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44 Years

Since Takeover of Nest of Spies

SPECIAL ISSUE

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How cancerous Israel came into existence



By Hossein Amir-Abdollahian
Iranian foreign minister

OPINION
EXCLUSIVE

November 2 is the 106th anniversary of the ominous, shameful declaration by then-British foreign secretary Arthur James Balfour. It was a brief

block of text that has brought disastrous consequences such as the occupation of Palestine and the formation of the fake, apartheid Zionist regime, the massacre of Palestinians, the genocide of women and children, the expulsion of the native inhabitants of Palestine from their ancestral land, and the expropriation of their lands.

This abominable declaration brought about the formation of a cancerous, illegitimate tumor in the West Asian region, the consequences of which still affect the people of the region and Palestine after nearly eighty years. The Zionists, with the help of their Anglo-Saxon godfathers and relying on feigning history and victim-playing, have brought a crisis upon the West Asian region.

Now that the awareness and resistance of the Palestinian people have revealed to the world how far the Zionists go in their cruelty and genocide, it is a good opportunity to revisit the 1917 Nakba Day, that is the day the Balfour Declaration was issued, to find out more about the facets of the subsequent 1948 Nakba.

The Balfour Declaration expresses the British government's sympathy and accord with the wishes and aspirations of the international Zionism to establish the so-called national home for the Zionists in Palestine. This declaration, published in 1917 in the midst of the First World War, was made about 21 years before the start of the Second World War and the subsequent claim of Jewish genocide by the Nazis. So, apparently, the British and their Zionist comrades knew very well what was going to happen in the next two decades. Is that correct?!

The presence of the Zionists in the Holy Land is based on two distorted, fabricated historical narratives. The first is that this land was promised to the Jews (or rather, the Zionists) in the Hebrew Bible, and the second builds on the claim that many Jews were killed in a genocide by the Nazis during the Second World War. These two narratives, especially the second one, became the basis for flooding Palestine with Jews and a prelude to the occupation and destruction of the land, which continues to this day.

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44 Years Since Takeover of Nest of Spies

New photos from inside former US embassy in Iran



The photo shows a hallway, decorated with several posters, inside the former US embassy in Tehran.
● SAJAD SAFARI/IRANDAILY



Paper shredders



A compartment from which Iranian students obtained firsthand and confidential documents.



A place that was used for sending, receiving, and categorizing confidential information to be presented to relevant sections.



A satellite protection cover that Americans used for sending and receiving information. It was located behind the main embassy building (chancery building) and was kept next to a UHF telemetry short-range antenna.



The famous secret meeting room known as the "glass room" on the second floor of the embassy (the embassy's security section), which was soundproof.



This is wreckage of an American helicopter that crashed in Iran's Tabas desert while on their way to Tehran to free US diplomats. The mission was aborted after US forces got stuck in a sandstorm.



An image of the satellite and antenna side by side on the northern side of the main embassy building. At the bottom of the photo, a teleprinter device related to the NSA can be seen.



Equipment used at the former embassy.



Embassy car license plates



Shredder blades



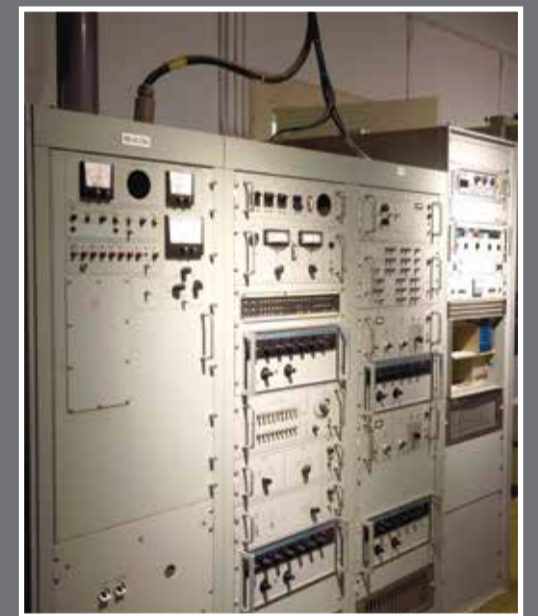
Equipment related to document forgery in the super-secure section of the main embassy building.



Communications door to the other section of the container.



A handwritten note on the wall next to the entrance to the satellite communications room, located on the second floor of the main embassy building in the super-secure section. Only specific staff, including CIA-approved employees, were allowed to enter this section.



Information encoding machines located in a large container.



The photo shows a large container, teleprinter devices, an advanced scanner and a door for communications with the other side of the large container.



