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मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

Iraq

23 PKK militants killed in Turkish air strikes in northern Iraq

Iraqi News, October 02, 2022

The Turkish army announced on Sunday it killed 23 militants belong to Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in air strikes in northern Iraq, according to a statement issued by the Turkish Ministry of Defense.

The statement mentioned that Turkish air strikes targeted terrorists in Asos area located 140 kilometers from the Turkish-Iraqi border. The statement indicated that the number of militants killed in the operation might increase.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/23-pkk-militants-killed-in-turkish-air-strikes-in-northern-iraq/>

Iranian artillery bombards villages in Erbil again

Iraqi News, October 03, 2022

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards bombarded again on Monday villages of Sidkan area in Erbil governorate in northern Iraq. For the eighth day in a row, the Iranian artillery bombarded villages in Sidkan area in Erbil governorate, and no casualties have been reported, Baghdad Today News mentioned. Last Thursday, the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned the Iranian Ambassador to Iraq, and handed him a strongly worded protest note against the repeated bombing of Kurdistan region.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iranian-artillery-bombards-villages-in-erbil-again/>

Iran targets opposition sites in Iraq using artillery and drones

Iraqi News, October 04, 2022

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards announced on Tuesday it launched a new attack using artillery and drones against sites of armed opposition in Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Tasnim News Agency mentioned that the ground force of the Revolutionary Guards resumed on Tuesday the bombing of sites of what it called 'separatist terrorists' in Sidkan area and other mountainous areas in Kurdistan region with artillery, missiles and Qods Mohajer-6 drones. The Revolutionary Guards began launching these attacks on September 24 in response to the movements of these terrorists and their attempt to stir up unrest and chaos in Iran, which is still ongoing, Tasnim News Agency added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iran-targets-opposition-sites-in-iraq-using-artillery-and-drones/>

Iraq's representative calls on Security Council to condemn Iran's bombing

Iraqi News, October 04, 2022

Iraq's representative to the United Nations, Mohamed Bahr Al-Uloom, called on the Security Council on Tuesday to support his country's sovereignty and condemn the Iranian aggression on Iraq. Bahr Al-Uloom told the Security Council that the Iranian bombing of Kurdistan region led to the killing of Iraqis and terrified the citizens. Bahr Al-Uloom indicated that the Iranian Ambassador to Iraq had been handed a protest note against the repeated bombing of Kurdistan region.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqs-representative-calls-on-security-council-to-condemn-irans-bombing/>

Iraqi Parliament to investigate Iranian bombing of Kurdistan

Iraqi News Agency, October 05, 2022

The Iraqi Parliament announced on Wednesday it opened an investigation into the Iranian bombing of sites in Kurdistan region in northern Iraq. Rapporteur of the Security and Defense Committee in the Iraqi parliament, Sakfan Yusef, said that the committee discussed on Tuesday the Iranian bombing of headquarters of Kurdish opposition parties in Kurdistan region, according to Rudaw News. Yusef added that the committee decided to summon military and security leaders to provide clarification on this issue, Rudaw News added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqi-parliament-to-investigate-iranian-bombing-of-kurdistan/>

Iran bombards Kurdistan region for the 12th day

Iraqi News Agency, October 05, 2022

The Iranian Revolutionary Guards renewed on Wednesday its shelling of villages in Sidkan area in Erbil governorate in northern Iraq. The bombardment is ongoing for 12 days, it targeted villages in Sidkan area, but the losses have not been identified yet, Kurdistan 24 reported. Last Wednesday, the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, using missiles and drones, bombarded areas in Kurdistan Region, killing 18 people and wounding 58 others, Kurdistan 24 mentioned. Kurdistan Counter-Terrorism Directorate mentioned in a statement that the Iranian bombing targeted public places such as kindergartens, schools, health

centers, hospitals, event halls and civilian homes, Kurdistan 24 added.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iran-bombards-kurdistan-region-for-the-12th-day/>

Missile attack targets Turkish military base in Nineveh

Iraqi News, October 09, 2022

A missile attack targeted on Saturday a base where Turkish soldiers are stationed in Nineveh governorate in northern Iraq, Kurdish media reported. The Counter Terrorism Directorate (CTD) of the Kurdistan Region Security Council (KRSC) mentioned that four missiles were fired towards the Turkish camp located in Bashiqa town, northeast of Mosul city, Kurdish media outlets reported. The CTD indicated that the missiles were launched from the Al-Shallalat area, which is under the control of the federal government, according to Kurdistan 24

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/missile-attack-targets-turkish-military-base-in-nineveh/>

Revolutionary Guards announces cessation of Kurdistan bombing

Iraqi News, October 09, 2022

Iranian security sources revealed that the attacks of the Revolutionary Guards on Kurdistan stopped after destroying specific targets, according to Al-Alam channel. The Iranian security sources confirmed that the continuation of the Iranian attacks will depend on the future behavior of the authorities of Kurdistan region. "If the authorities of Kurdistan region took a

reasonable decision and stopped the evil behaviors of the separatist and anti-Iranian groups, this cease-fire will continue, and if this does not happen, the Revolutionary Guards will resume their operations against these groups,” the security source mentioned.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/revolutionary-guards-announces-cessation-of-kurdistan-bombing/>

Iraqi PM emphasizes military cooperation between Iraq and Lebanon

Iraqi News, October 12, 2022

The Iraqi Prime Minister, Mustafa Al-Kadhimi, stressed on Wednesday the importance of developing security and military cooperation between Iraq and Lebanon. A statement issued by the media office of the Prime Minister mentioned that Al-Kadhimi received the commander-in-chief of the Lebanese army, Joseph Aoun, where both sides discussed the bilateral relations between the two countries and ways of enhancing joint cooperation. The statement elaborated that Al-Kadhimi and Aoun also discussed mechanisms for supporting the military institution to improve its performance.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraqi-pm-emphasizes-military-cooperation-between-iraq-and-lebanon/>

Iraq postpones first nuclear power plant project

Iraqi News, October 12, 2022

The head of the Iraqi Radioactive Sources Regulatory Authority (IRSRA), Kamal Hussein Latif, announced on Tuesday the postponement of the project to build the

first nuclear power plant in Iraq due to the failure to form a new government. In a statement to the Iraqi News Agency (INA), Latif explained that a committee was formed to discuss the possibility of signing contracts with countries that made progress in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and the committee submitted the study to the Prime Minister, Mustafa Al-Kadhimi. “The committee completed its work seven months ago, but the issue remained pending because of the inability to form a new government.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/iraq-postpones-first-nuclear-power-plant-project/>

Missile attack targets gas field in northern Iraq

Iraqi News, October 13, 2022

A missile attack targeted Khor Mor gas field in Chamchamal town in Sulaymaniyah governorate in northern Iraq on Wednesday, according to Rudaw News.

Three missiles hit the Khor Mor field in the most recent attack targeting the gas field, Rudaw News mentioned. The attack that did not cause any damages is the second in the three months as the gas field was targeted last July by three Katyusha rockets.

Several missiles landed near Knor Mor gas field and no damage or casualties were reported, according to Kurdistan 24. No party claimed responsibility for the attack, and neither this attack nor the previous ones affected the production operations in the gas field which is the largest in the Kurdistan region and Iraq.

