

Mohammad Eslami, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), Has Criticized International Organizations for Their Double Standards Regarding the Zionist Regime's Actions in Gaza

IRAN NEWS

Iran's Representative in the International Atomic Energy Agency Said That Acceptance of Inspectors Appointed by the IAEA or Rejecting Some of Them Is Not a New Issue and This Is the Right of Any Country to Accept or Reject

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Without U.S. Support, Israel Couldn't Have Continued Gaza War



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian says Israel would not have been able to continue its war on the besieged Gaza Strip if it were not for the United States' support. In an interview with Qatar-based Al Jazeera television network, Amir-Abdollahian said Iran has received messages from the U.S. that Washington is not looking to expand the scope of the war. "Our response to the Americans was that by supporting Israel and supplying it with weapons, they are widening the scope of the war." In his interview, Amir-Abdollahian said Iran hopes the truce in Gaza would be the beginning of an end to the crimes of Israel. The Iranian foreign minister said the U.S. believes it can decide who will assume power in Gaza without the return of the Palestinians to their homeland. However, the minister underscored, Washington is wrong. The future of Gaza is determined only by the Palestinian people, he said.

Israel Definite Loser in Gaza War



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - The Zionist regime has achieved none of its objectives in the military onslaught against Gaza and its plans have certainly ended in failure, a high-ranking Iranian general said. Addressing a gathering of Basij forces on Saturday, Major General Yahya Rahim Safavi, the top military adviser to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, said the Zionist regime has attained none of the purposes it had declared in the brutal war against the Gaza Strip. The Israeli regime is definitely the loser in the Gaza war, he added, saying the Zionist regime's sole achievements were massacring 14,000 Palestinian people and injuring 38,000 others. Deriding the Israeli prime minister who had vowed to eradicate Hamas and turn Gaza into rubble, the Iranian general said Hamas continues to exist and the people of Gaza have heroically stood against the Israeli genocide with their resistance. Highlighting the US' support for the Israeli regime from the outset of the Gaza war, Major General Safavi said the Zionist regime would have given in to a ceasefire much earlier if Washington had not taken command of the political and military decisions in the Israeli onslaught. More than 14,800 Palestinians, including 6,150 children, have been killed in Gaza in the Israeli strikes since October 7. After prolonged negotiations and a delay of at least 24 hours, a four-day truce between the Israeli regime and Hamas took effect on Friday morning, with captives held in Gaza released in exchange for Palestinian women and children detained in Israeli prisons.



Iran to Stage Two Joint Naval Drills in Sea of Oman Soon

TEHRAN (PressTV) - A high-ranking Iranian military commander says the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy plans to hold two joint naval exercises with foreign military forces in the northern tip of the Indian Ocean within the next few months. Navy chief Rear Admiral Shahrman Irani told reporters at a press briefing in the capital Tehran on Friday that the Iranian naval forces will stage a naval rescue and relief exercise with the Sultanate of Oman, noting that other countries have been also invited to participate in the drill. The commander added that another exercise, known as Marine Security Belt naval war game, will be held later on. While the 2023 Marine Security Belt naval war game took in naval forces of Iran, China and Russia, this year's edition will involve more states including main participants and observers from various continents, Irani stated, adding that the exercise will cover the northern flanks of the Indian Ocean. Last year's maritime drills kicked off on March 15, and ran through March 19. The war game was meant to deepen practical cooperation among the navies of participating countries. The maritime exercise reportedly involved forces from the marine and airborne units of the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy, and flotillas from China and Russia. Iranian naval forces, together with their Chinese and Russian counterparts, have held several joint war games in recent years with the purpose of improving the security of international maritime trade, countering piracy and maritime terrorism, exchange of information in naval rescue and relief operations, and exchange of operational and tactical experiences. Elsewhere in his remarks on Friday, Irani highlighted that the Islamic Republic of Iran Navy will soon take delivery of a new domestically-designed and manufactured destroyer, dubbed Deylaman. The commander also described the Caspian Sea as a body of water for promotion of peace and friendship. He stressed that Deylaman destroyer will chiefly guarantee maritime security in the Caspian Sea, adding that the unique conditions of the water body require vessels that can withstand a constant presence. The homegrown destroyer will also help elevate the training skills of Iranian cadets, as all Iranian naval training centers are located in the northern part of the country, Irani pointed out. The commander also stated that Deylaman is the most sophisticated destroyer in Jamaran class, and is furnished with much more advanced and elaborate systems compared to the previously unveiled homegrown military vessels. Iran's Navy has in recent years achieved self-sufficiency in manufacturing surface and sub-surface vessels. It has also increased its presence in international waters to protect naval routes and provide security for merchant vessels and tankers.