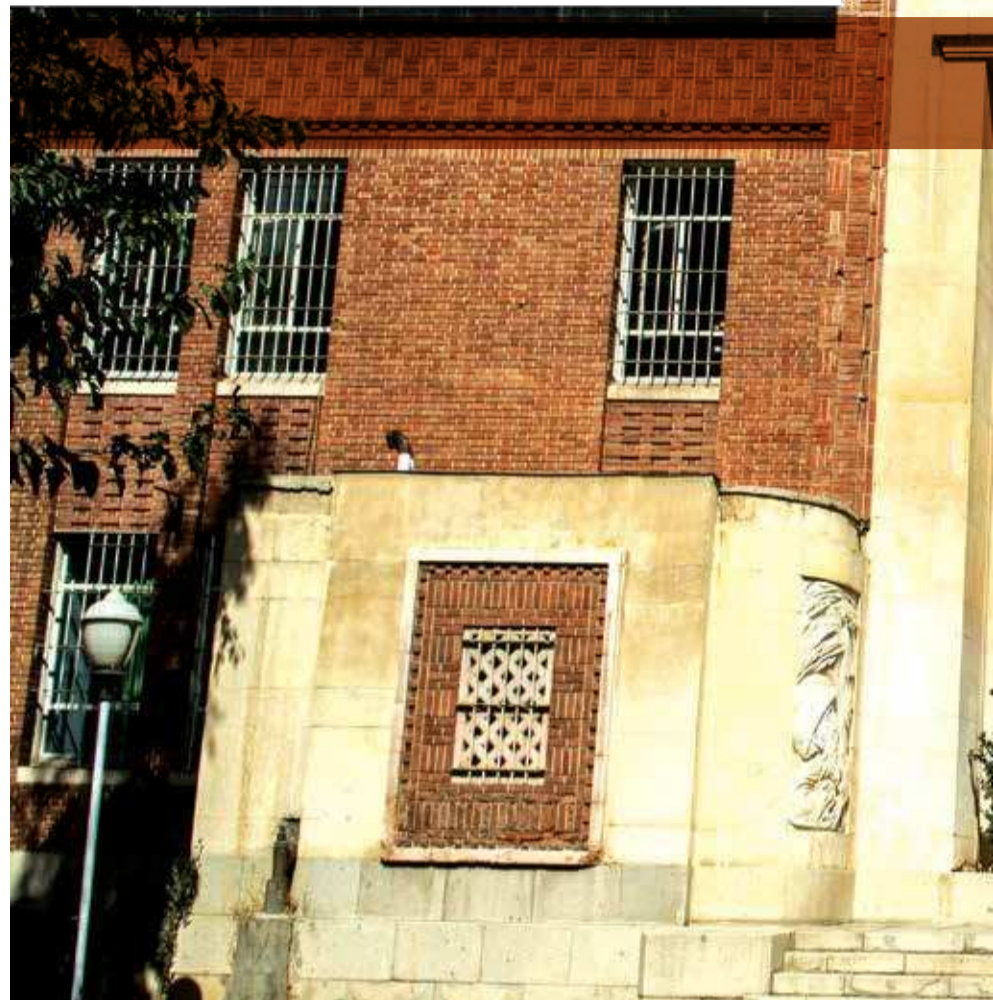
A teleprinter and an advanced scanner in the right side of a large container.



The devices on the right are remains of electronic equipment. On the left, there is a satellite device for sending and receiving information, which is connected to a satellite antenna.

Why do Iranians hate the American government?

A glimpse at the reasons and roots of the historical incident of November 4, 1979, at the former US Embassy in Tehran

