Iran denies involvement in attacks on US bases

International Desk

Iran's permanent ambassador to the United Nations has categorically rejected the US's "baseless" accusations of the involvement of Iran's Armed Forces in attacks on US positions in Iraq and Syria.

In a letter to the UN Security Council's president on Monday, Amir Saeid Iravani said, "There is no group affiliated with Iran's Armed Forces, whether in Iraq, Syria, or elsewhere, that operates directly or indirectly under the control of the Islamic Republic of Iran or acts on its behalf."

He added that Iran is not responsible for the actions of any individual or group in the region.

US Ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, in a letter to the Security Council on Friday, claimed that "militia groups affiliated with the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces" were involved in "actions against US personnel and facilities in Iraq and Syria".

US military bases in Iraq and Syria

have been the target of resistance groups over the past years. The strikes have increased in recent months, especially after the Israeli regime launched a devastating aggression against the Gaza Strip in response to Hamas's October 7 attack on the occupied territories. Resistance groups say the strikes are in response to US support for the Israeli aggression which has claimed the lives of more than 26,000 people in the Palestinian territory.

In the latest strike, three American troops were killed after a US base located on Jordan's border with Syria was targeted by drones on Sunday

More than 40 others were injured in the attack, according to Pentagon deputy press secretary Sabrina Singh.

The attack marked a significant escalation after roughly 165 attacks on US and coalition forces since October 17, further raising concerns over a broader conflict breaking out in the Middle East.

"We do not seek another war.



This satellite photo shows a military base known as Tower 22 in northeastern Jordan, where three American troops were killed in a drone strike on January 28, 2024.

PLANET LABS PBC/AP

We do not seek to escalate. But we will absolutely do what is required to protect ourselves ... and to respond appropriately to these attacks," US National Security spokesman John Kirby said on Monday.

The Kremlin on Tuesday called for de-escalation of tensions in the Middle East after Washington vowed to respond to the attack in Jordan.

"In our view, the overall level of tension is very alarming and, on the contrary, now is the time for steps to de-escalate tensions," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

China also reacted to the attack, warning against a "cycle of retaliation" in the Middle East.

Beijing said Tuesday it had "noted reports of casualties caused by the



attack on a US military base".
"We have also noted that Iran stated that it had nothing to do with the attack," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin

said.

"We hope that all relevant parties will remain calm and restrained... in order to avoid falling into a vicious cycle of retaliation and prevent further escalation of regional tension," he added.

"The situation in the Middle East is currently highly complex and sensitive," Wang said.

Shameless grave robber

Israel returns dozens of exhumed Gazan bodies

WHO: UNRWA issue distraction from Gaza crisis

International Desk

The spokesman for the World Health Organization Christian Lindmeier called the row over the United Nations' Palestinian refugee agency "a distraction from what's really going on every day, every hour, every minute in Gaza".

His remarks came after Israel accused around a dozen staff of the main UN aid agency for Palestinians of taking part in the Hamas October 7 attack on the occupied territories. The issue has led to suspension of UNRWA funding by some Western nations.

"As important as this discussion is, let's not forget what the real issues are on the ground," said Lindmeier.

Russia on Tuesday also criticized the decision by several countries to suspend their funding, calling it a form of "collective punishment".

"What has happened and is happening is collective punishment, prohibited by international humanitarian law," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said.

An investigation into accusations UNRWA staff were involved in the October 7 attack should not be replaced by "collective punishment" of the agency and Gazan people, he added.

UNRWA has fired several employees and promised a thorough investigation into the claims, which were not specified.

Bombardment continues

Deadly fighting and bombardment rocked Gaza on Tuesday as international mediators pushed for a new halt in the Israel's war on Gaza and a deal to release captives. Heavy Israeli strikes and urban combat across the besieged Gaza Strip killed 128 more people overnight, the health ministry in the Palestinian territory said on Tuesday.

The epicenter of fighting has been the southern city of Khan Yunis, where vast areas have been reduced to a muddy wasteland of bombed-out buildings.

