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IRGC commander: Hezbollah can destroy Israel alone

August 15, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iranian Revolutionary Guards Commander Hossein Salami declared on Wednesday that the Hezbollah terrorist organization 'has acquired capabilities in Syria that allow it to destroy Israel alone', i24News reports.

Salami also addressed the escalating tensions with the United States following the back-and-forth seizures of tankers in the Strait of Hormuz and Iran's breaches of the terms of the 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

'The Iranian people forgot about talking to the United States and removed it from his thought,' he was quoted as having said in reference to suggestions in recent weeks of possible talks between the nations following international calls to reduce tensions.

Salami went so far as to say that 'negotiating with the US is not the way to resolve [matters],' arguing that simply having talks with the US will only increase the pressure and demands on the Ayatollah regime 'to make us surrender.'

The comments follow a warning earlier this week by a Lebanese parliamentarian from Hezbollah who claimed that Israel is preparing to start a war against Lebanon..."

Rouhani warns Israel against involvement in Gulf

August 15, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iranian President Hassan Rouhani warned on Wednesday against Israeli involvement in a US-led coalition in the Persian Gulf. The Iranian President claimed that Israel is the main source of terrorism and war in the region.

'Israelis had better take care of the security of where they are if they can! Although, wherever they had a presence, they brought about nothing but insecurity, slaughter and terror. The main perpetrator of terrorism, war and slaughter in the region is the occupying regime of Israel,' charged Rouhani, who spoke during a cabinet meeting and was quoted by the semiofficial Fars news agency.

The president then cautioned regional countries against falling into the trap of these claims. Rouhani said the US calls for forming a new coalition in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman are 'superficial' and 'impractical'..."

Geert Wilders: 'We'll stop Islam and strengthen the rule of law'

August 14, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Netherlands Party for Freedom (PVV) leader Geert Wilders declared that limiting Islam's power in his country will only strengthen the country. 'We're strong enough to fight Islamization and stop Islam.'

'We're not weakening our law or democracy, but merely strengthening them,' Wilders wrote in his Twitter account.

Wilders is known to be an effective opponent of Muslim expansionism. About a month ago, he offered his own original solution to replace the Deal of the Century.

'My plan, the Wilders Plan, is much better. If all the Palestinians are returned to Jordan, it will be much better and quieter for all parties,' Wilders told a Dutch correspondent..."

Iran Navy Chief: Zionist presence in Persian Gulf may trigger war

August 13, 2019 jpost.com reported: "Commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy, Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, has called on the United States and the United Kingdom to take responsibility for an Israeli presence in the Persian Gulf, warning that it may trigger a war in the region.

'Any kind of presence of the Zionist Regime in Persian Gulf is illegal as it may trigger war and conflict in the region,' Tangsiri told the Lebanese news agency Al Mayadeen on Sunday.

Tangsiri added that Tehran is doing the utmost to ensure peace in the region, but that it will not allow others to take advantage and prevent Iran from selling its own oil.

'We safeguard the security of the Persian Gulf as long as our security is met,' he said, warning the US and the UK that 'whenever our commanders wish so, they are able to detain any ship, even if it is accompanied by American and British forces.'

Tangsiri also warned that, 'The US and the UK should take the responsibility for the presence of the Zionist Regime in Persian Gulf waters.'..."

Riot police clash with protesters at Hong Kong airport as Chinese forces mass at border

August 13, 2019 cbsnews.com reported: "Riot police clashed with pro-democracy protesters at Hong Kong's airport late Tuesday night, moving into the terminal where the demonstrators had shut down operations at one of the world's busiest transport hubs for two straight days. Officers armed with pepper spray and swinging batons confronted the protesters who used luggage carts to barricade entrances to the airport terminal.

Police took several people into a police van waiting at the entrance to the airport's arrivals hall. Police said they tried to help ambulance officers reach an injured man whom protesters had detained on suspicion of being an undercover agent.

Protesters also detained a second man who they suspected of being an undercover agent. After emptying out his belongings, they found a blue T-shirt that has been worn by pro-Beijing supporters that they said was evidence he was a spy.

CBS News producer Chris Liable said all scheduled flights not already checked in were cancelled, and protesters were also blocking the departure lines at immigration, so nobody was able to get through there — something the protesters hadn't done previously. The city's pro-Beijing leader warned that the protesters had pushed events onto a "path of no return."...