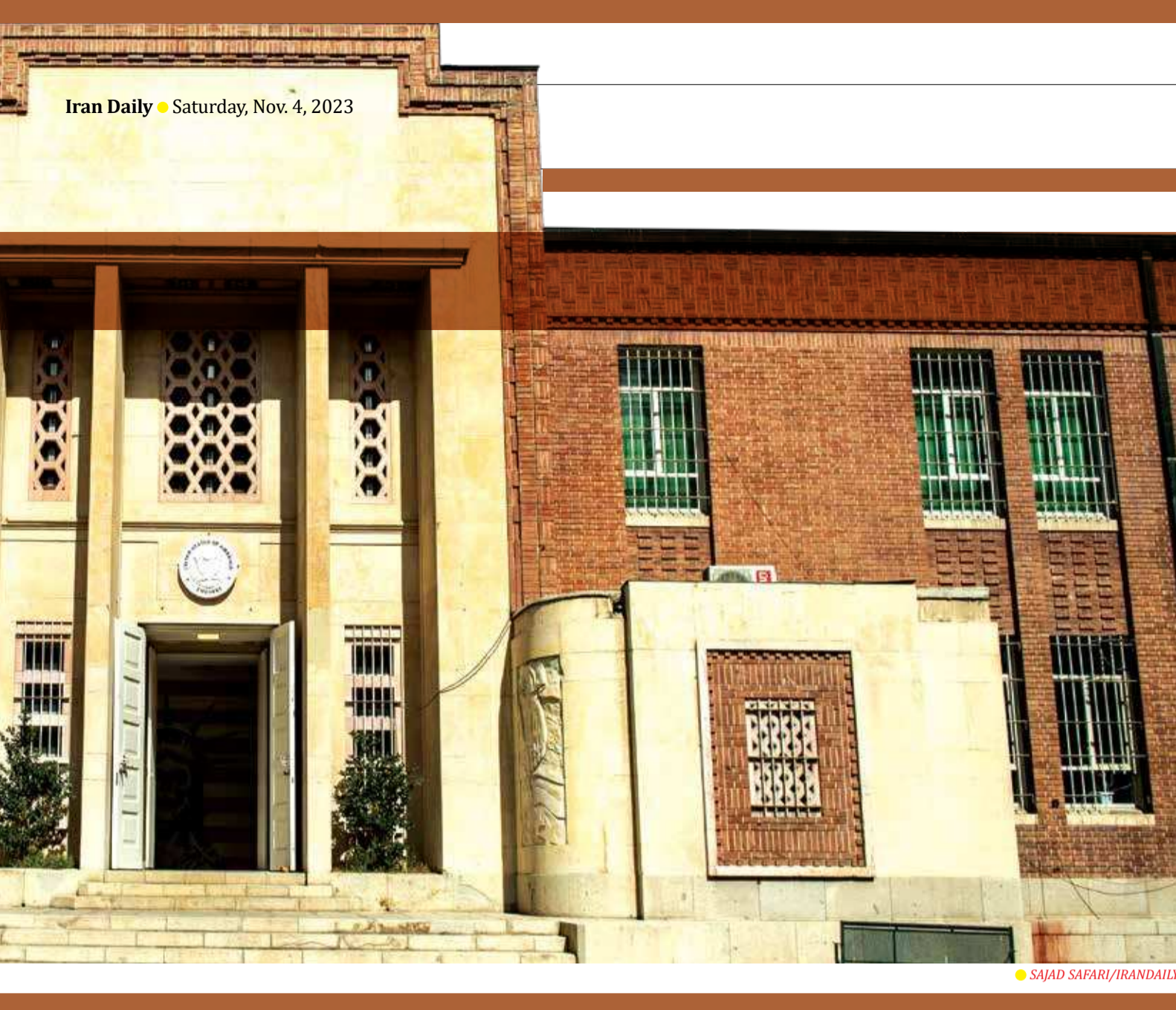


The former US embassy is located in central Tehran, where the intersection of Taleghani Street and Mofatteh Street is now. However, at the time of its takeover, these two streets were named Takht-e Jamshid and Dolat Gate. The US embassy is approximately a 10-minute walk to the Tehran Bazaar and about a 5-minute walk to the embassies of Russia, Britain, and France. It is clear that the embassy's location was cleverly chosen to gain an accurate understanding of the country's social structure and people, independent of government propaganda. Americans could have had embassies in the best areas of Tehran like many other countries, but at that time, the embassy's main function, obtaining an accurate image of the host country, took precedence. The urban structure of Taleghani and Mofatteh streets is almost the same as it was back then. The former embassy building on Taleghani Street is now home to the Handicrafts Bazaar, and Meshed Hotel and Sahra Hotel are in their original locations. Sahra Hotel was also referred to as the American Hotel. It is said that before the ill-fated Tabas Rescue mission, the Americans used the rooms of this hotel for espionage, surveillance, and monitoring the embassy – the place where diplomats were housed.

The embassy has undergone significant changes since 1979. Part of the northern section of the embassy has been transformed into a sports club, and in the southern part, a bookstore has been established. The walls have undergone fundamental changes and now bear

revolutionary and anti-American slogans. These walls are often a subject for foreign photographers and videographers stationed in Tehran to address the issue of Iran-US relations. Leaving aside this exterior view, the interior of the embassy has changed. Several halls and buildings have been constructed, serving purposes ranging from conference rooms to restaurants and a prayer room. In the initial days after the embassy's takeover, detained American diplomatic personnel were held there. Later, this complex was handed over to the Revolutionary Guard, becoming an educational center during the war. Subsequently, the Basij student foundation was established there and, currently, it is still located in this complex. The 13 Aban Student and Cultural Complex was founded in the main building of the embassy. The 13 Aban Garden Museum, also known as the Imperialism Museum, officially opened in Aban 1398 (October 2019); however, visits to this complex have been possible before that for schools and visitor groups through unofficial tours. Currently, this complex, with its relative renovation and the use of up-to-date facilities and technology, hosts visitors from various countries worldwide. Among the visitors to this museum, there are some ambassadors from countries that have a serious political and media position against imperialism and imperialistic policies, especially those of the United States in the world, and they actively work against the arrogant policies and interference of the United States.

As a result of the US coup, Dr. Mohammad Mosaddegh, the then Prime Minister of Iran, was removed from power, and Mohammad Reza Shah, who had temporarily gone to Italy, returned to power.



● SAJAD SAFARI/IRANDAILY

Embassy or den of espionage?

Among the special equipment in this former embassy, which has been transformed into a cultural museum and a site against the intrusive policies of America, we can mention encryption and decryption equipment and satellite and radio communication systems. In their time, these were considered highly advanced equipment. It's evident that the presence of such equipment in any country's embas-

sy, which should defend its interests, is normal. However, the matter becomes serious and sensitive when, based on documents discovered by students and later based on certain admissions by Americans, it is revealed that the United States was using this location and these technologies for espionage against Iran's interests and its people, and even for espionage against countries in the region.

Iranian hatred toward US government

To establish power balance in Western Asia, particularly to safeguard oil security in Iran in line with the interests of the United States, America directly intervened during the coup on August 19, 1953, alongside the UK. As a result of this coup, Dr. Mo h a m-

mad Mosaddegh, the then Prime Minister of Iran, was removed from power, and Mohammad Reza Shah, who had temporarily gone to Italy, returned to power. This event has remained etched in the Iranian memory as a blatant interference by the Americans in their domestic affairs.

