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Iran's enriched uranium stockpile 12 times limit, says IAEA

November 12, 2020 bbc.com reported: "Iran now has more than 12 times the amount of enriched uranium permitted under a 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, a global watchdog says.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Iran's stockpile of low-enriched uranium had reached 2,442.9kg (5,385.6lb) this month.

Iran insists its nuclear programme is exclusively for peaceful purposes.

The IAEA also said Iran's explanation for the presence of nuclear material at an undeclared site was 'not credible'.

On Twitter, the country's ambassador to the IAEA, Gharib Abadi, said 'any hasty comments should be avoided', adding: 'Interactions are ongoing with a view to finalize the resolution of the matter.'

In its latest report, distributed to member states, the IAEA did not identify the site where it had found nuclear material. An unnamed source told *AFP* news agency that there was no indication it had been used for processing uranium, but it could have been used to store the material..."

All Hong Kong pro-democracy lawmakers to resign as China crushes opposition

November 11, 2020 bangkokpost.com reported: "Hong Kong's pro-democracy lawmakers said Wednesday they would all quit in protest at the ousting of four of their colleagues who were judged a threat to national security by authoritarian Beijing.

The resignations will reduce the semi-autonomous city's once-feisty legislature to a gathering of Chinese central government loyalists, effectively ending pluralism in the chamber.

They also mark another blow to Hong Kong's beleaguered pro-democracy movement,

which has been under sustained attack since China imposed a sweeping national security law, including arrests for social media posts and activists fleeing overseas.

"We, from the pro-democracy camp, will stand with our colleagues," Wu Chi-wai, convener of the 15 remaining pro-democracy legislators, told a press conference..."We will resign en masse."

Earlier Wednesday, Hong Kong authorities ousted the four members minutes after one of China's top lawmaking committees ruled the city's government could remove any legislator deemed a threat to national security without going through the courts.

Hong Kong's leader is chosen by pro-Beijing committees, but half of its legislature's 70 seats are directly elected, offering the city's 7.5 million residents a rare chance to have their voices heard at the ballot box.

Scuffles and protests routinely break out, with the pro-democracy minority often resorting to filibustering, chanting and obstruction to try to halt bills they oppose.

At Wednesday's press conference the pro-democracy camp joined hands in solidarity and shouted "Hong Kong add oil!" - a popular slogan during months of huge and often violent protests that rocked the financial hub last year.

China passed the sweeping security law in June to quell the protests, describing it as a "sword" hanging over the heads of its critics.

Pro-democracy member Claudia Mo said Beijing was trying to "sound the death knell of Hong Kong's democracy fight"." ..."

Mozambique Islamists Behead over 50, Hack Them to Pieces in Mass Execution

November 11, 2020 breitbart.com reported: "Islamist militants fighting for control of the gas-rich Cabo Delgado province in Mozambique held a mass execution on a soccer field over the weekend, beheading over 50 people and chopping their bodies to pieces.



Mozambique has been under attack by jihadis linked to the Islamic State for several years. The campaign escalated significantly when the jihadis focused their efforts on the vital port city of Mocimboa da Praia in late 2017, with an eye toward capturing or disrupting Mozambique's lucrative natural gas industry.

The militants took control of Mocimboa da Praia and several other northern towns in the summer of 2020, inflicting a major setback on government troops and private security forces hired to protect the gas pipelines.

The insurgency calls itself Ahlu-Sunnah Wa-Jama, a name imported from a faction of the Al-Shabaab terrorist organization in Somalia. Some Mozambicans simply refer to the insurgents as 'Al-Shabaab,' although security analysts believe the Mozambique insurgency has no direct links to the Somali group.

Ahlu-Sunnah Wa-Jama unmasked its fighters last April and declared its goal of establishing a 'caliphate' in Mozambique. An attack on a Cabo Delgado village this month included nine beheadings and over forty people killed by gunfire..."

EU Leaders Urge 'Rapid and Coordinated' Response to Terror Attacks

November 11, 2020 voanews.com reported: "After the recent terror attacks in France and Austria, European leaders held a summit Tuesday in France to coordinate the response against terrorism, and they are pushing for a 'common coordinated and rapid' European response to counterterror attacks.

The question of how to respond to Islamist attacks like the recent ones in Nice and Vienna brought together Tuesday French President Emmanuel Macron and Austrian Chancellor Sebastian Kurz at the Elysee Palace in Paris where they were joined by videoconference with the leaders of Germany, the Netherlands, and top EU officials.

President Macron urged a 'common coordinated and rapid' European response to counterterror attacks.

Macron detailed the need to develop common databases between EU states, improve cooperation between law enforcement, share intel and enact tougher legislation on the continent. Any threat at EU external borders or inside even one-member state is a threat to the entire EU, said the French president..."

Lebanese PM's brother: Time for peace with Israel

November 10, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Bahaa Hariri, the son of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, called on Lebanon and Israel to make peace.

'We have issues between us and the Israelis and we have to resolve them, but at the end of the day we need to have peace. I want my children to live in peace not war,' Hariri said in an interview with *Axios*.

Hariri praised the ongoing negotiations between Israel and Lebanon over their maritime border, calling the talks 'a positive step' for Lebanon.

However, he warned that the Hezbollah terrorist organization must not be allowed to obtain breathing room from the negotiations..."

UN speaks of Temple Mount as solely Muslim site, ignores Jewish ties

November 7, 2020 jpost.com reported: "Some 138 United Nations countries approved a draft resolution that spoke of the Temple Mount solely as an Islamic holy site, by referencing it only by its Muslim name of al-Haram al-Sharif.

It was one of seven pro-Palestinian, anti-Israel resolutions that the UN General Assembly's Fourth Committee in New York passed on Wednesday.

The resolution was titled, 'Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including east Jerusalem.'



The text did affirm the connection between Jerusalem and three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Still the reference in the text to the Temple Mount, the location of the ancient Jewish Temple and the most holy site in Judaism, solely by its Muslim name is viewed as an attempt by UN member states to delegitimize and erase that well known history.

Israel's Ambassador to the UN Gilad Erdan called the passage of the text 'a disgrace.' He added, 'No resolution passed here will change the eternal connection between the Jewish people and the holiest site of our faith – Har HaBayit, the Temple Mount,' Erdan said..."