and Raqqa, disarm them, and transfer their weapons to the HTS administration.

Over... (Continued From Page One)

masonry. Three men removed dirt with their bare hands to retrieve bodies and search for possible survivors.

"Three young men, the son's wife, and three children are still here. We retrieved this cousin of mine. Another cousin has been martyred and is now in the hospital. Approximately 11 people have been martyred here," Ammar Zuhd, a relative, told Reuters.

A renewed push is underway to reach a ceasefire in the war between Israel and Hamas, and return Zionist captives who were taken to Gaza, before U.S. President-elect Donald Trump takes office on Jan. 20.

Israeli negotiators were dispatched on Friday to resume talks in Doha brokered by Qatari and Egyptian mediators, while U.S. President Joe Biden's administration, which is helping to mediate, urged Hamas to agree to a deal.

Hamas said it was committed to reaching an agreement as soon as possible, but it was unclear how close the two sides were.

Israel's military campaign, with the stated goal of eradicating Hamas, has leveled swathes Gaza, driving most people from their homes, and has martyred 45,805 Palestinians, according to the Gaza health ministry.

FM... (Continued From Page 2)

Araghchi also said diplomacy is part of the resistance school of thought that is inseparable from the military field.

General Soleimani, commander of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), and their companions were assassinated in a US drone strike authorized by then-U.S. President Donald Trump near Baghdad International Airport on January 3, 2020.

Both commanders were highly revered across West Asia because of their key role in fighting the Daesh terrorist group in Iraq and Syria.

Israel Eyes Gaza Aid Cuts as Trump Gets Ready to Take Office: Report

GAZA (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime is reportedly considering significant reductions of the already minimal amounts of humanitarian aid it allows into the Gaza Strip as U.S. president-elect Donald Trump prepares to take office, according to a news report.

Israel's Channel 12 reported current aid levels may be reduced in the coming weeks following Trump's inauguration on January 20.

An unnamed Israeli "political

source" told the network: "We doubt the amount of aid currently allowed into Gaza will remain the same under Trump's administration. If such a decision is made to reduce aid, it will be coordinated with the new U.S. administration."

Continuing aid deliveries would help Hamas maintain its hold over Gaza, the source added.

The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) announced in late December it is currently able

to deliver only about one-third of the food required to aid hungry Palestinians in Gaza, as the Zionist regime prevents humanitarian missions from reaching the blockaded territory.

The WFP in a social media post said that the agency was only able to bring in roughly one-third of the food it needs to support hungry Palestinians in the besieged Strip.

The agency further called for safe and sustained access to de-

liver life-saving aid to Gaza.

This comes as essential humanitarian entering Gaza dropped to its lowest levels in a year in November, despite experts warning that famine is likely imminent.

The WFP gain emphasized the need for a ceasefire in Gaza.

The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) snapshot projects that over 1.95 million people in Gaza will face acute food insecurity over the coming months.

Zionist Attacks Damage Nearly 1,000 Mosques in Gaza, Authorities Say

GAZA (Dispatches) – Nearly 1,000 mosques were damaged in the Zionist regime's attacks in the Gaza Strip last year, Anadolu Agency reports.

In a statement, the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs said 815 Muslim worship places were entirely destroyed and 151 others partially damaged.

The ministry said 19 cemeteries and three churches were also destroyed in the Zionist regime's genocidal war on Gaza in 2024.

In the occupied West Bank, the ministry recorded 256 settler intrusions into the flashpoint Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied East Al-Quds last year.

According to the ministry, some 2,567 illegal settlers forced their way into the mosque complex to celebrate the week-long Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, which was marked from December 25 to January 2.

The ministry said illegal settlers have also violated other Islamic and Christian religious sites in the

occupied Palestinian territory.

The report said Tel Aviv has allowed settler groups "to storm and defile" the holy sites. During the incursions, the settlers provocatively carried out rituals in defiance of the sanctity of the world's third-holiest site for Muslims.

The Jewish visits to the mosque are permitted but as part of a decades-old agreement between Jordan – the custodian of Islamic and Christian sites in Al-Quds – and Israel in the wake of Israel's occupa-

tion of East Al-Quds in 1967, non-Muslim worship at the compound is prohibited.

In the latest incident, dozens of illegal settlers, escorted by military forces, broke into the compound and provocatively performed rituals and Talmudic prayers in the mosque's courtyards on Thursday.

The ministry's report also detailed the Zionist regime's violations against Islamic and Christian religious sites in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during the last year.

Egypt Imposes Near-Total Ban on Syrians Entering Country

CAIRO (Dispatches) – Egypt has implemented stringent new restrictions on Syrian nationals entering the country, allowing entry only for those holding temporary non-tourist residency permits. Airlines violating the directive face fines, according to the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority.

This marks the second wave of restrictions since former president Bashar al-Assad's ouster last month, with an earlier ban targeting Syrians holding European, Persian Gulf, U.S., or Canadian residencies, as well as Schengen visa holders, unless they secure prior security approval. Syrians married to Egyptians are also subject to the same requirements.

According to Asharq Al-Awsat, the latest measures reflect Cairo's heightened focus on securi-

ty risks, with former Assistant Interior Minister Farouk al-Moqrahy citing concerns about individuals linked to the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood and other banned groups. Molhem al-Khan of the Syria al-Ghad Relief Foundation added that the lack of security coordination with Syria's interim administration has fuelled Egypt's precautions.

Egypt hosts an estimated 1.5 million Syrians, though only 153,000 are registered refugees, according to UNHCR. Many Syrians fled to Egypt following Syria's war, which erupted in 2011.

Meanwhile, the Syrian Embassy in Cairo has introduced free, same-day travel permits for Syrians wishing to return home but lacking valid passports. These developments come as Egypt also reportedly imposed entry bans on Palestin-

ians from four conflict-affected countries, including Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Libya.

The Action Group for Palestinians in Syria states that "The Egyptian authorities did not explain the reasons for the decision, noting that Egypt used to prevent holders of the Palestinian Syrian document from entering its territory except with exceptions and under certain circumstances."

For some Syrians in Egypt, the fall of the Assad government and new entry restrictions have prompted decisions to return home. Last month, the first group of Syrians left Cairo via Nuweiba Port. A ferry carrying 40 passengers traveled to Aqaba Port in Jordan, from where they were transferred to the Jaber border crossing to re-enter Syria.