<https://www.iraqinews.com/iraq/missile-attack-targets-gas-field-in-northern-iraq/>

Iran

Top commander vows avenge for martyrdom of IRGC members, civilians in Zahedan

Fars News Agency, October 02, 2022

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Brigadier General Hossein Salami underlined his country's resolve to take revenge for the martyrdom of IRGC and Basij members as well as civilians in Friday terror attacks on the Southeastern city of Zahedan in Sistan and Baluchestan province. Maj. Gen. Salami said in a statement on Saturday that the IRGC will continue to counter the plots of the arrogant powers and terrorists affiliated with foreign intelligence agencies in Sistan and Baluchestan. He also offered his condolences on the deaths of four IRGC members in the attack and thanked the wise people of the province for their unity and cooperation with security forces against such terrorist attacks.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010710000193/Top-Commander-Vows-Avenge-for-Martyrdom-of-IRGC-Members-Civilians-in-Zahedan>

IRGC commander warns of devastating response to US, UK, S. Arabia hostile moves

Fars News Agency, October 02, 2022

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami blamed the United States, the United Kingdom and Saudi Arabia for meddling in Iran's internal affairs, and warned that Tehran will not hesitate for a moment to smash enemies. Speaking at a ceremony in the capital Tehran on Sunday

as he addressed the root causes of the recent unrest in Iran, Major General Salami warned "foreign powers against plotting against the Islamic Republic", stressing that enemies have launched "a political and media campaign to make up for their failures".

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010710000557/IRGC-Commander-Warns-of-Devasaing-Respense-US-UK-S-Arabia-Hsile-Mves>

Chemical weapons a serious threat to international peace and security: ambassador

Tehran Times, October 02, 2022

"As the main victim of the most systematic use of chemical weapons in modern history, the Islamic Republic of Iran once again condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the use of chemical weapons by anyone, anywhere, and under any circumstances. We share this view that the use of such inhumane weapons, which pose a serious threat to international peace and security, must not be tolerated," Iravani said. He made the remarks at a UN Security Council meeting on Syria.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477248/Chemical-weapons-a-serious-threat-to-international-peace-and>

N. chief blames world powers for attempts to hinder Iran's access to modern sciences

Fars News Agency, October 03, 2022

Eslami said in a meeting with Iranian professors on Sunday that there is a firm determination to prevent Tehran from gaining access to new technologies, criticizing big powers for their opposition

in this regard. "Efforts have been underway by certain countries since the 1979 Islamic Revolution to halt Iran's technological progress, especially nuclear industry, by leveling baseless accusations against the Islamic Republic," the official noted.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010711000156/N-Chief-Blames-Wrld-Pwers-fr-Aemps-Hinder-Iran's-Access-Mdern>

More messages being exchanged between Tehran, Washington: Iran FM

Tehran Times, October 03, 2022

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian asserts that fresh messages have been exchanged between Tehran and Washington in an effort to further align their positions on the revival of the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement and the lifting of anti-Iran sanctions. He said that his recent visit to New York gave him the chance to bring the perspectives of the two parties (Iran and the U.S.) closer together and that Iran thinks the current state of the negotiations is positive.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477284/More-messages-being-exchanged-between-Tehran-Washington-Iran>

Navy commander: Iran, Pakistan, Oman to set up maritime security center

Fars News Agency, October 04, 2022

Commander of the Iranian Army's Navy Rear Admiral Shahram Irani announced that Iran along with Pakistan and Oman will open a joint maritime security center in the near future. Rear Admiral Irani made the announcement in a ceremony held at Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization to mark World Maritime Day. He said that the joint

center formed by Iran, Oman and Pakistan will be in contact with all maritime security centers across the world and will focus on the Indian Ocean. The Navy commander, however, did not give a specific time on when the center will open.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010712000427/Navy-Cmmander-Iran-Pakistan-Oman-Se-Up-Mariime-Secriy-Cener>

The Takeaway: As protests rage, is Iran moving toward nuclear deal?

Al-Monitor, October 05, 2022

As protests against Iran's government continue over its treatment of women and civil liberties, Tehran may be signaling that it is closer to accepting the latest version of the Iranian nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). There are several reasons to think a deal may be closer than it was less than two weeks ago. The European Union and United States thought they were close to a deal with Iran in August, but Iran insisted that it wouldn't proceed until an investigation by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the global watchdog overseeing Iran's nuclear program, was stopped. This dispute now appears on track to being settled.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/takeaway-protests-rage-iran-moving-toward-nuclear-deal#ixzz7iEbCK712>

IRGC launches fresh round of anti-terror military operation in Iraq

Fars News Agency, October 05, 2022

The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced that its ground forces

have once again targeted strongholds of anti-Iran terrorists in Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region using missiles and drones. The IRGC's Ground Force pounded the positions of terror groups in Sidekan, North of Erbil in Kurdistan region on Tuesday, with multiple rocket launchers, precision-strike weapons and drones. During the attacks, a gathering joined by one of the terrorist groups' commanders was targeted, inflicting heavy losses on them. The IRGC has in recent days launched a series of aerial raids on the positions of Iraqi Kurdistan-based terrorist groups.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010713000085/IRGC-Lanches-Fresh-Rnd-f-Ani-Terr-Miliary-Operain-in-Ira>

US targets senior Iranian officials with new sanctions

Al-Monitor, October 06, 2022

The United States on Thursday imposed sanctions on seven senior Iranian leaders linked to the country's violent suppression of nationwide protests and continued clampdown on internet access. Those blacklisted by the Treasury Department include Iranian Communications Minister Eisa Zarepour, who it blamed for Iran's digital crackdown, and Minister of the Interior Ahmad Vahidi, who has oversight of Iran's Law Enforcement Forces (LEF). The LEF are to blame for "at least dozens of casualties in the recent demonstrations against the morality police," the department said.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/us-targets-senior-iranian-officials-new-sanctions#ixzz7iEeBkg6T>

Iran won't leave negotiating table: Raisi

Tehran Times, October 08, 2022

Iranian President Ayatollah Seyed Ebrahim Raisi has said that Iran remains committed to proceeding with negotiations in Vienna. In a speech delivered Saturday in the all-female University of Al-Zahra on the occasion of the start of the new academic year, President Raisi touched on the talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015 nuclear deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), among other issues. Ayatollah Raisi explained the logic of the government in the negotiations to lift the sanctions and the enemy's attempt to impose its conditions on Iran and said, "We announced from the beginning that we would not leave the negotiation table, but we would stick to honorable negotiations, and today the logic of the Islamic Republic of Iran is accepted in the world."

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477394/Iran-won-t-leave-negotiating-table-Raisi>

Iran racing to expand enrichment at underground plant, IAEA report shows

Haaretz, October 11, 2022

Iran is rapidly expanding its ability to enrich uranium with advanced centrifuges at its underground plant at Natanz and now intends to go further than previously planned, a confidential U.N. nuclear watchdog report seen by Reuters showed on Monday.

<https://www.haaretz.com/middle-east-news/2022-10-11/ty-article/iran-racing-to-expand-enrichment-at-underground-plant-iaea-report-shows/00000183-c43d-d751-abff-cebd65780000>

Are Iranian suicide drones performing poorly in Russia-Ukraine war?

The Jerusalem Post, October 12, 2022

Some of the Iranian suicide drones used by Russia are unlikely to be fulfilling their purpose as a deep strike munition, with many being destroyed before hitting their target, the United Kingdom's Defense Ministry said in an intelligence update on Wednesday. Around 60% of the 86 Iranian Shahed-136 drones launched by Russia in its bombardment of Ukraine on Monday were reportedly shot down by Ukrainian forces. "These UAVs are slow and fly at low altitudes making lone aircraft easy to target using conventional air defenses," said the UK Defense Ministry, but did note that "There is a realistic possibility that Russia has achieved some success by attacking with several UAVs at the same time."