Despite the victory of the Islamic Revolution in February 1979, the United States continued to

maintain its embassy in its current location, with the belief that this history of direct American involvement in Iran's internal affairs and the suspicion that such interventions could recur in the future. The Iranian students, known as the Followers of the Imam's Line, decided to take over the US embassy in Tehran. This move was influenced by the revelations of documents regarding American involvement, which were discovered and published later. These documents confirmed that the embassy had served as a center for the CIA's multifaceted and

multi-dimensional plans to overthrow or control the newly established Iranian revolution.

In addition to the political motives, some Iranian visitors consider this place to be American property, and its takeover to be illegal. They were unaware that this place was legally considered American property until evidence surfaced that the United States had been using this location and its unique technology to control Iran, as well as the countries in the region and the former Soviet Union during the Cold War, which was later confirmed by documents that were discovered by students.



What reactions do visitors have?

If we divide the visitors into two categories, domestic and foreign, domestic visitors usually come to this place with various and multifaceted motivations. These motivations range from understanding the reasons for the takeover to the motivations of the students who carried out the takeover, and even the fate of some of them. Given the developments in Iran's foreign policy over the past decade, the motivations of domestic visitors toward America and its former embassy in Tehran differ. On one hand, do-

mestic visitors want to know the connection between this former embassy and the issue of establishing or not establishing relations with America. However, the motivations of foreign visitors to this place are quite different. Before they visit, they usually research it, often having watched the movie "Argo," which references the takeover of this embassy and was produced by Hollywood. They want to understand the motivations of Iranians in carrying out the takeover and are

interested in the current status of Iran's relationship with America. They are aware that they might be scrutinized by their security agencies after returning to their countries to visit this place, but their curiosity outweighs their apprehensions. Some of them aim to have the guide of this place, which has now been transformed into a museum, provide them with the truth, free from the propaganda and political advertising that originate from its home base in Europe and America.

The embassy has undergone significant changes since 1979. Part of the northern section of the embassy has been transformed into a sports club, and in the southern part, a bookstore has been established.



Iranians bag five Asian junior boxing medals



ISNA

Sports Desk

The Iranian junior team collected five medals – including one gold – at the ASBC Asian Youth & Junior Boxing Championships in Astana, Kazakhstan.

The final showdowns across 13 junior weight classes took place on Thursday, where Iran's Mohammad-Saleh Mesbahi came out on top against the host's Bekarys Nurmukhan to walk away with the ultimate prize of the men's welterweight (66kg) contests.

A second final featuring Iranian and Kazakhstani boxers saw Abdolrahman Dara fall to a 3-2 defeat against home-favorite Zhandos Alpybayev and settle for the middleweight (75kg) silver. Ashkan Hashemi (60kg), Amir-Mohammad Rostampour (63kg), and Abbas Garshasbi (+80kg) were the other Iranian medalists in Astana, finishing their campaigns with three bronzes after last-four losses in their respective weight classes. Hashemi was beaten by Uzbekistan's Sardorbek Saidakbarov in the lightweight semifinal, while Rostampour's run came to an end against Akhmedi Arvaz of Kyrgyzstan.

Garshasbi, meanwhile, left the Kazakhstani capital with a consolation bronze following a setback against Indian Hemant Sangwan in the heavyweight class.

Sepahan appealing to CAS after AFC hands 3-0 loss

Sports Desk

Persian Gulf Pro League club Sepahan said it will lodge an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) after being handed a 3-0 loss against Saudi side Al Ittihad by the Asian Football Confederation.

Thursday's ruling came after Sepahan's home game against Al Ittihad in Group C of the AFC Champions League had been called off minutes before the kickoff on October 3.

The Iranian top-flight side was also fined \$200,000 by the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Committee, while being banned from playing its next three home fixtures in the AFC competitions in Isfahan's Naqsh-e Jahan Stadium.

According to the committee's verdict, Sepahan "persisted in displaying a military and/or political statue in the area surrounding the field of play, and religious, military and/or political banner(s) in the stadium" which led to the cancellation of the match because of "an unsafe and unstable security environment within the stadium."

Sepahan "did not act in a politically neutral manner, and caused reputational damage to the AFC, the AFC Champions League competition and the Asian football generally," the committee's statement read, adding the Iranian club "failed to comply with and implement existing safety rules," as required in the AFC Disciplinary and Ethics Code, while its acts "provoked the general pub-



Sepahan fans are seen in the stands at the Naqsh-e Jahan Stadium for a AFC Champions League game against Al Ittihad in Isfahan, Iran, on October 3, 2023.

RASOUL SHOJAEI/IRNA

lic during the match." Al Ittihad players refused to take to the pitch against Sepahan and flew back to Saudi Arabia right after departing the Naqsh-e Jahan Stadium, with the club writing on X later that they were informed by the AFC's organizing official that "the game would not take place on the scheduled date and

the team is allowed to leave the venue."

In a statement on Oct. 2, the Asian football governing body said the match was cancelled "due to unanticipated and unforeseen circumstances," adding: "The AFC reiterates its commitment towards ensuring the safety and security of the players, match officials,

spectators, and all stakeholders involved."

Several sources, including the Iranian Fars and Tasnim new agencies, reported that the decision to cancel the game was made because of a bust of Iranian Quds Force General Qassem Soleimani, who was assassinated in a US drone strike near the Baghdad airport in January

2020, being placed at the entrance to the pitch.

The result leaves Sepahan third in the group at the Asian elite clubs' competition – equal on four points with second-placed Iraqi side Air Force Club and five adrift of Al Ittihad.

