

30 bomb attacks foiled in Tehran



Iran's Intelligence Ministry said on Sunday that it had neutralized 30 simultaneous bomb attacks at populous areas of the capital Tehran and detained 28 terrorists linked to the Daesh group. The Intelligence Ministry added in a statement that some of the members are of Daesh terrorist group

and the perpetrators have a history of being affiliated with terrorist groups in Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The ministry said its forces conducted operations in a time span of several days in the provinces of Tehran, Alborz and West Azarbaijan.

Bases used by the terrorists were detected and all the Daesh-linked agents involved in the plot were arrested. The modus operandi employed by the terror teams, the ministry said, was by far more complex than that used by ordinary Takfiri groups and it remarkably conforms to the

patterns practiced by the Israeli regime. The ministry said the seized equipment includes a considerable amount of explosives and ready bombs, a package of 100 explosive primers and electronic devices used in time bombs, 17 US-made handguns and bullets, as well as diverse smart and

satellite telecommunication devices, military outfits, and suicide vests. The ministry affirmed that the plot of terror had been designed to coincide with the anniversary of last year's protests in Iran. The Daesh terrorist group has claimed several attacks in Iran, including deadly twin bombings in

2017 that targeted Iran's Parliament and the tomb of the founder of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini. More recently, the terrorist group claimed responsibility for an attack on a shrine last October, where 15 people were killed in the southwestern city of Shiraz.

Defense Ministry: Haj Qassem missile deterrent against Israel

National Desk

Iranian Defense Ministry spokesman shed light on the strategic importance of the country's military arsenal that should be commensurate with threats, particularly where the Zionist regime fabricates pretexts. "We officially declare that we possess missiles capable of targeting Israel. The Haj Qassem missile is designed for this purpose," Reza Talaei-Nik said on Sunday. The Defense Ministry spokesman's remarks came two days after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for a "credible nuclear threat" against Iran in an address to the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly. However, his office later clarified that he misread the line and meant to say a "credible military threat." Referring to Iran's successes in various dimensions, especially in the military field and the development of precision missiles, Talaei-Nik said, "We are the region's primary defensive power." He referred to the specifics of the Haj Qassem missile and the 373-missile system, revealing their advanced capabilities and multifaceted use in safeguarding Iran's national security. The spokesperson stated that borders should be fixed borders, adding that when Iran loudly announces that the borders should not be changed, it means that there is a national, defensive, people-oriented, faithful power supporting this strategy.

Empty threats

The Iranian foreign minister also said on Sunday that no one takes Netanyahu's baseless anti-Iran accusations and threats seriously as Israel is in its "weakest state" amid internal crises, Press TV reported. Amir-Abdollahian said that Tel Aviv is only capable of issuing threats but not acting upon them. "The Zionists, who are themselves in possession of hundreds of nuclear warheads, brazenly continue their threatening programs," he added.

Nagorno-Karabakh's Armenians to leave for Armenia

The 120,000 ethnic Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh will leave for Armenia as they do not want to live as part of Azerbaijan and fear ethnic cleansing, the leadership of the breakaway region told Reuters on Sunday. Armenia's Prime Minister also said the Karabakh Armenians were likely to leave the region, and that Armenia was ready to take them in, following a defeat last week at the hands of Azerbaijan in a conflict dating to the fall of the Soviet Union. The Armenians of Karabakh – a territory internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan but previously beyond Baku's control – were forced to declare a ceasefire on Sept. 20 after

a lightning 24-hour military operation by the much larger Azerbaijani military. Azerbaijan says it will guarantee their rights and integrate the region, but the Armenians say they fear repression. "Our people do not want to live as part of Azerbaijan. Ninety-nine point nine percent prefer to leave our historic lands," David Babayan, an adviser to Samvel Shahramanyan, president of the self-styled Republic of Artsakh, told Reuters. "The fate of our poor people will go down in history as a disgrace and a shame for the Armenian people and for the whole civilized world," Babayan said. "Those responsible for our fate will one day have to answer before God for their

sins." The Armenian leaders of Karabakh said in a statement that all those made homeless by the Azerbaijani military operation and wanting to leave would be escorted to Armenia by Russian peacekeepers. Reuters reporters near the village of Kornidzoh on the Armenian border saw some heavily laden cars pass into Armenia. One of the drivers said they were from Nagorno-Karabakh. It was unclear when the bulk of the population would move down the Lachin corridor which links the territory to Armenia, where Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan has faced calls to resign for failing to save Karabakh. In an address to the nation,