Criminal Israeli Officials Must Be Brought to Justice



TEHRAN - Iran's top human rights official says criminal Israeli authorities must be brought to trial for their atrocities against the Palestinian nation, stressing that the Islamic Republic is seriously following up on the matter. Kazem Gharibabadi, secretary of Iran's High Council for Human Rights, made the remarks in an interview with the Arabic-language al-Alam television news network on Friday night. "Criminal officials of the Israeli regime must be tried. The Islamic Republic of Iran has placed particular focus on the issue, and Iranian lawyers and jurists have for this reason had interactions with their counterparts in other countries as part of attempts to follow up the case. The matter is also being pursued by judicial authorities of other Muslim states," Gharibabadi said. The top Iranian rights official went on to sharply criticize certain Muslim countries for their refusal to cut off diplomatic ties with the Tel Aviv regime and expel Israeli ambassadors, boycott products linked to Israel, and impose an embargo on all oil and energy exports to the Israeli-occupied Palestinian lands. "The issue of Palestine is currently the root cause of unity among Muslim states. Muslim countries are expected to alter their behavior, and put their words into actions," Gharibabadi stated. Israel waged its genocidal war after the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas launched Operation Al-Aqsa Storm inside the occupied territories on October 7. The regime has killed at least 14,854 people, including more than 6,150 children and 4,000 women, in Gaza.

China to Invest €2b in Constructing IKIA's Phase II



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Iran's minister of roads and urban development said China will invest €2 billion for the construction operation of the second phase of the Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKIA). Speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction project of the second phase of the Imam Khomeini Airport City on Saturday, Mehrdad Bazrpash described it as one of the most important, strategic and largest development projects in the country. The roads minister called on the private sector activists to assist the ministry in implementing the project. The first phase of the development of Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKIA), costing \$500 million, will come on stream in March 2025, he added. The minister said a Chinese company will invest more than €2 billion for the completion of the construction operation of the second phase of the IKIA. The Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKIA) will turn into a new air transportation hub in the Middle East region, the chief executive of Chinese Company Hakan said. Emphasizing that China's cooperation with Iran is "unshakable and unwaivering", Hui Ka Yan stated that the development project of the IKIA in cooperation with the Khatam al-Anbiya Construction Headquarters will become a role model for the development of the Silk Road. Speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction operation of the second phase of the IKIA, he pointed to the amicable ties between Iran and China and added that Chinese President Xi Jinping during the visit of Iranian president of China emphasized that the relations between the two countries are strategic and he will make his utmost effort to expand the friendly relations in all areas. The development of the airport is a turning point in cooperation between Iran and China within the framework of a 25-Year Strategic Partnership Agreement, he said, adding that if the second phase of the airport is completed, it will become a leading airport with the annual capacity of transporting 35 million passengers.