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-719487>

Iranian diplomat raises concern over militarized approaches by states in space, cyberspace

Sputnik International, October 12, 2022

Haidar-Ali Baluji, the First Counselor to the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations, expressed concern over the militarized and politicized approaches adopted by some countries regarding outer space and cyberspace, noting that both areas should be used only for peaceful purposes. "I would like to discuss the militarized and politicized approach taken by certain countries regarding outer space and cyberspace. We are steadfast in our principled position that both domains

should be utilized exclusively for peaceful purposes, and this can best be achieved by agreeing on legally binding instruments for both," Baluji said in a statement addressing the 77th session of the UN General Assembly in New York on Tuesday, as quoted by the IRNA news agency.

<https://sputniknews.com/20221012/iranian-diplomat-raises-concern-over-militarized-approaches-by-states-in-space-cyberspace-1101760437.html>

Iran's N. chief confirms uranium enrichment with new centrifuges at Natanz facility

Fars News Agency, October 13, 2022

Eslami said on Wednesday that Iran has now launched the third cascade of centrifuges at Natanz. He noted that this is confidential and that the IAEA must observe confidentiality, but the body has as usual leaked such information in violation of the rule. The AEOI chief added that Iran as a member of the IAEA, abides by the agency's treaties and carries out all its activities under the supervision of the UN oversight body. The official stressed that in view of all those points, Iran in advance notifies the IAEA of all its plans, intentions and actions.

<https://www.farsnews.ir/en/news/14010721000162/Iran's-N-Chief-Cnfirms-Uranim-Enrichmen-wih-New-Cenrifges-a-Naanz>

IRGC ground force to hold large drill in Aras

Tehran Times, October 14, 2022

Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) ground forces has announced that Iran is set to hold a large

military exercise in the next few days in the general area of Aras in northwest Iran. “A large exercise by the IRGC ground forces will be held in the coming days in the northern borders of the country and the general area of Aras,” Mohammad Pakpour stated. He said it is in accordance with the regular annual exercises and improving the combat readiness of the IRGC ground forces.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477581/IRGC-ground-force-to-hold-large-drill-in-Aras>

Report: Iran warns EU over sanctions threat

Al-Monitor, October 14, 2022

Iran is warning the European Union over the supranational body’s threat of new sanctions. The US news outlet Politico reported Thursday that the Iranian government sent a letter to some European diplomats warning them to abandon the sanctions threat. Iran said Europe must consider the “nuances” of the situation. If not, “the ramification will be grave and the bilateral relations may not survive it,” the letter read, as reported by Politico.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/report-iran-warns-eu-over-sanctions-threat#ixzz7iEeaV9XK>

Iran provides "no weaponry" to parties fighting in Ukraine

Tehran Times, October 15, 2022

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian reiterates the necessity for a diplomatic resolution to the months-long

war in Ukraine while asserting that the Islamic Republic has not sent armaments to either of the groups engaged in the Ukraine conflict. Amir Abdollahian made the remarks in a telephone conversation with his Portuguese counterpart Joo Gomes Cravinho late on Friday. The senior Iranian diplomat said, “The Islamic Republic of Iran has not and will not provide any weapon to be used in the Ukraine war. We believe that arming the either side of the crisis will prolong the war.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477622/Iran-provides-no-weaponry-to-parties-fighting-in-Ukraine>

Iran nuclear talks on hold for now as US, EU focus on protests

Al-Monitor, October 15, 2022

US State Department spokesperson Ned Price said Oct. 12 that the nuclear talks are not the focus of US policy toward Iran, and that supporting the protesters is. Two days later, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken met with Iranian activists about what more the US can do to support the protests, including internet access. The take here all along has been, and remains, that Iran wants a deal, for the obvious economic windfall that would follow, and to provide some breathing space for its people. And the Biden administration wants a deal because it considers the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) as the best means to prevent an Iranian nuclear weapon.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/iran-nuclear-talks-hold-now-us-eu-focus-protests#ixzz7iEeleIMz>

Nuclear industry invincible, no option other than diplomacy: Iran

Tehran Times, October 15, 2022

The spokesman for the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) said on Saturday that Tehran's nuclear industry is completely impervious to attempts to undermine it, stressing that enemies have no option but to pursue diplomacy vis-à-vis the Iranian nuclear issue. "For our enemies, whose main goal is to undermine Iran's nuclear industry and scientists, there is no option left but diplomacy," Behrouz Kamalvandi said, Press TV reported.

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/477632/Nuclear-industry-invincible-no-option-other-than-diplomacy>

Israel

Lapid: Lebanon maritime deal 'Preserves Israel's security and economic interests'

Haaretz, October 02, 2022

Israel's prime minister on Sunday welcomed a U.S. proposal for setting the maritime border with Lebanon, saying the American plan for resolving a long-running dispute between the neighboring countries would lift Israel's economy and boost regional security. Prime Minister Yair Lapid said the proposal was delivered over the weekend to both Israel and Lebanon. While he said it was still being studied, he added the plan would strengthen Israel's northern areas near the Lebanese border, allow Israel to produce additional natural gas and deliver new revenues to the national coffers.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-10-02/ty-article/lapid-lebanon->

[maritime-deal-preserves-israels-security-and-economic-interests/00000183-97f5-d28c-a58f-9ffd77d00000](https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-10-02/ty-article/lapid-gantz-accept-u-s-proposal-for-lebanon-maritime-border-israeli-official-says/00000183-97f5-d28c-a58f-9ffd77d00000)

Lapid, Gantz accept U.S. proposal for Lebanon maritime border, Israeli official says

Haaretz, October 02, 2022

A senior diplomatic official said Sunday that the U.S. proposal for setting Israel's maritime border between Israel and Lebanon is acceptable to Prime Minister Yair Lapid and Defense Minister Benny Gantz, and is expected to be submitted to the inner cabinet for a vote Thursday.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-10-02/ty-article/.premium/lapid-gantz-accept-u-s-proposal-for-lebanon-maritime-border-israeli-official-says/00000183-99e2-d34c-abef-99fe87220000>

In Azerbaijan, Gantz discusses defense ties with president and other top officials

The Times of Israel, October 03, 2022

Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Monday wrapped up an official visit to Azerbaijan, where he met with the country's President Ilham Aliyev and his Azeri counterpart, Zakir Hasanov. Gantz's visit focused on security and policy issues, with the aim of fostering defense cooperation between Jerusalem and Baku, according to his office. During the visit, Gantz also met with the Chief of the State Border Service Colonel General Elchin Guliyev and visited a State Border Service headquarters. Gantz used his visit to "emphasize the importance of maintaining strategic relations between the State of Israel and the Republic of Azerbaijan," and "reflected on the changes

in the Middle East region following the signing of the Abraham Accords,” a statement from his office said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-azerbaijan-gantz-discusses-defense-ties-with-president-and-other-top-officials/>

It's too late for an Israeli u-turn on Lebanon maritime agreement

Haaretz, October 04, 2022

The pending maritime border agreement between Israel and Lebanon holds significant potential for the long term. At the same time, it is scheduled to be signed during an election campaign in Israel, under a transition government – whose very authority to sign it is disputed not just legally, but on the merits and principle of the matter. It is likely that any expectation of the belligerents, the government and the opposition, to conduct a learned debate on the matter with four weeks left till the polls open, is ludicrous.

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2022-10-04/ty-article/.premium/its-too-late-for-an-israeli-u-turn-on-lebanon-maritime-agreement/00000183-9f0d-d655-abe3-bffd74950000>

Iron Beam, Israel's laser air defense system, could be ready in 2-3 years

Breaking Defense, October 04, 2022

For years, the joke in defense circles has been that directed energy systems — more commonly known as lasers — are the technology of the future, and always will be. But following a series of successful live-fire tests of its new Iron Beam capability, Israel is moving forward in hopes of putting that joke to rest, potentially

within two years' time. Iron Beam is a complimentary capability to the Rafael-built Iron Dome defense system, which uses kinetic interceptors to protect Israel against incoming rockets, mortars, and small drones.