Pashinyan said some humanitarian aid had arrived but the Armenians of Karabakh still faced "the danger of ethnic cleansing". "If proper conditions are not created for the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh to live in their homes and there are no effective protection mechanisms against ethnic cleansing, the likelihood is rising that the Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh will see exile from their homeland as the only way to save their lives and identity," Pashinyan said, according to an official transcript. A mass exodus could change the delicate balance of power in the South Caucasus region, a patchwork of ethnicities crisscrossed with oil and gas pipelines where Russia, the United States and Turkey are jostling for influence. Last week's Azerbaijani victory appears to bring a decisive end to one of the decades-old "frozen conflicts" of the Soviet Union's dissolution. President Ilham Aliyev said his "iron fist" had consigned the idea of an independent ethnic Armenian Karabakh to history and that the region would be turned into a "paradise" as part of Azerbaijan.



Refugee women sit in a bus after registering at a center of the Armenian foreign Affairs Ministry, near the border town of Kornidzor, on September 24, 2023. ALAIN JOCARD/AFP

Iran: Oman's JCPOA ...

The two top diplomats expressed satisfaction with the re-opening of embassies and the exchange of ambassadors in Tehran and Riyadh. Amir-Abdollahian said that Iran is prepared to organize and sign a comprehensive cooperation document with Saudi Arabia, building up on the ideas exchanged during his meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in August. He also put a premium on the establishment of a Joint Economic Commission to expand economic and trade

relations between the two countries. Amir-Abdollahian also stressed the need to activate air and sea transportation routes to facilitate travel and trade between the two countries. Bin Farhan, in turn, expressed satisfaction with the speed at which bilateral relations have progressed since rapprochement in March, and said Riyadh was eager to strengthen bilateral cooperation with Tehran. The two diplomats had met for the first time in early April in Beijing after China

brokered a détente that allowed Iran and Saudi Arabia to restore their normal diplomatic relations after seven years. **Regional challenges** Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi said on Saturday that his country welcomes the enhancement of relations with Iran to tackle regional challenges. Safadi made the remarks during a meeting with Amir-Abdollahian. "We want good and brotherly relations between the two countries, and are determined to open up a new

page in our relationship with Iran," he said. "We both face many challenges in the [West Asia] region, which cannot be addressed except through cooperation. Our bilateral relations must reflect historical, fraternal bonds that exist between the two nations," he added. Amir-Abdollahian, for his part, said the positive atmosphere in the region as well as warming relations between Iran and Arab countries will hopefully boost ties between Iran and Jordan to serve their mutual interests.

Tehran-Stockholm tensions Iran has demanded Sweden take action over desecration of Muslims' holy book, the Qur'an, before the two countries can exchange ambassadors again, and urged it to release an imprisoned Iranian citizen, the Foreign Ministry said on Sunday. "Regarding the exchange of ambassadors, we are waiting for good action on the issue of the Holy Qur'an in Sweden," Iran's top envoy told the Swedish Foreign Minister Tobias Billström. He also urged Stockholm to release Hamid Nouri, an Iranian national arrested in November 2019 and sentenced to life in prison after being convicted over the alleged mass executions of prisoners ordered by Tehran in 1988. "We expect that the Swedish government would make a wise and courageous decision in the appeal stage and release Mr. Nouri," the minister said, adding, "We are ready for positive and constructive cooperation in various fields." The Iranian minister also held separate talks with his counterparts from South Korea, Eritrea, Mali and Nicaragua.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Diplomatic ties with Maldives restored

IRNA – Iran and the Maldives have decided to restore diplomatic relations after more than seven years. The decision was made at a meeting between the two countries' foreign ministers on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York. The Maldives severed ties with Iran months after Saudi Arabia severed its relations with Tehran in January 2016.

Iraq fully implements security deal with Iran: Iraqi FM



PRESS TV – Iraqi Foreign Minister Fuad Hussein said his country has implemented all clauses of a security agreement with neighboring Iran that entails the complete disarmament and re-location of anti-Iran terrorist groups operating in the semi-autonomous Kurdistan Region. The top Iraqi diplomat went on to highlight the political and security aspects of the pact, stating that Iran's cessation of artillery bombardments on the positions of secessionist groups in the Kurdistan Region was among the conditions of the agreement. Iraq, in return, is obligated to remove armed elements from border areas. The central government in Baghdad and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) have managed to successfully undertake the task, Hussein noted.

Iran has no plan to have nukes: Lavrov



MNA – Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that Iran does not have a plan to build nuclear arms. No one wants more nuclear powers to emerge in the world, and Moscow believes that since Iran will not have nuclear weapons, Saudi Arabia won't be tempted to obtain them, Lavrov said at a press conference on the sidelines of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly, according to TASS news agency.