Tehran Blasts European Parliament's Anti-Iran Human Rights Resolution



TEHRAN (PressTV) - Iran has vehemently condemned the "interventionist" resolution that the European Parliament (EP) recently passed about what they called the situation of human rights in the country. The spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry, in a statement released on Friday, said the resolution approved by the legislative body of the European Union the previous day stems from the "destructive approach that several European currents have adopted vis-à-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran." "The European Parliament's meddling resolution indicates the confusion of a number of European parties over the reality of the Islamic Republic of Iran's might and anti-arrogance stances," Nasser Kanaani said as he denounced the EP's resolution. The senior Iranian diplomat went on to criticize certain European countries for siding with terrorist groups over the past four decades against the Iranian nation, stating that their "theatrical measures and bogus humanitarian slogans" will never erase their "dark records" of sponsoring anti-Iranian criminals. "Whilst the public opinion across the world, as in European countries, is distressed, traumatized and infuriated by continuation of the most inhumane crimes in Gaza, which are being committed by the apartheid and child-killing Israeli regime, and asks the

officials of their respective countries to stop the genocide and war crimes against the defenseless and oppressed people of Gaza by raising their voices in streets in various cities across that continent (Europe), the European Parliament that alleges to be the symbol of democracy, so-called human rights and humanitarian values has turned a blind eye to the most unprecedented and barbaric collective punishment and vicious massacre of tens of thousands of innocent Palestinian citizens, of whom 70 percent are women and children," he said. The spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry emphasized that Europeans' double standard would not go unnoticed by the world's scholars and those whose conscience have awakened. Kanaani also advised those who initiate and draft such "worthless anti-Iranian resolutions" to remedy their behavior as well as failed policies towards the Iranian government and nation, and adopt the policy of constructive interaction and cooperation on the basis of mutual respect and interests. On Thursday, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on human rights situation in Iran, condemning what it claimed as rights abuses against women in the country. The nonbinding resolution was adopted by 516 votes in favor, 4 against with 27 abstentions.

IRAN NEWS



Iran, Indonesia Cooperate in Science, Knowledge

TEHRAN (IP) - A memorandum of understanding on scientific-academic cooperation between the State Islamic Institute Kerinci and the Cultural attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran was signed in Indonesia. During a virtual ceremony, Ash'ari, the president of the State Islamic Institute Kerinci, praised Iran's advancements in scientific and cultural fields. He mentioned that since the Islamic Revolution, Iran has emerged as a leader in several sciences across the region and the world, due to the efforts and management of intellectuals and scientists. Mohammad-Reza Ebrahimi, Iran's Cultural Attaché to Indonesia, also said: "Iran's Cultural Attaché to Indonesia has signed a MoU with Indonesian universities, and one of the clauses of these memorandums is the establishment of an Iran room in Indonesian universities."

Non-Oil Exports Exceed \$32b in 8 Months



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Ninety million tons of non-oil products, valued at more than \$32 billion, were exported from Iran in the first eight months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21 to November 22, 2023). Iran's export of non-oil products registered a 27 and 1.6 percent hike in weight and value respectively compared to last year's corresponding period. In this timespan, 24.7 million tons of non-oil products, valued at \$42.1 billion, were imported into the country, showing about a four and twelve percent increase in weight and value respectively compared to the same period of last year. Some 90 million tons of non-oil products, valued at more than \$32 billion, were imported into the country from March 21 to November 22, 2023, showing a 27 and 1.6 percent hike in weight and value respectively. Hence, Iran's balance of trade in this period has been positive, exceeding \$10 billion.