Back-to-back home fixtures will see Sepahan play Uzbekistan's AGMK FC and

Air Force Club – likely at Tehran's Azadi Stadium – on Monday and November 27 respectively, before a final-day away game against Al Ittihad on December 4.

The five group winners in the West Zone of the competition will be joined by the best three runners-up in the round of 16, starting February next year.

Fury v Usyk world title fight pushed back to early next year

THE GUARDIAN – Tyson Fury and Oleksandr Usyk will fight for the undisputed world heavyweight championship in Saudi Arabia early next year, Frank Warren, Fury's promoter, has confirmed.

The fight had been scheduled to take place on 23 December but Fury's unexpectedly difficult bout with Francis Ngannou last weekend forced a postponement. There had been genuine concern that the IBF, one of the four main sanctioning bodies, would refuse to ratify the fight and insist that Usyk, as their champion, face the mandatory contender instead of Fury. But Warren said on Thursday that the IBF had agreed to the delay, on the proviso that it takes place no later than mid-March. "The fight will happen before 2 March and it will be for the undisputed title and all four belts," Warren said. "The IBF have given consent for that now and it's all done. The fight is on. Ev-



GETTY IMAGES

erybody's agreed, and it will be announced fairly soon."

The postponement followed Fury's battle to defeat Ngannou, the former UFC heavyweight champion who switched from mixed martial arts to make his professional boxing debut in Riyadh. Ngannou fought with surprising poise while bringing his customary power to the contest, and he knocked Fury down in the third round. Fury also suffered a cut

on his forehead and he was swollen around his left eye after he won a split decision in a bruising 10-round non-title bout. Warren said that Fury needed a break, even if the fighter himself had declared his readiness to fight Usyk next month. "It's not just the bruising, it's also the fact he was in a 12-week camp and he's got a new baby," Warren said.

Fury will defend his WBC title while Usyk

brings his IBF, WBA and WBO belts to next year's fight in Riyadh which, barring a draw, will produce boxing's first undisputed world heavyweight champion since Lennox Lewis in 1999. Looking ahead to next year's fight, which will probably happen in late February, Warren said: "I think Tyson beats Usyk, I really do. Tyson knows this and he knows what to expect. Usyk's not going to change his style."

Smashed records bring new focus to marathon ahead of New York

REUTERS – As athletes gear up for Sunday's New York City Marathon, falling world records have brought new attention to the distance event after a blockbuster year.

Ethiopian Tigst Assefa shattered the women's marathon record in Berlin in September, lopping more than two minutes from the previous best, with a time of two hours 11 minutes and 53 seconds.

Days later Kenyan Kelvin Kiptum beat compatriot Eliud Kipchoge's world record mark on the men's side with a stunning win in two hours and 35 seconds in Chicago. While another benchmark is unlikely to be surpassed on Sunday – New York's hills stand in contrast to the flatter courses of Berlin and the Windy City – the falling records have brought an extra buzz. "What's happening in the sport globally right now with these super fast times... it does bring this interest and attention to (the sport)," Sam Grotewold, the general manager of professional athletes with New York Road Runners, told Reuters.

"Women running 2:11 in the marathon – something we never thought we'd see. That's a guy's time. I do think it brings this level of interest and sort of awe to



Kelvin Kiptum poses for a photo after finishing in a world record time to win the Chicago Marathon at Grant Park, Chicago, IL, US, on Oct. 8, 2023.

PATRICK GORSKI/USA TODAY SPORTS

watch what's happening in the sport right now."

The Kenyan former world record-holder Brigid Kosgei will make her Big Apple debut after five previous major wins, while her compatriot Sharon Lokedi will defend her New York title. Rounding out a fearsome Kenyan foursome are Peres Jepchirchir, who won in Central Park months after picking up Olympic gold in Tokyo, and Boston Marathon champion Hellen Obiri. Undaunted, Lokedi said the strength of the competition has only made her more excited to return to New York.

"It's nice when you have all those people – like, you all want to win and all want to get the best out of it," she told reporters on Thursday. "So it's good to be in that group."

Kenyan Albert Korir, who won in 2021, Tokyo Olympic silver medalist Abdi Nageeye of the Netherlands and last year's second-place finisher, Shura Kitata, are among the highlights on the men's side, along with the 2022 world champion Tamirat Tola. The Ethiopian Tola ran 2:03:39 in Amsterdam two years ago and said he has already set his sights on the men's world record.

Afghanistan to move up in Iran's trading partners: *Official*

Economy Desk

The economic advisor to the Iranian president's special envoy on Afghanistan affairs said that Afghanistan is set to return to the top of Iran's list of trading partners.

Mohammad-Mehdi Javanmard Ghassab also announced the upcoming visit of an Afghan political-economic delegation to Iran.

Looking at the statistics released by the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA), it can be observed that in recent years, China, Iraq, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Afghanistan have consistently been the largest customers of Iran's non-oil products.

However, since the Iranian year 1401 (started March 21, 2022) and the establishment of the Taliban interim government, Afghanistan was removed from Iran's list of the top five export destinations.

IRICA statistics indicate that in the Iranian year 1397 (started March 21,

2018), Afghanistan accounted for 6.6% of Iran's non-oil exports with total imports of \$6.6 billion.