<https://breakingdefense.com/2022/10/iron-beam-israels-laser-air-defense-system-could-be-ready-in-2-3-years/>

Israeli defense minister fosters security ties in Azerbaijan

Al-Monitor, October 05, 2022

Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz traveled this week to Azerbaijan, where he met with President Ilham Aliyev and Defense Minister Hasanov Zakir Asgar Oglu. He also met with the chief of the State Border Service, Col. Gen. Elchin Guliyev, and visited a State Border Service headquarters. A statement from Gantz's office said the visit focused on security and policy issues with the aim of fostering defense cooperation between Jerusalem and Baku. Gantz, it read, used his visit to “emphasize the importance of maintaining strategic relations between the State of Israel and the Republic of Azerbaijan” and “reflected on the changes in the Middle East region following the signing of the Abraham Accords.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/israeli-defense-minister-fosters-security-ties-azerbaijan#ixzz7iFgXCCrD>

Gantz puts IDF on alert in north as Lebanese maritime border talks falter

The Times of Israel, October 06, 2022

Defense Minister Benny Gantz ordered Israeli troops on alert in the country's north

on Thursday amid setbacks in the effort to reach a maritime border deal with Lebanon. Gantz held a situational assessment with IDF Chief of Staff Aviv Kohavi and other security officials after Israel said it would not accept Lebanon's proposed amendments to a US-brokered deal. "The defense minister directed the IDF to prepare for a scenario of escalation in the north, both offensively and defensively, given the developments in the negotiations on the maritime border," a statement from Gantz's office said.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/gantz-puts-idf-on-alert-in-north-as-lebanese-maritime-border-talks-falter/>

Israeli special forces raid home of suspect involved in Jerusalem attack

The Jerusalem Post, October 09, 2022

Israeli special forces [Yamam] conducted a raid Sunday morning in Jerusalem, at the home of an individual suspected to have shot at security officers at the Shuafat border crossing Saturday night, according to KAN. KAN also reported that the suspect's brother turned himself into Israeli security forces on Sunday morning. As well as the suspect's brother, three other men were arrested on suspicion of involvement in the attack, and all four men's arrests were extended by eight days on Sunday afternoon.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-719240>

Lapid condemns Russia for first time as prime minister

The Jerusalem Post, October 10, 2022

Prime Minister Yair Lapid condemned Russia's attacks on civilian

targets in Kyiv on Monday night, in the first such statement from an Israeli prime minister. "I strongly condemn the Russian attacks on the civilian population in Kyiv and other cities across Ukraine," Lapid wrote. "I send our sincere condolences to the families of the victims and the Ukrainian people."

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-719344>

Israeli security: A huff and a puff can blow this whole region down

The Jerusalem Post, October 10, 2022

As Israelis were celebrating the Sukkot holiday, the IDF was placed on high alert on two fronts, to prevent any miscalculation or terror attack that could bring the country into yet another devastating conflict. The deadly shooting attack at the Shuafat crossing outside Jerusalem on Saturday took the life of 18-year-old Sgt. Noa Lazar was a clear reminder that attacks can come at all times, in all places.

<https://www.jpost.com/arab-israeli-conflict/article-719310>

IDF downs quadcopter drone flown by Hamas near Gaza border

The Times of Israel, October 11, 2022

Israeli forces on Tuesday brought down a small quadcopter drone launched by the Hamas terror group over the northern Gaza Strip, the military said. According to the Israel Defense Forces, the small off-the-shelf device was monitored during its flight and did not cross Israel's barrier with the coastal enclave. It was brought down while flying near the border fence. The IDF did not specify how the drone was brought

down; however, it was believed to have been done using electronic warfare means

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-downs-quadcopter-drone-flown-by-hamas-near-gaza-border/>

Israel said providing Kyiv with intel on Iranian suicide drones

The Times of Israel, October 13, 2022

A senior Ukrainian official has said Israel is providing Ukraine with “basic intelligence” on Iranian suicide drones being deployed by the Russian army, according to a report in The New York Times. Wednesday’s report, which cited an anonymous Ukrainian source, also said that a private Israeli security firm was giving the Ukrainians satellite imagery of Russian military positions. Wednesday reportedly saw nine suicide drones shot down by Ukrainian forces, with some 50 shot down throughout the week, with the Ukrainian official adding that the drones have not been as effective as Moscow had hoped because they are “slow” and “easy to target.”

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-said-providing-kyiv-with-intel-on-iranian-suicide-drones/>

US presses allies, including Israel, to assemble patchwork air defenses for Ukraine

The Times of Israel, October 14, 2022

The United States is pressing allies, including Israel, to hastily build for Ukraine a patchwork air defense network using NATO-compatible equipment — some ultra-modern, others older — to protect strategic targets from Russian strikes. The effort was given added urgency after

Moscow pummeled Ukraine with missiles this week, damaging energy facilities nationwide and leaving at least 20 people dead. “What the (Ukrainian) leadership described that they needed yesterday most was air defense capability,” US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said in Brussels on Thursday, a day after a meeting of 50 allied countries who coordinate their military support for Kyiv.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-presses-allies-including-israel-to-assemble-patchwork-air-defenses-for-ukraine/>

With the help of Israel, Morocco is the first African country to enter the drone manufacturers club

Middle East Monitor, October 15, 2022

Morocco has entered the club of drone manufacturers by virtue of the recent deal it concluded with Israel, according to which Morocco will manufacture Israeli war drones. The Wall Street Journal reported that the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces would build two factories to produce war drones with Israeli supervision and expertise. This will allow the kingdom to manufacture advanced drones at a low cost compared to those it is currently buying from China and Turkey.

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/2022-10-15-with-the-help-of-israel-morocco-is-the-first-african-country-to-enter-the-drone-manufacturers-club/>

Jordan

Jordan hosts regional workshop on nuclear safety, security

Arab Times, October 04, 2022

Jordan has signed and ratified relevant international instruments that govern

nuclear safety and security, according to the chairman of the Jordan Atomic Energy Commission. Speaking on the sidelines of a regional workshop on nuclear safety and security organized in Amman, Khaled Toukan said the move was essential for the successful and sustainable use of nuclear power. In collaboration with the Arab network of Nuclear Regulators and the International Atomic Energy Agency, JAEC organizes the regional workshop from Oct. 3-6, reported Jordan News Agency, Petra, on Tuesday.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2175031/middle-east>

Kuwait

Kuwait calls on international community to nudge Israel join NPT

Arab Times, October 01, 2022

Kuwait has urged the international community to push Israel to join the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and allow the International Atomic Energy Agency's experts to examine its nuclear installations, according to the Kuwait News Agency. Kuwait's ambassador to Austria, Talal Al-Fassam, who is also Kuwait's permanent representative to the International Organizations in Vienna, was speaking at a debate regarding Israel's nuclear capacities at the IAEA's 66th annual conference, and stressed the need for the IAEA's policy-making agencies to keep discussing the topic.

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2173156/middle-east>

India seeks to bolster defense ties with Kuwait: Ambassador

kuwait Times, October 04, 2022

The visit of three Indian naval ships to Kuwait signifies India's commitment to establishing cooperative partnership with friendly nations of the Indian Ocean region and beyond, said Indian Ambassador Sibi George on Wednesday. During a reception hosted on board INS TIR on the occasion of the visit of the ships, the ambassador said: "Such enhanced cooperation would help both navies address maritime challenges together."