Non-Oil Exports to Kyrgyzstan Up 20%



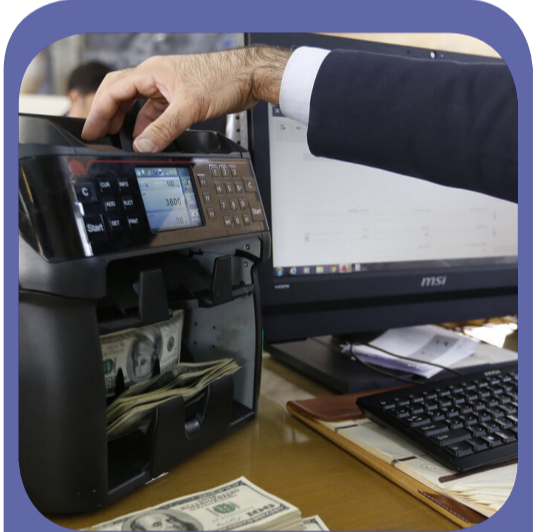
TEHRAN- The value of Iran's non-oil export to Kyrgyzstan increased by 20 percent during the first seven months of the current Iranian calendar year (March 21-October 22), as compared to the same period of time in the past year, the spokesman of the International Relations and Trade Development Committee of Iran's House of Industry, Mining and Trade announced. Ruhollah Latifi said that Iran exported non-oil commodities worth \$40.345 million to Kyrgyzstan in the seven-month period of this year. He also announced that Iran imported commodities valued at \$3.997 million from Kyrgyzstan during the first seven months of this year, with 22 percent rise year on year. Kyrgyzstan's capital Bishkek hosted the 13th Iran-Kyrgyzstan Joint Economic Committee meeting during October 19-21, when the two sides discussing numerous issues regarding the expansion of trade ties. Iran's Agriculture Minister Mohammad-Ali Nikbakht, who is the Iranian chair of the joint committee, headed a high-ranking delegation to the country in order to meet with Kyrgyz officials and attend the meeting. Prior to the meeting, Nikbakht met and held talks with the Kyrgyz economy and agriculture ministers and discussed ways of expanding ties in various economic sectors. Speaking in his meeting with the Kyrgyz Agriculture Minister Askarbek Janybekov, Nikbakht said: "The value of trade between the two countries was \$78 million last year and \$33 million this year,

which is not a significant figure considering the will of the high officials of the two countries to develop relations." "We are ready to take action in various fields to develop investment and trade between the two countries as quickly as possible. Iran has successful experiences in the fields of aquaculture and fisheries, modern irrigation methods, watershed management, and greenhouse products, and we are willing to provide such experience to the Kyrgyz side," he added. Also, after the meeting with Daniyar Amangeldiev, Minister of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Iranian official emphasized the use of the national currencies of the two countries in trade exchanges. Amangeldiev for his part said that the two countries' joint economic committee is a very good opportunity to strengthen bilateral relations and it will have good results in the commercial and economic field. Later, on the first day of the joint economic committee meeting, the businessmen of the two countries attended B2B meetings to explore the avenues of mutual cooperation in various fields. The 12th Iran-Kyrgyzstan Joint Economic Committee meeting was held in Tehran in early December 2019. In early May, Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) hosted an Iran-Kyrgyzstan business forum in which the representatives of the two countries' private sectors explored ways of expanding trade ties.

IRGC Navy Develops New AAMs



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Navy has manufactured two new air-to-air missiles, a commander said. IRGC Navy Commander Rear Admiral Ali Reza Tangsiri announced on Saturday that the two new air-launched missiles have been developed for the purpose of destroying drones and cruise missiles. The two homegrown AAMs have a range of 4 km and 17 km, he added. The new missiles have already been manufactured and will be unveiled in future, the general noted. Hailing the IRGC Navy's progress in manufacturing air- and sea-based missiles, the commander said the AI-powered missiles can precisely hit the targets at a distance of up to 2,000 km. Last week, the IRGC unveiled a new version of the 'Fatah' ballistic missile equipped with a hypersonic glide vehicle (HGV) warhead. The glide vehicle can reach a speed of Mach 5 to 20, depending on its design and utility.



Iran Attracts \$9.2b in Foreign Investment Over Two Years

TEHRAN (IRNA) - The head of the Organization for Investment Economic and Technical Assistance of Iran has announced that the country has attracted \$9.2 billion in foreign investment over the past two years. Ali Fekri sahed the information during an interview with Iranian television on Thursday. Fekri highlighted that during the Iranian calendar year 1401 (March 20, 2022, to March 20, 2023), Iran managed to attract nearly \$4.2 billion of foreign investment, which represents a significant increase compared to previous years. He also noted that the amount of foreign investment during this period showed a growth of 170%. However, after the signing of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, the Total company was expected to invest more than \$4 billion in the 11th phase of South Pars, but Total has not invested a single dollar in the project.

