

Real impact of Iran's strike yet to be seen



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OPINION EXCLUSIVE

In the midst of the behind-the-scenes negotiations between Israel's supporters and Iran to stave off Iran's retaliatory measures against the Zionist regime, they agreed to broker a cease-fire deal in the Gaza Strip on the condition that Iran refrained from striking back at Israel. However, in reality, they were not forthright in their remarks; their true intention was to steer Iran away from retaliating against Israel's earlier raid on Iran's consulate in Syria. A few days ago, upon learning that Iran's military retaliation against the Zionist regime was imminent, the Western parties reached out to Iran, offering to acquiesce to Tehran's terms in return for Iran holding back its military response to Israel. Nevertheless, Iran declared its intent to strike back at

the Israelis, asserting that its response was a rightful act in the face of Israel's provocation. Citing Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, Iran asserted its right to revenge and respond militarily to the Israeli attack at the Iranian consulate in Syria. Iran conveyed to the West that if they desired a more restrained reaction from Iran, an official announcement of peace in Gaza was necessary. They pledged to make this declaration within a few weeks. However, Iran needed to make a prompt decision. Subsequently, the Western parties put forward another argument, insisting that the Israeli captives held by Hamas must be released before any further action. Iran perceived that the Western parties were aiming to replay their previous ploy with Hamas, merely seeking to stall and not genuinely pursuing peace. Their aim was to prolong their media campaign and misguide Iran's reaction to Israeli aggression. It was on this basis that Iran retaliated militarily against Israel. The Westerners cautioned against

an attack, advising for limitations if an attack were to occur, and specifying that any attack should not originate from Iranian territory. However, Iran defied all their pleas to prevent Israel from violating international law by attacking a consulate and contravening sovereignty of a nation. Israel's threat of military action against Iran was deliberated within the Supreme National Security Council. Iran has made it clear that should Israel proceed with military action; it will respond at least tenfold more extensively and forcefully than Operation True Promise. In Operation True Promise, Israel was given the heads up a few days back that Iran would only go after military targets, steering clear of widespread destruction. Iran announced that its aim was just to deliver a blow as a form of punishment. During this operation, Iran unleashed a fraction of its military might on Israel to send a strong message that it would not hesitate when it comes to protecting its national interests. While it's true that Iran only uti-

lized a small portion of its military clout in this strike, the real impact lies in the missiles and drones involved. The full extent of the operation's consequences and losses is yet to be seen. Despite spending over a billion dollars to fend off Iran's assault and rallying multiple nations to halt the attack, they were unable to withstand even a fraction of Iran's overwhelming power. Their attempt to justify their failure through a misleading media campaign is evident. I firmly believe that the Zionist regime has suffered a severe setback across various political, military, and economic fronts during this operation, and the repercussions cannot be quickly remedied. From Iran's perspective, it exercised legitimate defense, but any future aggression toward Iran will undoubtedly trigger a harsh response. It's evident that the Zionists' reputation took a significant hit due to Operation True Promise, tarnishing its image and credibility further. Meanwhile, messages were relayed to Iran from regional countries and some of Israel's



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allies, urging Iran to refrain from attacking, claiming that Iran lacked the military and technological prowess to engage Israel in combat. Should Israel and its allies take any hostile actions against Iran, Iran will unleash other segments of its military might, targeting all

the bases and regions earmarked for use against it. During the emergency Security Council meeting concerning Iran's strike, some nations voiced their support for Iran's right to legitimate defense, showcasing that there are still advocates for justice in the world.

Remembering Dien Bien Phu: A landmark victory in fight for Vietnamese independence

PERSPECTIVE EXCLUSIVE

On the occasion of the celebration of the Dien Bien Phu Victory (May 07, 1954-May 07, 2024), H. E. Mr. Luong Quoc Huy, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Islamic Republic of Iran presents the significance of the event:

On September 2, 1945, after the victory of the August Revolution, President Ho Chi Minh read the Declaration of Independence, declaring to the whole world the birth of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. However, the French colonialists once again intended to use force to reestablish domination over the country. On September 23, 1945, they opened fire to capture Saigon (the city that is nowadays called Ho Chi Minh City), starting the second invasion of Vietnam. Even though the revolutionary government of Vietnam was still young and facing a lot of difficulties, with the will "rather sacrifice everything than lose the nation" the People's Army of Vietnam, under the leadership of the Communist Party and the support of the entire nation, were determined to defeat the French colonialists, with several successful operations, such as "Viet Bac Campaign" in the fall and winter

of 1947, "Border Campaign" in 1950... From the autumn to winter of 1953, the resistance war against the French colonialists took a new turn beneficial to Vietnam. From the defensive position, the Vietnamese army and people took control of the battlefield, continuously launching offensives and counterattacks against the enemy. To save the situation, the French colonialists developed the Navarre Plan, the highest effort supported by the American imperialists, to increase troop strength and military spending, aiming at destroying most of Vietnam's regular forces, to control the territory of Vietnam and pacify Indochina within 18 months. The French expeditionary commander made an airborne insertion of French paratroopers to occupy Dien Bien Phu (a strategic position in the NorthWest of Vietnam), built up an army and military bases there, turned it into the firmest stronghold in Indochina, the so-called "unbreakable fortress". It had 49 bases, divided into three sub-zones for mutual support, with a solid defense structure. The French colonialist army gathered here more than 16,200 troops including 17 infantry battalions, 3 artillery battalions, 1 engineer battalion, 1 tank company, 1 air force squadron, and 1 motorized transport company, to crush Vietnam's army and people.

