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Iran: We seized UAE ship

August 20, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iran's foreign ministry said Thursday that it had seized a United Arab Emirates-registered ship which had violated its territorial waters this week, amid mounting tensions between the two countries since the normalization agreement between UAE and Israel.

According to the report in *Reuters*, the ministry added that UAE coastguards had killed two Iranian fishermen the same day.

'On Monday, an Emirati ship was seized by Iran's border guards and its crew were detained due to illegal traffic in our country's waters,' Iranian state TV quoted the ministry's statement as saying.

'On the same day, UAE guards shot dead two Iranian fishermen and seized a boat.'

The statement that added that Iran had summoned the UAE charge d'affairs in Tehran over the incident..."

US to trigger controversial 'snapback' of Iran sanctions at UN

August 20, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "President Donald Trump announced Wednesday that Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will activate a controversial mechanism aimed at reimposing UN sanctions on Iran, escalating a row with European allies that has huge repercussions for the Iranian nuclear deal.





Pompeo will travel to New York on Thursday to notify the United

Nations Security Council that the US is triggering the so-called 'snapback' procedure, which Britain, France and Germany say it doesn't have the right to do.

'It's a snapback, not uncommon,' Trump told reporters, despite the contested measure having never been used before.

United Nations The move comes after the United States suffered a humiliating defeat at the Security Council last week when it failed to muster support for a resolution to extend a conventional arms embargo on Iran.

'Snapback' aims to restore all international sanctions against Iran that were lifted as part of the 2015 accord with Tehran that sought to prevent it from developing nuclear weapons.

But it also threatens to torpedo the historic Iran nuclear deal that the US, China, Russia, France, Britain and Germany signed with Tehran in 2015.

Trump withdrew the US from the agreement, known officially as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), in 2018 and introduced American sanctions on Iran as part of a 'maximum pressure' campaign against the Iranian regime..."

U.S. government report: N. Korea has 60 nuclear bombs, 5000 tons of chemical weapons

August 19, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A new assessment made by the United States Department of the Army estimates that the North Korean regime is in possession of massive amounts of conventional and non-conventional weapons that they are 'highly likely' to use in specific circumstances, according to the *Yonhap News Agency*.

The assessment was published in a report entitled 'North Korean Tactics,' and attributes North Korea's huge armaments program to a desire to 'prevent other countries from contemplating regime change.' Apparently, Kim Jong-un, the North Korean dictator, took note of what happened to his Libyan counterpart Muammar Gaddafi and 'does not want something similar to happen' to him. (Gaddafi was killed by rebel Libyan forces, after a multi-national force including NATO countries attacked Libya with the stated goal of imposing an arms embargo, sanctions, and an assets freeze against regime leaders.)

According to the report, North Korea already has between 20 and 60 nuclear bombs and 'the capacity to produce six new devices each year.' It also boasts the world's third-largest stockpile of chemical weapons – between 2,500 and 5,000 tons of various substances – and is engaged in research into biological warfare as well. 'Only one kilogram of anthrax could kill up to 50,000 people in Seoul,' the capital of South Korea, the report's authors note...'

PA Mufti prohibits visits to Al-Aqsa

August 18, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Sheikh Muhammad Hussein, the Mufti of the Palestinian Authority, issued an Islamic fatwa (ruling) which bans prayer at the Al-Aqsa Mosque or visiting the site if it was the result of the agreement which normalizes ties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates.

Hussein noted that prayer in the Al-Aqsa Mosque is possible for anyone who comes to the site on the basis of Palestinian legitimacy, and not for those who maintain normalization with Israel and make use of the Palestinian issue to please the United States and Israel.

He warned that Muslim clerics in Jerusalem have already ruled against cooperating with the US 'Deal of the Century', to which the establishment of relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates was related.

Sheikh Hussein warned Muslims not to visit Jerusalem based on the agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates or the 'Deal of the Century' which is considered illegal and prohibited by Islamic law..."

Balloon launches into Israel continue, as Hamas threatens escalation

August 18, 2020 jpost.com reported: "Terrorists in the Gaza Strip continued to launch incendiary and explosive balloons towards Israel and threatened to intensify the launches, as Egypt continued attempts to prevent an escalation on Tuesday.

An incendiary balloon landed in the yard of a house in Sderot on Tuesday morning, causing light damage and no injuries. Police sappers arrived at the scene to deal with the device.

Shmulik Friedman, the commander of operations of the Fire and Rescue Service in southern Israel, conducted a situation evaluation in the Be'eri Forest on Tuesday.

Some 18 fires were sparked by incendiary balloons in southern Israel on Tuesday. Most of the fires were small and not dangerous.

Earlier on Tuesday, an explosive balloon detonated as police sappers arrived to the site where it landed in the Hof Ashkelon Regional Council. No injuries or damage were reported..."

Modi warns China over border tensions

August 17, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a new warning to China over deadly border tensions on Saturday, using his most important speech of the year to promise to build a stronger military.

With talks on easing a military build-up in their Himalayan border region at a stalemate, Modi told an Independence Day ceremony that India's sovereignty was 'supreme' and that relations with neighbours depended on security and trust.

Attendance at the historic Red Fort in New Delhi for the speech was cut by more than half to 4,000 people, all of whom sat two metres (six feet) apart because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Hindu nationalist prime minister mentioned confrontations with Pakistan and China on their disputed borders, but without naming either country..."

Iranian official: The UAE will be engulfed in Zionist conflagration

August 14, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A senior Iranian official on Thursday denounced the agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates.

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, a special adviser on international affairs to the speaker of Iran's parliament, said the agreement to normalize ties between the two countries will not secure peace in the region.

'UAE's new approach for normalizing ties with fake, criminal Israel doesn't maintain peace & security, but serves ongoing Zionist crimes,' he tweeted.

'Abu Dhabi's behavior has no justification in turning its back on the Palestine cause. With that strategic mistake, UAE will be engulfed in the flames of Zionism,' added Amir-Abdollahian.

US President Donald Trump announced earlier on Thursday that Israel and the UAE had reached an agreement to normalize ties. As part of the agreement, Israel agreed to postpone the application of sovereignty over Judea and Samaria..."



India President Modi

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