Influence of Basij Extends Beyond Iran

TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Iran's highest-ranking military commander lauded the Basij (mobilization forces) as a stellar milestone in the history of the Islamic Revolution, saying the philosophy and influence of Basij have inspired other regional Muslim nations. In a message on Saturday, Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces Major General Mohammad Hossein Baqeri said Basij, 44 years after its establishment, has become so impressive that its benefits are not anymore confined to the social services, construction projects, relief aid supports, or settlement of the social, cultural and economic problems. The ideology and philosophy of Basij has gone beyond the borders of Iran, as the force has emerged as a reliable support and beacon of hope for the regional Muslim nations, particularly for the oppressed and resistant Palestinian nation, the general added. He also hailed Basij as the embodiment of movement of the revolutionary youth

for meeting the demands of the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Establishment in a responsible manner. In a message on the anniversary of formation of Basij in November 2020, Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei hailed it as a major and stellar legacy of the late founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeini, a symbol of national might, and an exhibition of piety, insight and endeavor. "Basij is the Iranian nation's great asset and God-given backup," the Leader said in the message, warned that the enemies of Iran have always attempted to dismantle or nullify the Basij force, and urged Basij members to thwart the enemies' plots through reliance on God and planning. Basij is a paramilitary voluntary force established in 1979 on Imam Khomeini's order. The force consists of often young Iranians, who have volunteered, with a strong sense of fidelity to both the Islamic system and religious beliefs.



Khayyam Satellite Empowers Precise Weather Monitoring Nationwide



TEHRAN (Tasnim) - Leveraging data from the Khayyam satellite, the Iranian Space Agency has been closely monitoring rainfall and water resources across various regions in the country. The agency has been capturing detailed images of multiple locations throughout the country and provided a comprehensive report to Iranian Crisis Management Organization. Utilizing Khayyam satellite data, the Iranian Space Agency meticulously monitored different parts of the country, focusing on Lorestan and Khuzestan provinces, notably the city of Mamulan and its surrounding villages. The satellite, following ground station commands, precisely captured images of these areas. Experts from the Iranian Space Agency and the Space Research Institute meticulously analyzed the gathered data from these images. The data facilitated a comprehensive assessment of critical zones along the Karkheh and Keshkan rivers in Lorestan and Khuzestan provinces, pinpointing areas vulnerable to river overflow following the recent rainfall. The assessment report has been shared with the Crisis Management Organization, empowering authorities to effectively address affected regions and strategically plan for future rainfall occurrences.

Slovak PM Sees Ukraine War Lasting to 2030

PRAGUE (Dispatches) - Slovak premier Robert Fico said that the Ukraine war risks lasting until 2030 if peace talks are not started. The populist left-winger won September's general election, pledging during the campaign to discontinue the military aid given to Ukraine by previous governments. "This conflict is frozen, it is in a state wherein it may last until 2029 or 2030," Fico told reporters in Prague after meeting his Czech counterpart Petr Fiala. "It is better to lead talks for 10 years in peace or with suspended combat operations than to go to the negotiations table after 10 years without any result, only to find out that we have another 500 or 600 thousand dead," he added. Fico's three-party cabinet comprising far-right ministers has already blocked a 40.3-million-euro (\$44-million) military aid package to Ukraine planned by the previous administration.