The trend continued in the following years with some notable changes, except in 1398, and Afghanistan remained one of the top five destinations for Iranian goods.

In the year 1401, after the Taliban came to power, this figure almost halved, as the country's imports from Iran reached the lowest level in recent years at \$1.634 billion. As a result, in the list of non-oil product importers from Iran, other countries including India replaced Afghanistan.

The trend changed in 1402 when the Taliban interim government, after overcoming post-establishment crises in Kabul, showed a commitment to strengthen its ties with traditional trading partners, especially its neighbors like Iran.

This change in the economic relations between the two countries is the result of a special focus by Iran's incumbent government on



its neighbors, on one hand, and the attention given by the interim Taliban government to developing its relations with neighboring countries such as Iran, on

the other hand. These efforts have been strengthened by the exchange of economic delegations between Tehran and Kabul.

Exploring new opportunities for cooperation between Iran and Afghanistan and addressing some of the existing obstacles, alongside holding discus-

sions on topics such as transit and mining cooperation, will be on the agenda of the economic delegations in the upcoming meetings.

Bright prospect for Tehran-Kabul trade

OPINION

The developments in Afghanistan and the takeover of power by the Taliban have created new conditions.

Most influential countries, despite not recognizing the Taliban government, have made extensive efforts to utilize economic opportunities and create new positions to expand their influence in Afghanistan.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, with its 940-kilometer land border with Afghanistan and deep cultural, civilizational, and religious ties, has many capacities for economic and commercial cooperation.

In recent years, the special conditions that Iran's eastern neighbor — which was under American military occupation for about two decades — was working under were the main obstacles to securing deep economic and cultural cooperation.

After the Taliban's takeover in Afghanistan, conditions have changed, and the Islamic Republic of Iran, while not officially recognizing the new government, is making efforts to take advantage of available opportunities.

Cooperation with the Taliban, as a current reality in Afghanistan, in the areas of security, economics, and the preservation of historical and civilizational ties is considered a necessity.

It should be noted that the Taliban is part of the Afghan society and currently runs the government of the country.

Therefore, due to the geographical proximity and the relationship the two have as neighbors, the Islamic Republic of Iran is compelled to strengthen its relations with the government of Afghanistan based on the logic of protecting national interests and national security.

It is necessary to mention that the visits made by political and trade delegations from both countries do not imply Iran's formal recognition of the Taliban; rather, they purely serve Iran's national interests. Other countries like Turkey and Qatar that have not officially recognized the Taliban similarly act in their national interests.

Protocol signed on transport corridor to Europe through Iran

The protocol of China's transport corridor to Europe through Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran and Turkey has been signed by the ministers and representatives of the member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

The signing took place on the sidelines of the first Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) International Transport Forum in

Tashkent on Thursday.

The first transport forum of the SCO was held in Uzbekistan, bringing together representatives from the transportation authorities of member countries and over 60 major companies from 15 countries.

Under the protocol, unification of tariffs and transportation procedures and border processes will be implemented among the countries, on the basis of

which it is expected that a significant share of China's transit to Europe will shift to Iran's East-West transit route.

The financing of infrastructure projects by the Asian Development Bank, completing missing rail and road links, as well as commercializing and strengthening regional corridors, including Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul, Almaty-Tehran-Istanbul and East-West corridors to connect China to Europe and the Caspian Sea were among the other topics discussed at the forum.

Participants underlined the excellent transport and logistics potentials of the SCO member states in the construction and use of Eurasian transit corridors. "East-West multimodal transport connectivity can play an important role in the future, as transport

becomes increasingly multimodal and new opportunities arise to improve existing and develop new Eurasian transport networks," Kazakh Deputy Minister of Transport Talgat Lastayev told the forum.

"Our region is a key region connecting Europe and East Asia, as well as an important region for China's Belt and Road Initiative and Europe's Global Gateway Initiative," Lastayev added. Iran's Deputy Roads and Urban Development Minister for Transportation Affairs Shahriar Afandizadeh outlined the Islamic Republic's "Iran-Rah" transportation initiative, saying its implementation will enable all countries in the region to find safe and cheap access to their surrounding geographical areas.

Iran's special geographical location, being situated

along the international corridors of North-South and East-West, which connect West Asia to East Asia and Europe, has provided a special transit status for the country.

Iran's railway network in the west links with Turkey and Europe; in the northwest, to Azerbaijan; in the north, to the Caspian Sea and Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Russia; in the northeast, to Turkmenistan and Central Asia, Russia and China; in the southeast, to Pakistan, and in the south, to the Persian Gulf and the open waters of the world.

The potential income of Iran's rail transit from trade exchanges between East Asian countries and Europe through the East-West corridor is estimated at about \$1.8 billion, and through the International North-South Transit Cor-

ridor, at about \$90 million per year.

According to the Islamic Parliament Research Center of Iran, the country's annual transit capacity is at least 80 million tons, but only 5.3 million tons of goods went through the country in 2020.

Emerging economic powers such as China and India, which are the main parties pursuing the completion of corridors in the region, are trying to arrange multiple routes for their trade.

Even though none of the trade routes in the region can replace those through Iran, parallel routes can reduce the transit benefits of the country.

Therefore, Iran's delay in securing its share of transit in the region would benefit its competitors and seriously undermine the country's national interests.