<https://www.kuwaittimes.com/india-seeks-to-bolster-defense-ties-with-kuwait-ambassador/>

US approves potential \$3 billion in defense sale to Kuwait: Pentagon

kuwait Times, October 05, 2022

The US State Department has approved the potential sale of the National Advanced Surface-To-Air Missile System and Medium Range Air Defense System to Kuwait in a deal valued at an estimated \$3 billion, the Pentagon said on Thursday. "The proposed sale will improve Kuwait's capability to meet current and future threats by enhancing the ability to defend itself against regional malign actors and improve interoperability with systems operated by US forces and other Gulf countries," it said.

<https://www.kuwaittimes.com/us-approves-potential-3-billion-in-defense-sale-to-kuwait-pentagon/>

Lebanon

Hezbollah chief lauds Israel-Lebanon maritime progress

i24, October 01, 2022

Chief of the Lebanese militant movement Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, spoke on Saturday of a draft agreement on the maritime border dispute between Israel and Lebanon proposed by US mediator Amos Hochstein. "Today, we reached a positive outcome. And it came from dialogue and cooperation," Nasrallah said in a televised speech.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1664640474-hezbollah-chief-says-israel-lebanon-maritime-talks-reached-positive-outcome>

Lebanon says maritime deal 'make or break' after Israel rejects changes

i24, October 06, 2022

Lebanon said US-brokered talks to demarcate its maritime border with Israel were at a "make or break" point on Thursday after Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid rejected revisions to a draft deal requested by Beirut, throwing years of diplomatic efforts into doubt. Lapid was updated on the details of the new substantial changes that Lebanon is seeking to make in the agreement, and ordered the negotiating team to reject them, according to a statement from his office.

<https://www.i24news.tv/en/news/israel/diplomacy/1665044464-israeli-ministers-to-meet-on-lebanon-maritime-deal>

Israel and Lebanon reach landmark maritime agreement

New York Times, October 11, 2022

Israel and Lebanon have agreed to a draft deal to resolve a decades-old dispute over the control of an eastern stretch of the Mediterranean Sea, the two countries announced on Tuesday, in a major diplomatic breakthrough between two neighbors that technically remain at war and have no direct official relations. If ratified by both governments, the deal is expected to avert the immediate threat of conflict between Israel and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon, after fears of escalation if negotiations fell apart, and to make it easier for energy companies to extract gas from the eastern parts of the Mediterranean Sea.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/11/world/middleeast/israel-and-lebanon-maritime-deal.html?searchResultPosition=77>

Lapid: Israel, Lebanon deal reduces chance of war with Hezbollah

Naharnet, October 12, 2022

Israel's agreement with foe Lebanon to demarcate their maritime border makes conflict with the Iran-backed Hezbollah less likely, the Israeli premier has said, after his cabinet voiced support for the deal. Prime Minister Yair Lapid on Tuesday announced that Israel and Lebanon had reached an "historic" U.S.-brokered agreement, which potentially unlocks significant offshore gas production for the eastern Mediterranean neighbors.

The deal between the countries that have remained technically at war since Israel's creation in 1948 was applauded by world leaders, including U.S.

<https://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/292974-lapid-israel-lebanon-deal-reduces-chance-of-war-with-hezbollah>

Lebanon agreement staves off war with Hezbollah

The Jerusalem Post, October 12, 2022

The maritime boundary agreement between Israel and Lebanon makes war with Hezbollah less likely, Prime Minister Yair Lapid said soon after the cabinet gave its initial approval to the agreement. The agreement “staves off war,” Lapid said in a press conference. “Israel is not afraid of Hezbollah; the IDF is stronger than any terrorist organization. At the same time, if we can avoid a war, it is the job of any responsible government to do so.”

<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-719493>

Oman

Oman, Iran military committee meets

Oman Observer, October 03, 2022

The Omani-Iranian Military Friendship Joint Committee held its 17th annual meeting here on Monday. The Omani side in the three-day meeting is headed by Brigadier Abdulaziz bin Abdullah al Manthari, Assistant Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) for Operations and Planning, and the Head of the Omani side in the joint committee,

while the Iranian side was headed by Brigadier Mohammed Ahadi, Head of the Iranian delegation.

<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1126216/oman/oman-iran-military-committee-meets>

Oman-Iran military panel wraps up annual meet

Oman Observer, October 03, 2022

Oman-Iran Military Friendship Joint Committee concluded its annual meeting in Al Shafaq Club of the Sultan's Armed Forces on Thursday. During the three-day meeting, the Omani side is headed by Brigadier Abdulaziz bin Abdullah al Manthari, Assistant Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) for Operations and Planning, Head of the Oman delegation in the joint committee, while the Iranian side was headed by Brigadier Mohammed Ahadi. The meeting touched on several matters on the agenda which aim to enhance cooperation in military fields and boost the committee's activities.

<https://www.omanobserver.om/article/1126393/oman/oman-iran-military-panel-wraps-up-annual-meet>

Maritime Security Centre conducts sea drill

Times of Omam, October 10, 2022

Acting in cooperation Asyad Group and a number of military, security and civil departments, the Maritime Security Centre carried out a security drill (No. 2/2022) at Al Batinah maritime zone. The drill was

aimed at enhancing coordination among military, security and civil authorities concerned to keep up their readiness to tackle challenges during crises and catastrophes that might threaten the marine environment, as well as unauthorised fishing.

<https://timesofoman.com/article/122211-maritime-security-centre-conducts-sea-drill>

Palestine

Palestine: Brutal settler attacks on Huwwara find allies in Israeli soldiers

Middle East Eye, October 15, 2022

Abdullah Odeh was sitting in his office in the local amusement park he owns in the northern occupied West Bank town of Huwwara when the Israeli attack began. "It was around 2.20pm when we heard the alarms go off on the cars parked outside," Odeh, 50, told Middle East Eye. "When we went outside, we saw a huge group of masked settlers descending upon us from the hilltop. "They started throwing huge rocks down towards us all of a sudden, breaking the windows of the cars outside the park. It was like it was raining down rocks."

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/palestine-israel-brutal-settler-attacks-huwwara-find-allies-soldiers>

Qatar

Qatar armed forces honours retiring officers

Times of Oman, October 06, 2022

Qatar Armed Forces held a felicitation ceremony for retiring officers under the patronage of HE the Deputy Prime Minister

and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah and in presence of HE the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Staff Lieutenant-General (Pilot) Salem bin Hamad al-Nabit. HE the Chief of Staff delivered a speech thanking the retired officers for their generous efforts during their tenure in the Armed Forces. In conclusion, HE al-Nabit honoured the retired officers and took memorial photos with them.

<https://www.gulf-times.com/story/725499/Qatar-Armed-Forces-honours-retiring-officers>

Qatari Emir met with Putin to ‘defuse tensions’ between Moscow and Doha, source says

CNN, October 13, 2022

Qatar’s Emir Sheikh Tamim al-Thani met with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of a conference in Astana, Kazakhstan, on Thursday to “defuse tensions” between Moscow and Doha, a source familiar with the talks, but not authorized to speak about them publicly, told CNN. The United States and the European Union were briefed on the meeting before it took place, said the source. “The purpose of the meeting between Qatar’s Emir and President Putin was to defuse the tensions between Russia and Qatar, which have grown following several events,” the source said.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/13/middle-east/qatar-russia-talks-intl/index.html>

Amiri air defence forces carry out shield 6 exercise

Times of Oman, October 14, 2022

The Amiri Air Defence Forces carried out the Shield 6 (Sky Nex) exercise in Al

Qalayel Square of the Armed Forces under the patronage and presence of HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, and in the presence of HE the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Salem bin Hamad al-Nabit.