On the Vietnamese side, to maintain the strategic posture, the Politburo decided to launch the Winter-Spring offensive, with the motto: "Proactively, actively, flexibly destroying the enemy's troop strength, consolidating forces, promoting guerrilla warfare, forcing the enemy to scatter its forces". On December 6, 1953, the Politburo met and decided to wage the Dien Bien Phu Campaign and adopted an operation plan, designated General Vo Nguyen Giap as Commander-in-Chief. The whole country braced itself up for the Dien Bien Phu front in the spirit of "All for the front line, all for victory". The regular forces quickly regrouped, gathered 40,000 troops including 04 divisions of infantry and 01 division of artillery, opened roads through mountains and forests, pulled in artillery pieces, built battlefields, and were ready for offensives. About 260,000 militiamen and young volunteers were also mobilized for Dien Bien Phu, ensuring logistics support for the campaign. With three big offensive campaigns, after 56 days and nights of "digging tunnels through the mountains, sleeping in shelters, shedding sweat and blood", the Vietnamese army fought bravely and resiliently and captured the Dien Bien Phu stronghold. At exactly 17:30 hrs, on May 7, 1954, the "Determine to fight and

determine to win" flag of the People's Army fluttered over the bunker of French General De Castries, putting a complete end to the resistance war against French colonialists, opening a new era, the period of building socialism in the North, creating a favorable premise for the liberation of the South, and national reunification. Dien Bien Phu's victory was an immortal epic of miracle people war and a pinnacle of Vietnam's resistance war against the French colonialists' aggression, creating the basis for concluding the Geneva Agreement to end the war and restore peace in Vietnam. It also opened a new revolutionary period: the transition of the North of Vietnam to socialism meanwhile creating favorable conditions for the liberation of the South and the unification of the country at a later stage. The Victory affirmed the Party's correct and creative resistance policy as well as the growth of the Vietnam People's Army. It put an end to the French colonialism in Indochina, triggering the process of the collapse of the old colonialism all over the world. Seventy years have passed, but the Dien Bien Phu Victory-"the famous triumph that shook the world" remains a source of pride for the Vietnamese people due to its great significance for the cause of building and protecting the fatherland.

Region's madman now rightly hesitant



By Syed Ali Hassan
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Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Baqeri has recently cautioned Israel that any new mistake against the Islamic Republic of Iran will be responded to within seconds. So, whatever happens will not only challenge Israel's security but also undermine it. It is clear that Iran has shattered the Israeli arrogance and deterrence. Both the Israeli leadership and its people are divided. Despite the moderate Jewish forces in Israel reaching an agreement that it's best not to take further action against Iran after its attacks, the Zionist majority opposes this idea. Saturday night, Iran launched air strikes directly against Israel, without employing its modern drones and missiles so as to avoid escalating tensions in the region. By analyzing the statements released by Iran's leadership following the event, it becomes evident that Iran prioritizes peace. Tehran has been supporting the cease-fire in Gaza since day one. Israel's desire for Palestinians to surrender Gaza will not materialize as Tel Aviv has shown an inability to achieve its universally condemned objectives through ground operations against Hamas. It wants Hamas to accept its preposterous cease-fire conditions, but that's not going to happen. For one thing, Israel's history of not honoring agreements and cease-fires is not commendable, to say the least. Through the years, Israel and its allies have reached a number of deals with Palestinians, including Oslo and Camp David, but they did not adhere to a single one. Reports from Iran suggest that the political leadership has delegated the authority to respond to any "Israeli mistake" to the military leadership, and this time, Iran will not hold back on using its weapons. This can possibly endanger Israel's existence. Now that Iran has damaged Iran's reputation, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Turkey, and Azerbaijan should find the courage

to prioritize Muslim solidarity and brotherhood and stop the hand that spills Palestinian blood. Here, we should commend the governments of Iraq, Qatar, Yemen, Lebanon, Oman, and Kuwait, who have supported Iran in various ways, for their zeal. Western imperialism knows very well why Muslim societies are filled with resentment against the West. Western countries are at the doorstep of Muslims. Through condemned interventions, they try to keep the Muslim Ummah subjugated. They have seated Israel as the Middle East's madman so that no one can dare to cut off the hands of the looters. On April 1, when the Israeli cabinet attacked the Iranian embassy compound in Damascus, it was expected that Muslim countries would convene an emergency meeting and express solidarity with Iran. It would have sent a clear message to Israel and its mentors that a grave mistake had been made. However, this did not happen. When Iran lodged a complaint at the Security Council, justice was not served there, either. Therefore, Iran was justified in responding to Israel. Despite all Israeli provocations, Iran has taken a measured response. Now, the ball is in Israel's court. The Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim strongly urged Tel Aviv on Monday not to take any retaliatory action, as it would only escalate tensions in the Middle East. He said that Iran's drone and missile attack on Israel two days ago was justified and legitimate. Evidently, Malaysia has adopted a realistic position. The world needs to show a similar reaction. Only then will Israel be able to understand the true meaning and extent of its international responsibilities and commitments. The Israeli cabinet has already admitted that as a result of Iran's retaliatory "Operation True Promise", Israeli military bases have been damaged. Israeli political and military leadership should ask themselves: if the April 1 mistake led to such a forceful response, then how will Iran respond to an operation carried out in Iranian territory? The specter of a major war cannot be ignored.