Iran to construct wind farms to produce 3,000 MW of electricity

The economic council of the Iranian government approved the construction of 3,000 megawatts of wind power, announced head of Iran's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization (SATBA) Mahmoud Kamani.

For the past year and a half, models for the construction of wind power plants along with solar power plants have been presented and discussed by the council, Press TV reported.

The electricity generated by the wind parks will be pur-

chased by the Ministry of Energy at a rate of 9.5 cents for each kilowatt of electricity, for a period of four and a half years, after which the owners of the power plants can trade it on the Iran Energy Exchange (IRENEX).

The statute of the self-regulatory commodity exchange stipulates that all energy carriers and energy-based derivatives including oil, gas and electricity shall be listed and traded on one of the IRENEX markets.

The company says its mis-

sion is to develop a market in which trade is done under transparency, efficiency and liquidity.

According to Kamani, sites for constructing 40,000 MW of renewable capacity have been identified. In the first phase, tenders will be held for four sites in Khorasan Razavi, South Khorasan, Sistan and Baluchestan, and Zanjan provinces to build wind farms.

In the next phase, tenders will be held in ten other provinces, including Kerman and Semnan, where the nec-

essary appraisals have been completed.

The initial 3,000 MW capacity is estimated to join the national grid in five years since wind power usually takes more time to build than solar power, Kamani said.

In the past, Iranian officials have said there is a potential to install 30,000 MW of wind power and 10,000 MW of solar power capacity across the country.

Currently, Iran has about 450 MW of wind power installed. It has also a capacity of about

440 MW, represented by solar installations.

Iran is a signatory of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement, committing 195 nations to limit their carbon emissions. In its intended nationally determined contribution (INDC) in 2015, Iran committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 4% (unconditional pledge), and up to 12% (conditional on international financial and technical assistance) by 2030, compared to a business-as-usual (BAU) scenario.



How cancerous Israel came ...

What is more interesting and depressing is the fact

that three

years after

the Balfour Declaration,

in the agreements made

by the victors of the First

World War, the adminis-

tration of the Holy Land of

Palestine was handed over

to Britain, granting Bal-

four's promise to the Zion-

ists a practical ground. It

would be naive to assume

that all this was mere co-

incidence. For thousands

of years, the land of Pal-

estine has had cultured,

industrious, agricultural,

and, of course, religious

inhabitants, which the

British gifted to the Zion-

ists through a declaration!

During the illegitimate

lifespan of this occupying,

apartheid, and child-killing

regime, Western govern-

ments have always

strived hard to distort re-

ality and swap the places

of the oppressed and the

oppressor. The Zionists

have always had a blank

check to commit crimes

without fear of punish-

ment or questioning, and

whenever a righteous

voice has arisen in defense

of Palestine, they have

cried anti-Semitism. Re-

cently, in the wake of the

Operation Al-Aqsa Storm,

supporters and nannies

of the Zionist regime

have once again come to

its rescue and have tried

to reverse the truth and

equip and embolden the

fake regime through their

flowery rhetoric. This was

a task previously carried

out by Britain but was

transferred to the United

States after the end of the

Second World War and the

rise of this country within

the international order.

The unconditional

support of the Zionist

regime by the United States

and the United Kingdom is

the main reason for the

failures of the United Nations

Security Council to secure

the rights of Palestinians.

The two countries have

vetoed 45 resolutions of

the council in this regard.

The last case of this

happened recently when

the United States not only

opposed any cessation to

the crimes of the Zionist

regime in Gaza, it refused

to even abstain from vot-

ing on a humanitarian

resolution! In a clear contrast

to its hypocritical claims

about human rights, the

US voted a resolution that

was drafted in order to

open a path for human-

itarian aid to go to civil-

ians in Gaza and further

revealed its support for

the war crimes being

committed in the Gaza

Strip. Needless to say, this

act will be seen as a concrete

example of the United

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Vol. 7425 ● Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023 ● Price 40,000 Rials ● 8 Pages

Nasrallah: Hezbollah entered war on October 8

International Desk

Lebanon's Hezbollah Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah said his movement entered the ongoing battle between Israel and Hamas on October 8, the day after the Palestinian resistance group launched its surprise attack in southern occupied territories. Delivering his first public speech since the start of the conflict, he said the daily exchange of fire with Israeli forces along the Lebanese border might seem modest but it is very important, calling it unprecedented since 1948. Nasrallah said Hezbollah has been escalating its operations by the day and forcing Israel to keep its forces near the Lebanese border instead of Gaza or the occupied West Bank.

'All options open'

Nasrallah noted that all options in the Lebanese front are open, saying that Hezbollah is ready for all possibilities. Nasrallah also confirmed that 57 Hezbollah fighters have been killed so far. He added that "the enemy" is threatening Lebanon and the Lebanese while it sinks in the sands of the Gaza Strip. He said that the Operation Al-Aqsa Storm led to an earthquake in Israel, noting that it has strategic and existential repercussions and

will leave its effects on the present and future of Israel. He called the Palestinian group's decision to launch the October 7 operation right, wise and courageous, adding that it was carried out with the right timing. He added that what is happening in Gaza shows Israel's foolishness and inability because what it is doing is killing children and women. The Hezbollah leader called Israel "frail" and said that for a whole month, it has been unable to record a single military achievement.