In the Israeli-occupied West Bank, where

violence has surged since the start of the war, Israeli undercover troops raided a hospital in the northern city of Jenin, killing three men.

Some of the Israeli agents were dressed as medical staff and carried a wheelchair and baby carrier as props, according to officials and hospital CCTV footage released by the Ramallah-based Palestinian health ministry. Hamas said one of the three killed, Muhammad Jalamnah, was a commander in its armed wing.

The Palestinian health ministry stressed that hospitals enjoy special protection under international law and urged the United Nations to help end Israel's "daily string of crimes... against our people and health centers".

In the latest efforts to broker a new truce, a meeting in Paris on Sunday between top US, Israeli, Egyptian and Qatari officials resulted in a proposed framework. Hamas confirmed on Tuesday that it had received the proposal, saying on its Telegram account that it was "in the process of examining it and delivering its response".

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose office earlier also called the talks "constructive", on Tuesday ruled out releasing "thousands" of Palestinian prisoners as part of any deal to halt fighting in Gaza.

In southern Gaza, Palestinians buried dozens of bodies in a mass grave after officials said Israel returned remains it had exhumed from the territory. The Israeli military did not respond to a request to comment, although it has previously made remarks about exhuming bodies from Gaza graves in search of Israeli captives.

A second source at Gaza's ministry of religious affairs said Israel "stole them from Bani Suheila cemetery, east of Khan Yunis" around two weeks ago.

The government media office in Gaza accused Israel of removing organs from the bodies.

Hamas fighters took captive of 250 people, of whom Israel says around 132 remain in Gaza, including the bodies of at least 28 dead captives.

Iran summons British envoy to protest accusations



Iran's Foreign Ministry on Tuesday summoned the British ambassador to Tehran to protest against London's accusations against Iran.

"Following the continuation of the British regime's accusations against the Islamic Republic of Iran, Simon Shercliff, the British ambassador in Tehran, was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs... and was

informed of our country's strong protest", a ministry's statement said.

The statement said this is a bitter irony that a country that is the founder and supporter of organized terrorist groups, drug trafficking, and criminal gangs level accusations against the Islamic Republic and its loyal forces who are on the front line of fighting against organized crimes.

Notice of tender for export sale No. Z/1402/19 GolGohar Mining and Industrial Company Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgobar website; way and its

and export 70.000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B at Barco Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran. Interested bidders should find tender documents at Golgohar website: ww.geg.ir. All bids on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later than 14:00 P.M. on 12. Feb.2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department

of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and personal identification of the representative. Tender results shall be announced at 10:00 A.M. on 13.Feb.2024 at the office of the Seller.

GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.

Analysis %			
Min	65.00	Fe	
Ave	1.2	FeO	
Max	0.05	Р	
Max	0.01	S	
Max	3.5	SiO2	
Max	0.7	Al2O3	
Max	0.9	CaO	-1
Max	2.5	MgO	
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Notice of tender for export Analysis % sale No. Z/1402/20 Ave 1.2 FeO 0.05 Max P IGohar Mining and Industrial Company Max 0.01 S Hereby Golgohar Mining & Industrial Co. announces selling and export 70.000 metric tons of Pellet (%Fe:65.00) on basis of F.O.B Max SiO2 3.5 at Rajaee Jetty Bandar Abbas - Iran, Interested bidders should Al2O3 Max 0.7 find tender documents at Golgohar website: ww.geg.ir. All bids Max 0.9 CaO on conformity to tender instructions must be submitted no later 2.5 MgO than 14:00 P.M. on 12. Feb.2024 to Golgohar complex in sirjan (50 km in shiraz road). Ave 250 CCS(kg/p) Bidders are invited to the transactions commission department Min 90 8-16 mm% of the seller with an introduction letter of interested buyer and Ave5 -6 mm% personal identification of the representative. Tender results Max 3.8 A.1% shall be announced at 10:00 A.M. on 13.Feb.2024 at the office T.1% Min 95 of the Seller. 19-24 Prosity% **GOLGOHAR MINING & INDUSTRIAL CO.**

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