<https://www.gulf-times.com/story/725936/Amiri-Air-Defence-Forces-carry-out-Shield-6-exercise>

Saudi Arabia

Blumenthal says he's been talking to Republicans about his bill to halt arms sales to Saudi Arabia

CNN, October 12, 2022

Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut said he's been discussing his bill that would stop US arms sales to Saudi Arabia with Republicans to get their support to pass it through the Senate. His legislation comes after OPEC+ said it will slash oil production by 2 million barrels per day, the biggest cut since the start of the pandemic, in a move that threatens to push gasoline prices higher just weeks before US midterm elections. The group of major oil producers, which includes Saudi Arabia and Russia, announced the production cut following its first meeting in person since March 2020.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/12/politics/congress-reaction-opec-bill/index.html>

Saudi minister says any agreement with Iran must take regional security into account

GDN Online, October 13, 2022

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud has emphasised that

any agreement with Iran must take into account the security of the region. "Also, any nuclear agreement with Iran must take into account the shortcomings of the previous agreement," he clarified in an interview with Al Arabiya and Al Hadath televisions.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1144958>

Syria

Mikdad, Sayeed stress the deep relations between Syria and India

Syrian Arab News Agency, October 02, 2022

Foreign and Expatriates Minister Fayssal Mikdad met Sunday the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of India Ausaf Sayeed and the accompanying delegation, and discussed bilateral relations between the two countries and means of bolstering them at various areas. Mikdad stressed the importance of the delegation's visit which coincides with the launch of the 2nd camp for artificial limb fitments. "This gesture reflects the depth of human relations between the two friendly peoples, and the support that India offers to Syria in this sector and others," said Mikdad.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=285524>

Deputy foreign ministers of Syria and India discuss a number of issues and topics of common concern

Syrian Arab News Agency, October 02, 2022

Deputy Expatriate and foreign Minister, Dr. Bashar al-Jaafari affirmed the depth of bilateral relations between Syria and India and the need to strengthen them to serve the common concerns of the two friendly

peoples. Al-Jaafari's remarks came during a meeting with Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of India Ausaf Sayeed and the accompanying delegation in Damascus on Sunday. Al-Jaafari pointed out the historical ties and the distinguished political relations binding the two countries.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=285539>

Russian warplanes bomb FSA camp in Syria's Idlib

Al-Monitor, October 03, 2022

Syrian government forces and Russia have recently renewed their ground and airstrikes on Idlib province in northwestern Syria. On Sept. 30, Russian warplanes targeted the outskirts of al-Ruweiha and Mseibin in the south of Idlib, as the Syrian government forces fired artillery shells at several villages in Jabal al-Zawiya area in southern Idlib, and more than 50 shells at a number of towns and villages in Al-Ghab Plain in northwest Hama. The Syrian Civil Defense, aka the White Helmets, reported cases of fainting due to fear and panic among the displaced, while students evacuated their schools in the camp because of the nearby bombing in the Kalbit area.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/russian-warplanes-bomb-fsa-camp-syrias-idlib#ixzz7iG54Gnzy>

Russian airstrike kills 13 Jabhat al-Nusra militants in Idlib

Syrian Arab News Agency, October 04, 2022

Russian Ministry of Defense announced that its Aerospace Forces on Monday

targeted terrorist organization Jabhat al-Nusra positions in Idlib de-escalation zone, killing and wounding a number of the organization's terrorists and the destruction of their sites. "Russian Aerospace Forces targeted the terrorists' underground positions near the villages of Rowiha and Masibin and destroyed their sites in Idlib de-escalation zone, preventing terrorist attacks on facilities belonging to the Russian Armed Forces and Syrian government troops, Deputy Head of Russia's Center for Reconciliation of the Opposing Sides in Syria Major General Oleg Yegorov said at a briefing on Monday.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=285675>

Syria: Washington, Western countries turned OPCW into a tool for political manipulation

Syrian Arab News Agency, October 05, 2022

Syrian Permanent representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague, Ambassador Milad Attiya, affirmed that Syria has always believed that the Chemical Weapons' Convention is the source of the world's salvation from weapons of mass destruction, and that the duty of OPCW is to apply the terms of this convention with professionalism and away from politicization.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=285843>

US military kills three senior Islamic State leaders in Syria strikes

Al-Monitor, October 06, 2022

American military forces in Syria killed three top Islamic State officials in two

separate operations over the past 24 hours, US officials said. The Islamic State's deputy commander in Syria — one of the jihadist group's top-five ranking leaders whom US military officials named as Abu Hashum al-Umawi, aka Abu 'Ala — was killed in a drone strike in northern Syria around 6:23 p.m. local time on Thursday. That strike also killed a second IS official, Abu Mu'ad al-Qahtani, whom US officials said was responsible for prisoner affairs. More than 1,000 hours of intelligence collection led to the operation, military officials said.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/us-military-kills-three-senior-islamic-state-leaders-syria-strikes#ixzz7iG5hqn00>

Rare clashes erupt between jihadist group, Turkey-backed faction in Syria's Idlib

Al-Monitor, October 07, 2022

Clashes erupted Sept. 29 between Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) and the Free Syrian Army (FSA)-affiliated National Liberation Front, backed by Turkey, near the town of Sarmin, east of Idlib province in northwest Syria. The violence broke out after HTS attempted to expel members of Faylaq al-Sham (Sham Legion), who were present at a military post separating the areas of the Syrian government and the opposition. An officer of the FSA-affiliated Syrian National Army who is based in Idlib told Al-Monitor on condition of anonymity, "HTS dispatched military convoys and besieged a military post for Faylaq al-Sham, near the demarcation lines with the

Syrian regime, and asked its members to surrender themselves and their weapons.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/10/rare-clashes-erupt-between-jihadist-group-turkey-backed-faction-syrias-idlib#ixzz7iG65hMjZ>

Syrian-Russian Navy units conduct drills offshore Tartous

Syrian Arab News Agency, October 13, 2022

Units of the Syrian and Russian navy conducted on Thursday joint tactical drills offshore Tartous port. "The drills have been carried out on several phases that came in the framework of implementing the main circles of the practical measures to face attacks on the sea port," SANA reporter quoted a field source as saying. More than 400 soldiers from the Syrian and Russian armed forces, including those who work in Syria and in the Black Sea navy took part in the drills with the participation of 5 ships and Two Su-35 planes.

<https://sana.sy/en/?p=286856>

Deadly bus attack kills 18 Syrian soldiers in Damascus countryside

GDN Online, October 14, 2022

At least 18 soldiers were killed and 20 wounded yesterday when an explosive device detonated on a military bus in the Damascus countryside, local media outlet Sham FM said. It represents one of the deadliest attacks in months against Syrian government troops not on an active front line.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1145042>

HTS militants partially withdraw from Afrin after Turkey steps in

Middle East Eye, October 15, 2022

Syrian militant group Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) began to partially withdraw its forces from Afrin on Saturday after the Turkish military stepped in and de-escalated rebel infighting in northwest Syria. Turkish security sources told Middle East Eye that the Turkish-backed civilian and political administration in Afrin has been functioning as normal despite some rebel groups in the Syrian National Army (SNA) coalition fighting with HTS in the region.

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/syria-turkey-hts-militants-afrin-partially-withdraw>

Türkiye

Türkiye's Bayraktar TB2 drones join offensive against al-Shabab

Middle East Eye, October 01, 2022

The much-coveted Turkish Bayraktar TB2 drone has joined Somalia's offensive against the militant group al-Shabab, in an escalation seen by Somali analysts as highly significant to the war's trajectory. Somalia's federal government last week confirmed reports that the armed drones produced by Turkish company Baykar, which has ties to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's family, are now active in Somalia, where US drones have been carrying out strikes against al-Shabab for years.