'US responsible for conflict'

Addressing the US deployment of warships in the region, Nasrallah said Hezbollah is not intimidated. He accused the US of being entirely responsible for the war in Gaza and calls Israel merely an executive tool. The Hezbollah chief warned that whoever wants to prevent a regional war must quickly stop the war on the Gaza Strip. Israel has relentlessly bombarded the Palestinian territory and sent in ground troops, with the Health Ministry in Gaza saying 9,227 people have been killed, two-thirds of them women and children. Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar on Friday described Israel's actions in Gaza as "something



Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of the Lebanese Hezbollah group, is seen onscreen in Beirut's southern suburbs on November 3, 2023.

● MOHAMED AZAKIR/REUTERS

approaching revenge", in some of the strongest criticism of Israel by a leader of a European Union member state.

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi said on Friday that if the US and a number of European countries had been fairly tried for their crimes against Iraqians during Iraq's imposed war on Iran, as well as 75 years of oppression of Palestinians by Israel, the world would not have been witnessing today the repetition of such crimes in the Palestinian territories.

'Crimes against humanity'

Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan said "crimes against humanity" were being committed in Gaza, and that Ankara was pushing for an international peace conference. "There is no concept that could explain or excuse the brutality that we have witnessed since October 7," Erdogan said during a summit of Turkic States in the Kazakh capital Astana. United Nations experts called on Thursday for a humanitarian cease-fire



in Gaza, saying time was running out for Palestinian people there who find themselves at "grave risk of genocide."

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in Israel on Friday at the start of a new regional tour. "Israel has not only the right but the obligation to defend itself... to make sure that this October 7 never happens again," Blinken told journalists as he met Israeli President Isaac Herzog in Tel Aviv.

He claimed he would seek "concrete steps" from Israel to minimize harm to Palestinian civilians in Gaza. The US House of Representatives on Thursday passed a Republican plan to provide \$14.3 billion in aid to Israel and cut funding of the Internal Revenue Service, despite Democrats' insistence it has no future in the Senate and the White House's promise of a veto.

On Friday morning, the Hamas fighters said they were engaged in close combat with troops northwest of Beit Lahia and had fired missiles at Israeli military vehicles. Israel on Friday also sent back thousands of Gazans who had been working in Israel when the war erupted. The UN human rights office said it was "deeply concerned" about the move.

Battles on the ground

Fresh Israeli strikes hit northern Gaza on Friday, with the Health Ministry reporting at least 15 deaths in Gaza City's Zeitun neighborhood and seven in the Jabalia refugee camp. Late on Thursday, the army

said troops had encircled Gaza City, with Hamas fighters warning Gaza would be a "curse" for Israel whose soldiers would go home "in black bags".

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Economy Desk

Several major civil and water projects were put into operation on Friday during Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's visit to Kurdistan Province in western Iran. During the official trip, Saqqez Martyrs Airport, as the largest construction project in Kurdistan Province, and ten major water projects, including two dams were officially inaugurated. Emphasizing the significance of completing the projects of water and power infrastructure for the country's development, Raisi highlighted Kurdistan Province's potential in



Locals welcome Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi as he arrives at Saqqez Martyrs Airport, Kurdistan Province, which was officially inaugurated with the landing of the president's plane on November 3, 2023.

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fields of production, agriculture, tourism, and industry, saying, "completing the necessary infrastructure for the province is among the government's priorities". After 27 years of waiting, the 180-hectare Saqqez Martyrs Airport, as the largest construction project in Kurdistan, officially opened with the landing of the president's plane on Friday.

Major development projects come on stream in Kurdistan

The airport will play a crucial role in the puzzle of Kurdistan's development and increasing its accessibility in various sectors.

The presence of the Baneh Special Economic Zone, the Baneh-Marivan Free Trade Zone, the official recognition of the Siranband cross-border, and finally the proximity of the airport to the Iran-Iraq border are among the reasons for the importance of this major civil project in the province.

During Raisi's visit to Kurdistan, approximately \$4 million were allocated to complete the project, the construction studies of which began in 1996.

The airport has a runway of 2,600 meters and a 450-meter taxiway, a 2,500-square-meter parking area, 1,300 square meters of street lighting, a control tower, inspection assistance devices, and a

police building.

Also, with the inauguration of various water and sewage projects in Kurdistan, President Raisi said, "With the opening of these projects, the water supply situation in the cities and villages in Kurdistan has improved, and 50 percent of the water crisis has been resolved. During the inauguration ceremony of the permanent pump station in Boyin, Baneh County, Raisi said that 10 major water projects in Kurdistan have become operational, including two dams that were put into operation, as well as works that were carried out in the field of water purification plants, Zarivar Lake in Marivan, and wastewater management. Referring to the reduction in rainfall in some areas of the country, Raisi said that the government is pursuing proper and efficient water resource manage-



ment. Through planning,

the government aims to provide the required water to the shareholders and water applicants, despite water resource shortages and reduced precipitation. The government's initial goal, as announced by the president, is to alleviate water stress in 10,000 villages from the beginning of his term (in August, 2021). He said that today, through dedicated efforts, the gov-



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi inaugurates the permanent pump station in Boyin, Baneh County, Kurdistan Province, on November 3, 2023.

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ernment is addressing water issues in 3,500 villages in the country, and by the end of this government's term, they plan to resolve water-related problems in 10,000 villages.