More than 200 flights were canceled Monday and the airport was effectively shut down with no flights taking off or landing. Passengers have been forced to stay in the city while airlines struggle to find other ways to get them to their destinations.

For Grace Bendal, a 43-year-old contractor from the Philippines, Tuesday was the second straight day she came to the airport only to learn flights were canceled. She spent the weekend in Hong Kong with her primary school-age children, who were eager to return to classes.

She said they have already missed two days of school and the extra day in the city has cost her around 3,000 Hong Kong dollars (\$400). Though there were no airline employees at check-in counters Tuesday evening, Bendal said she and her children planned to stay at the airport all night.”...

Meanwhile, paramilitary police were assembling across the border in the city of Shenzhen for exercises in what some saw as a threat to increase force brought against the mostly young protesters who have turned out in their thousands over the past 10 weeks.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said the ongoing instability, chaos and violence have placed the city on a "path of no return."

The demonstrators have shown no sign of letting up on their campaign to force Lam's administration to respond to their demands, including that she step down and entirely scrap legislation that could have seen criminal suspects sent to mainland China to face torture and unfair or politically charged trials.”...

Jordan: Israel violating ‘sanctity of Al-Aqsa’

August 12, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi on Sunday condemned Israel following the violent clashes on the Temple Mount between Muslim worshipers and police officers.

‘We condemn Israel’s violations of sanctity of Al Aqsa, especially on this holy day. Its attempts to change the status quo in occupied Jerusalem & its holy sites will only lead to more violence, threatening security of all. Int’l community cannot remain silent on these violations,’ he tweeted.

The comments came hours after hundreds of Muslim worshipers rioted on the Temple Mount in an attempt to prevent Jews from visiting the holy site on Tisha B’Av, the anniversary of the destruction of the first and second Holy Temple. The rioters chanted nationalist slogans and clashed with police. Several rioters were injured, Arab media reported...”

Iranian FM calls for Muslim unity following Temple Mount riots

August 12, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Sunday commented on the riots which broke out on the Temple Mount when Muslim worshipers clashed with police officers in an attempt to prevent Jews from visiting the holy site on Tisha B’Av, the anniversary of the destruction of the first and second Holy Temple.

Zarif posted a photo from the riots on Twitter and wrote, ‘The crime shown in this photo was but one perpetrated on Al-Aqsa this morning—on our holy day.’

‘The same terrorists are hoping to impose the Humiliation of the Century on Palestinians. We Muslims have power to end this tyranny, but only if we unite,’ he added, in what appeared to be a reference to the US administration’s peace plan for Israel and the Palestinian Authority, which has come to be known as the ‘Deal of the Century’...”

Islamic Jihad, Hamas threaten Israel after Jews ascend Temple Mount

August 11, 2019 jpost.com reported: “Islamic Jihad and Hamas threatened increased violence after 1,729 Jewish worshipers ascended the Temple Mount Sunday, according to police numbers cited by the Internal Security Ministry. Earlier in the day, Israel Police had closed the mount and short but violent protests erupted. Four officers were injured, as well several Muslim and Jewish worshipers in the event.

Palestinians said 40 Muslim worshipers were injured, including PLO Executive Committee member Adnan Husseini, who previously served as Palestinian Authority minister for Jerusalem affairs, and Abdel Azim Salhab, chairman of the Wakf Council in east Jerusalem.

‘Israel is trying to impose a new reality in the al-Aqsa mosque and there will be repercussions for it,’ Islamic Jihad official Fuad a-Razm said.

‘We are tracking Israel’s steps,’ said Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh. ‘This is a violation of the rights of millions of Muslims.’

Police early morning announced that the Temple Mount would be closed to Jews, despite Sunday being the Jewish fast day of Tisha Be’av, which commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. Police first blamed the prime minister, who denied he was involved...”

Khamenei: ‘Deal of the Century’ doomed to fail

August 11, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “Iran’s Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on Saturday called on all Muslims to support the Palestinian people in their opposition to the Trump administration’s so-called ‘Deal of the Century’ to solve the Israel-Palestinian Arab conflict.

In a letter marking the Islamic hajj pilgrimage quoted by The Associated Press, Khamenei said the still-unreleased US plan was a ‘ruse’ that’s ‘doomed to failure.’

He also called for ‘active participation’ in efforts to block the US plan.

The initiative, partially unveiled at a Bahrain conference in June, dangled the prospect of pumping \$50 billion-worth of investment into the Palestinian Authority economy...”



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