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/somalia-turkey-bayraktar-tb2-drones-join-offensive-shabab>

Türkiye conducts joint military exercise with five countries

Yeni Safak, October 01, 2022

Türkiye said Friday it has carried out a joint military exercise with five countries in the capital Ankara. Azerbaijan, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan participated in the military drill called Eternal Fraternity-I United Special Forces Military Exercise, the National Defense Ministry said in a statement. "The most distinguished troops of friendly and fraternal countries are together!" the statement read.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-e-conducts-joint-military-exercise-with-five-countries-3652965>

Türkiye neutralizes three PKK terrorists in northern Iraq

Yeni Safak, October 01, 2022

Turkish security forces "neutralized" three PKK terrorists in northern Iraq, the Turkish National Defense Ministry said on Wednesday. "A total of three PKK terrorists were neutralized, one in Qandil in northern Iraq and two in the Claw 1-2 Operation zone," the ministry said on Twitter. PKK terrorists often hide out in northern Iraq, close to the Turkish border, to plot attacks in Türkiye.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-e-neutralizes-three-pkk-terrorists-in-northern-iraq-3652964>

Türkiye defense ministry says it 'neutralized' 30 PKK members in Iraq, Syria

Alarabiya News, October 02, 2022

Turkey said on Sunday it had "neutralized," the term its defense ministry usually

employs for killed, some 30 members of the banned Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in separate cross-border operations in Iraq and Syria. The defense ministry said the strikes involved 23 PKK members in a air raid in the Asos region, 140 kilometers (90 miles) into northern Iraq, and another seven in northern Syria.

<https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2022/10/02/Turkey-defense-ministry-says-it-neutralized-30-PKK-members-in-Iraq-Syria>

We can defend islands despite Turkey's threats: Greek defence minister

Business Standard, October 02, 2022

Greece has the right to take all defensive measures to protect its easternmost islands amid threats by neighbouring Turkey that dispute Greek sovereignty rights and raise the spectre of war, the Greek defense minister said Saturday. Speaking after Cyprus' independence day military parade, Minister Nikolaos Panagiotopoulos said Turkey's revisionist and destabilising behaviour also undermines security in the wider eastern Mediterranean region.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/we-can-defend-islands-despite-turkey-s-threats-greek-defence-minister-122100200030_1.html

Türkiye's presidential spokesman meets with White House national security aide

Yeni Safak, October 03, 2022

Turkish presidential spokesman Ibrahim Kalin on Sunday met with US White House National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan in Istanbul. Türkiye-US bilateral relations, cooperation areas in the defense industry, the Russia-Ukraine war, the NATO

membership processes of Sweden and Finland, and regional issues were on the agenda in the meeting between the two senior officials in the Turkish metropolis.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-presidential-spokesman-meets-with-white-house-national-security-aide-3653049>

Türkiye 'strongly condemns' inclusion of Greek Cypriot administration in US military partnership program

Daily Sabah, October 03, 2022

Türkiye on Monday strongly condemned the Greek Cypriot administration's inclusion in a U.S. military partnership program, saying Ankara will continue to take all necessary steps to ensure the security of the Turkish Cypriot people. The Turkish Foreign Ministry in a statement said it strongly condemned the Greek Cypriot administration's "inclusion in the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program, under the scope of the U.S. Department of Defense."

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-strongly-condemns-inclusion-of-greek-cypriot-administration-in-us-military-partnership-program-3653116>

Türkiye Shipyard Launches Ukraine's 1st MILGEM Corvette

Naval News, October 03, 2022

Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov and First Lady Olena Zelensky announced the launching ceremony of *Hetman Ivan Mazepa* corvette on their Twitter accounts. According to social media posts, the Turkish defense minister attended the ceremony as the highest Turkish official. President of Defence

Industry Agency (SSB) Professor İsmail Demir and STM General Manager Özgür Güleriyüz also attended the launching ceremony.

<https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2022/10/turkish-shipyard-launches-hetman-ivan-mazepa/>

Turkish warplanes 'neutralises' 23 Kurdish militants in Iraq

WION, October 03, 2022

According to the Turkish Defense Ministry, Turkish warplanes "neutralised" 23 Kurdish militants who were killed during 140 kilometres (90 miles) in Iraq. Whenever a militant is killed, the ministry uses the term "neutralised." It further stated that more casualties are anticipated during the expedition in the Asos region of northern Iraq, which is governed by the independent Kurdistan Regional Government.

<https://www.wionews.com/world/turkish-warplanes-neutralises-23-kurdish-militants-in-iraq-521873>

Türkiye 'neutralizes' 18 PKK terrorists in northern Iraq

Yeni Safak, October 07, 2022

Turkish forces "neutralized" 18 YPG/PKK terrorists in northern Syria, the National Defense Ministry said on Friday. The terrorists were targeted in the Operation Euphrates Shield zone, the Turkish ministry said on Twitter. Turkish authorities use the term "neutralized" to imply the terrorists in question surrendered or were killed or captured.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-neutralizes-18-ypgpkk-terrorists-in-northern-syria-3653373>

Türkiye 'neutralizes' two YPG/PKK terrorists in northern Syria

Yeni Safak, October 09, 2022

Turkish security forces "neutralized" two YPG/PKK terrorists in northern Syria, the country's National Defense Ministry said on Sunday. The terrorists, who were plotting an attack, were targeted in the area of Operation Euphrates Shield near the Turkish border, the ministry said on Twitter. Turkish authorities use the term "neutralized" to imply the terrorists in question surrendered or were killed or captured.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiye-neutralizes-two-ypgpkk-terrorists-in-northern-syria-3653446>

Top Türkiye, Hungarian defense chiefs discuss security issues

Yeni Safak, October 11, 2022

Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar and his Hungarian counterpart Kristof Szalay-Bobrovniczky on Tuesday spoke over the phone and discussed security issues. The phone call came ahead of a NATO defense ministers meeting scheduled to be held in Brussels on Wednesday and Thursday. Akar and Szalay-Bobrovniczky discussed bilateral and regional defense and security issues, the Turkish National Defense Ministry said in a statement.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/top-turkish-hungarian-defense-chiefs-discuss-security-issues-3653569>

Conditions on F-16 sales to Türkiye dropped from US NDAA bill

Daily Sabah, October 11, 2022

Two provisions that were set to restrict the sale of F-16 fighter jets to Türkiye in the

U.S. Senate version of the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) bill have been removed, sources said Tuesday. The U.S. Senate removed the conditions during a 2023 defense budget meeting on Tuesday. After the completion of the NDAA bill, it is expected to be merged with the House of Representatives version, which will then be submitted to President Joe Biden for approval.

<https://www.dailysabah.com/business/defense/conditions-on-f-16-sales-to-turkiye-dropped-from-us-ndaa-bill>

Athens rocked by news US Senate dropped conditions on selling F-16s to Türkiye

Yeni Safak, October 12, 2022

Reports that the US Senate removed conditions seen as favorable to Greece from a proposed deal to sell F-16s to Türkiye have rocked politics in Athens. The removal of the provisions sought by pro-Greek lobbyists, which Turkish officials strongly objected to, marks another serious defeat for the foreign policy of Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, which turned Greece into the "faithful and predictable ally" which gives everything without asking for anything in return, said the main opposition SYRIZA-PS party in a statement. The news proved, once again, that Greeks should not trust their so-called "powerful allies," said the Communist Party of Greece (KKE). The news demolished the triumphal narrative pushed by the government after last week's Prague summit claiming that "the US, NATO, and

EU are the guarantors of Greece's sovereign rights against Turkish provocations," a statement added.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/athens-rocked-by-news-us-senate-dropped-conditions-on-selling-f-16s-to-turkiye-3653640>

