

NEWS IN BRIEF

China replaces FM Qin after weeks of speculation

REUTERS - China removed Foreign Minister Qin Gang from his post on Tuesday after a one-month absence from public duties, replacing him with his predecessor Wang Yi, state media said, after weeks of speculation about what had happened to him.

Qin, 57, who only took up the job in December after a brief stint as envoy to the US, had not been seen in public since June 25 when he met visiting diplomats in Beijing.

After he missed an international diplomatic summit in Indonesia, his ministry later said he was off work for unspecified health reasons.

Wang, 69, who filled in for Qin during his absence, retakes the role he held between 2018 and 2022. It came amid a flurry of international engagements and frayed ties with rival superpower the United States, which Beijing has described as at their lowest point since the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Israeli forces kill three Palestinians in Nablus

PRESS TV - Israeli forces opened fire on a vehicle in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus on Tuesday, killing three Palestinians.

In a statement, the Palestinian Health Ministry said the fatal shooting took place in Nablus' Al-Tur area.

Citing security sources, the Palestinian Wafa news agency reported that the occupation forces closed the area for several hours and prevented medical staff and journalists from approaching the scene.

The slain Palestinians were later identified as Nour al-Arda, 32, Montaser Salama, 33, and Saad al-Kharaz, 43.

The regime's soldiers also seized the car as well as the bodies of the victims, the report added.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses said that Israeli troops deliberately targeted surveillance cameras in the area in an attempt to hide evidence of their crime, it said.

The Israeli military said its forces had "engaged and neutralized" three alleged Palestinian gunmen, claiming that three assault rifles, a handgun, and other equipment were confiscated from their vehicle.

The Palestinian Hamas resistance movement said that the crime is added to the list of atrocities committed by the fascist Zionist regime.

Iran naval forces take delivery of homegrown 'Abu Mahdi' cruise missile

New system to enhance Iran's naval defense range: Minister

National Desk

Iranian naval forces have taken delivery of the domestically-designed and manufactured "Abu Mahdi" long-range cruise missile, featuring state-of-the-art technologies tailored for electronic warfare capabilities.

Addressing the delivery ceremony of the system to the naval forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran as well as the IRGC on Tuesday, the defense minister expressed his confidence that the new system would significantly enhance Iran's naval defense range compared to previous capabilities.

Mohammadreza Ashtiani praised the long-range missile system as being of strategic importance and said that it has no equal in terms of its capabilities, IRNA quoted him as saying.

Ashtiani said that the missile, with a range of 1,000 kilometers, enjoys pinpoint accuracy and very high destruction power, can cross geographical barriers and cruise at low altitudes, is radar-evasive, can counter the enemy's electronic warfare, and employs artificial intelli-

gence in its flight path design software.

The development of the "Abu Mahdi" cruise missile has reportedly been developed by military experts at Aerospace Industries Organization (AIO), a subsidiary of the Iranian Defense Ministry, and a leading high-tech complex headquartered in Tehran. The acquisition of this advanced cruise missile system represents a significant milestone for the Navy and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Navy, empowering them with enhanced naval defense capabilities.



Homegrown "Abu Mahdi" naval cruise missiles are put on display during a ceremony in Tehran, Iran, on July 25, 2023.

● PAYAM SANI/IRNA

It is said to be the first homegrown long-range naval cruise missile that employs artificial intelligence in the software for designing the missile's flight path and the command-and-control systems.

The missile can penetrate into natural and artificial barriers, as well as the enemy's radar and defense



systems and strike designated targets from different directions.

Due to the incorporation of highly destructive explosive materials in its warhead, "Abu Mahdi" can destroy all types of ships, frigates, and destroyers. "Abu Mahdi" is the first long-range naval cruise missile in Iran that uses dual-mode active and pas-

sive seekers.

The technology enables the missile to counter the enemy's electronic warfare and increases its stealth capabilities when approaching the target and hitting it. All this happens with the enemy not having noticed the missile and missing the opportunity to give a timely response. Its launcher can load and

fire missiles in the shortest possible time and can launch several projectiles in quick succession and from different directions toward a specific target, with the missiles hitting the designated target all at once.

During the ceremony, Commander of the IRGC Navy Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri explained that

if an Iranian military vessel sails 1,000 kilometers offshore and launches an "Abu Mahdi" missile, the enemy's aircraft carrier will have to retreat at least 1,000 kilometers further away to evade the long-range naval cruise missile. "This means that the fighter jets on board that aircraft carrier will be rendered useless," he said.

Iran releases documents about Salwan Momika's links to Israel

Iran's Ministry of Intelligence has released new documents that prove Salwan Momika's links to the Zionist regime, IRNA reported. Momika recently carried out a sacrilege of the Qur'an, tearing it up and setting the holy Muslim book on fire in Sweden.

The ministry issued a statement on Tuesday, publishing an image of Momika wearing a kippah, a brimless cap traditionally worn by Jewish males. According to the statement, this image was

sent to the Zionists as evidence of his loyalty to the Zionist occupying regime.

Additionally, the ministry released another image showing the flags of the Zionist regime and the Syriac Union Party flown together, noting that Momika had been trying to establish this party in Iraq and sent the image to the Zionists.

In an earlier statement, the ministry mentioned that Momika had been trying to establish the "Syriac Union Party" in Iraq, claiming to

be the main representative and voice of the Christians in northwestern Iraq.

However, his reputation for overambitiousness and charlatanry among his fellow believers led to the failure of his party's establishment. Subsequently, he applied for residency in several European countries, which also proved unsuccessful.

According to information obtained from the Zionists, Salwan Momika made significant efforts to contact

the regime in occupied lands. He presented a CV highlighting his usefulness to the Zionist spy apparatus and portrayed himself as one of the most important dissidents of the government of Iraq.

Momika also claimed to have been detained by the Iraqi Islamic Resistance on charges of collaborating with the Zionist regime and attempting to form an independent Aramaic Christian government in Iraq's Nineveh city.

Iran welcomes China's..

The Iranian official also held a separate meeting with Celso Amorim, the special assistant to the president of Brazil for international affairs.

Page 1 >

Iranian and Brazilian officials weighed plans to strengthen economic and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Describing the age-old relations between Iran and Brazil as a precious asset to the promotion of mutual cooperation, Ahmadian said, "Considering the Islamic Republic of Iran's principled policy of deepening and promoting relations with independent states, the comprehensive ties with Brazil have a special and significant place in Iran's foreign policy."

He also stressed the need to expand the economic relations, promote cooperation in the agriculture sector, and increase the trade exchanges by focusing on the private sectors of the two countries. Ahmadian expressed hope that Iran's membership in BRICS would help enhance the bilateral ties.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Tehran-Baku ties ...

The Iranian lawmaker said that we consider Azerbaijani people as our relatives. Currently, many of the people in Iran's East Azerbaijan Province have many relatives in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Alireza Beigi referred to the proximity between the two nations, saying that it is partly due to the Shia culture in both countries.

He said that Tehran and Baku should make the most of this capacity of friendship as well as a common language for expansion of ties, especially economic ties. Alireza Beigi said that Iran has capabilities that can be shared with the people of Azerbaijan.

By improving the level of cooperation, both neighbors can bar foreigners from interfering in their relations, he said.



He also said that both countries should prioritize the establishment of security at their borders. He noted that we are not happy about what happened in relations between the two countries. An incident such as the attack on the Azerbaijani Embassy in Tehran should not have occurred.