Türkiye, Russian defense ministers discuss security over phone

Yeni Safak, October 12, 2022

Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar on Tuesday discussed bilateral and regional security issues, including the war in Ukraine, with his Russian counterpart Sergei Shoigu in a phone call. The phone call came ahead of a NATO defense ministers meeting scheduled to be held in Brussels on Wednesday and Thursday to sustain support to Ukraine and continue to strengthen NATO's own defenses against Russia.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkish-russian-defense-ministers-discuss-security-over-phone-3653590>

Türkiye's national DefMin meets with NATO chief in Brussels

Yeni Safak, October 13, 2022

Türkiye's National Defense Minister Hulusi Akar on Wednesday met with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg as part of NATO defense ministers meeting in Brussels. During the meeting at NATO's headquarters, the two discussed regional defense and security issues. Akar said that

Türkiye, which has fulfilled its responsibilities in NATO, will continue to do so in the future.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiyes-national-defmin-meets-with-nato-chief-in-brussels-3653642>

Malaysia picks Türkiye defense firm in drone deal

Defense News, October 13, 2022

Malaysia has selected Turkish Aerospace Industries to provide three unmanned aircraft, according to the Southeast Asian nation's defense minister. "[F]or the procurement of three (3) MALE-UAS units, the Government has decided to contract with Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI)," Hishammuddin Hussein said in a statement Sunday. The purchase will be funded under the country's five-year spending plan, rather than its defense budget, the minister added. TAI had pitched its Anka, a medium-altitude, long-endurance unmanned aircraft system.

<https://www.defensenews.com/unmanned/2022/10/12/malaysia-picks-turkeys-anka-system-in-drone-deal/>

Türkiye, Greek defense ministers meet in Brussels

Yeni Safak, October 14, 2022

Türkiye's National Defense Minister Hulusi Akar on Thursday met with his Greek counterpart Nikolaos Panagiotopoulos as part of NATO defense ministers meeting in Brussels. During the meeting at NATO's headquarters, the duo discussed regional defense and security issues. The Turkish defense minister also

met with his US, German, French and British counterparts.

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkiyh-greek-defense-ministers-meet-in-brussels-3653706>

Pakistan Getting Bayraktar TB2 Drones into Its Air Defense Network; Aims To Promote "Synergy" In Counter-Air Ops

The Eurasian Times, October 14, 2022

According to Janes, the Southern Air Command of the PAF is integrating these newly acquired unmanned aerial vehicles into its air defense network. On September 28, Pakistan first showed off its Bayraktar TB2, a medium altitude long endurance (MALE), during an Air Force drill. In March of this year, it was initially reported that Pakistan had acquired the Turkish Bayraktar TB2 drone to conduct assault and ISR operations. The number of drones delivered to Islamabad has not been made public by either side. In late May, satellite images revealed the presence of one Bayraktar TB2 at PAF's Murid Airbase.

<https://eurasianimes.com/pakistan-getting-bayraktar-tb2-drones-into-its-air-defense/>

UAE

ENEC, UAE sign agreement to increase cyber security in energy industry

Arab Times, October 04, 2022

The Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC) on Sunday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UAE Cyber Security Council to support the development and review of national level strategies, policies and standards for the

cyber security of the UAE energy sector. The agreement was signed at ENEC Head Quarters in Abu Dhabi by Mohamed Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of ENEC and Dr Mohamed Hamad Al Kuwaiti, Head of Cybersecurity for the UAE Government.

<https://www.khaleejtimes.com/energy/ene-c-uae-sign-agreement-to-increase-cyber-security-in-energy-industry>

UAE University discusses collaboration with European organization for nuclear research

Albawaba, October 07, 2022

The UAE University delegation visited the headquarters of the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Geneva, to enhance research cooperation between the two parties. The university delegation was headed by Prof. Ahmed Ali Murad - Associate Provost for Research. The delegation also included Prof. Maamar Benkraouda - Dean of College of Science, Prof. Taieb Znati - Dean of College of Information Technology, Prof. Salah Nasri - Department of Physics at College of Science, and Dr. Mohamed Bulfaqir, post-doctoral fellow, UAEU and Atlas project research member.

<https://www.albawaba.com/business/pr/uae-university-discusses-collaboration-european-organization-nuclear-research-cern>

Barakah plant unit 3 successfully connected to UAE power grid

GDN Online, October 08, 2022

Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC) has announced that following the

start-up of Unit 3 of the Barakah nuclear plant, its operations and maintenance subsidiary, Nawah Energy Company (Nawah), has now safely and successfully connected the unit to the UAE's transmission grid, delivering the first megawatts of carbon-free electricity from the third of the four units at the Barakah Plant. Unit 3 will add another 1,400 megawatts of zero-carbon emission electricity capacity to the national grid, a major step forward in guaranteeing UAE energy security and energy sustainability to tackle climate change – two of the biggest challenges facing the world today.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1144591>

ENEC and the UAE cyber security council sign MoU

GDN Online, October 09, 2022

The Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (Enec) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the UAE Cyber Security Council to set policies and standards for the cyber security of the UAE energy sector. The agreement was signed at Enec Head Quarters in Abu Dhabi by Mohamed Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Enec and Dr Mohamed Hamad Al Kuwaiti, Head of Cybersecurity for the UAE Government.

<https://www.gdnonline.com/Details/1144648>

Unit 3 grid connection enhances energy security, adds over gigawatt of clean electricity capacity to UAE grid

Times of Oman, October 10, 2022

The Emirates Nuclear Energy Corporation (ENEC) and its operations and maintenance

subsidiary, Nawah Energy Company (Nawah), in partnership with the Abu Dhabi Transmission & Despatch Company (TRANSCO), a subsidiary of Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA), has successfully connected Unit 3 of the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant to the UAE grid and is dispatching its first megawatts of carbon-free electricity to the nation.

<https://timesofoman.com/article/122216-unit-3-grid-connection-enhances-energy-security-adds-over-gigawatt-of-clean-electricity-capacity-to-uae-grid>

UAE president meets Vladimir Putin in St. Petersburg

Albawaba, October 12, 2022

President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation, today discussed the bilateral ties between their countries. The two leaders underscored the ongoing rapid growth seen across the UAE-Russia relations and their satisfaction with such growth. President Putin provided a detailed brief to His Highness Sheikh Mohamed on the situation at the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant and on Russia's efforts to maintain nuclear security.

<https://www.albawaba.com/news/uae-president-meets-vladimir-putin-st-petersburg-1494578>

Yemen

Yemen ceasefire ends without extension as UN envoy urges calm

Middle East Eye, October 02, 2022

A six-month truce in Yemen's war between Iran-backed Houthi rebels and

a Saudi-led coalition expired on Sunday without being extended, the United Nations' special envoy said, urging calm and adding that negotiations were continuing. Hans Grundberg said efforts to extend and expand the ceasefire for a further six months had not been successful ahead of Sunday's deadline. "The UN special envoy regrets that an agreement has not been reached today, as an extended and expanded truce would provide additional critical benefits to the population," a statement said.

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/yemen-ceasefire-ends-no-agreement-extend-un>

A failed truce renewal in Yemen could further complicate US-Saudi relations

CNN, October 10, 2022

After a rare six months of relative calm, Yemen's warring sides last week failed to renew a truce deal, with calls from the United Nations for an extension falling on deaf ears. With one side backed by Iran and the other by Saudi Arabia, it remains to be seen whether the US will support its Middle Eastern ally after last week's whopping oil cut – seen as a snub from the oil-rich kingdom to the Biden administration ahead of the US midterm elections. The country's Iran-backed Houthis and their rival Saudi-led coalition had agreed on a nationwide truce in April, the first since 2016.

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/10/10/middle-east/yemen-saudi-us-mime-intl/index.html>

NUCLEAR AND ARMS CONTROL CENTRE

*Sylloge on West Asia is compiled by Mr. Aasi Ansari
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