Calm Restored to Dublin Streets After 34 Arrested for Riots



DUBLIN (Dispatches) - Calm was restored to the streets of central Dublin on Friday night amid a heavy police presence after 34 people were arrested following rioting the previous night that was triggered by the stabbing of three young children in the street. Police were on alert for further violence after rioters smashed shop windows; set fire to police cars, buses and a tram; and clashed with officers in and around the main thoroughfare of O'Connell Street in violence rarely seen in the Irish capital. Shoppers and tourists returned on Black Friday morning, passing officers guarding looted stores as burnt out vehicles were removed. Police chased a few people from the street on Friday evening and made some arrests but the city was quiet. "Those involved brought shame on Dublin, brought shame on Ireland and brought shame on their families and themselves," Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar told a news conference early on Friday of the violence overnight. A 5-year-old girl remained in a critical condition on Friday following emergency treatment for serious injuries sustained in the stabbing, which happened near a school and beside O'Connell Street. Police, who say they have not ruled out any motive including whether it was terror-related, have not commented on the nationality of a man detained in connection with the stabbings but there was immediate speculation online that he was foreign. The man is in his late 40s and being treated for serious injuries. Police said they were not looking for any other suspect. Police blamed far-right agitators for starting the agitation after a small group of anti-immigrant protesters arrived at the scene of the stabbing and clashed with police. Varadkar said his government would take immediate steps to tighten anti-hate legislation he said was unfit for the social media age. Ministers also plan to fast-track laws to allow officers to use body-worn cameras. "As a country we need to reclaim Ireland. We need to take it away from the coverers who hide behind masks and try to terrify us with their violence," Varadkar said in an emotional statement. The attack was condemned across all political parties, including the main opposition Sinn Fein, whose leader called for the justice minister and police chief to resign over what she called an "unacceptable failure" to keep people safe. Justice Minister Helen McEntee said she would not quit and Police Commissioner Drew Harris earlier defended the force's response, saying the scenes in the city were unprecedented. "I think that we've seen an element of radicalisation. We have seen a group of people who take literally a thimble full of facts and make a bathtub of hateful assumptions and then conduct themselves in a way which is riotous and disruptive to our society," Harris told a news conference. It took officers several hours to regain control after a group of local youths joined the protesters, some of whom were shouting "get them out", with one carrying a sign saying "Irish Lives Matter". The crowd grew to about 200 to 300 people. British minister Michael Gove, in Dublin for a meeting with Varadkar, told reporters the violence had been shocking. "It's a mark of Ireland that this sort of thing is so rare," he said. People were urged to stay away from large parts of the city during the height of the violence. Harris said 13 shops were damaged or looted, 11 police cars damaged and destroyed along with three buses and a tram. One officer was seriously injured. "Right now we are feeling worried," said Hassan Alia, a Foot Locker security guard standing outside the shuttered store early on Friday who was also working the previous night before it was looted.

Hamas, Israel Conduct Hostage-for-Prisoner Swap



GAZA (Dispatches) - Hamas released 24 hostages it held captive in Gaza for weeks, and Israel freed 39 Palestinians from prison in the first stage of a swap under a four-day cease-fire that offered a small glimmer of relief to both sides. Israel — wrenched by the abduction of nearly 240 people in Hamas' Oct. 7 attack that triggered the war — cheered as 13 Israeli women and children emerged free from Gaza. Most were in their 70s or 80s, and the youngest was a 2-year-old. Also released were 10 people from Thailand and one from the Philippines. In Gaza, the truce's start Friday morning brought the first quiet for 2.3 million Palestinians reeling and desperate from relentless Israeli bombardment that has killed thousands, driven three-quarters of the population from their homes and leveled residential areas. Rocket fire from Gaza militants into Israel went silent as well. Increased supplies of food, water, medicine and fuel promised under the deal began to roll into Gaza, where U.N. officials had warned that Israel's seal on the territory threatened to push it to starvation. But relief has been tempered — among Israelis by the fact that not all hostages will be freed and among Palestinians by the briefness of the pause. The short truce leaves Gaza mired in humanitarian crisis and under the threat that fighting could soon resume. Israel says the cease-fire could be extended if more hostages are released, but it has vowed to resume its massive offensive once the truce ends. That has clouded hopes that the deal could eventually help wind down the conflict, which has fueled a surge of violence in the occupied West Bank and stirred fears of a wider conflagration across the Middle East. Under the deal, Hamas is to release at least 50 hostages, and Israel 150 Palestinian prisoners over the four days. Both sides were starting with women and children. Israel said the four-day truce could be extended an extra day for every additional 10 hostages freed. After nightfall Friday, a line of ambulances emerged from Gaza through the Rafah Crossing into Egypt carrying the freed hostages, according to live footage on Egypt's state-run Al-Qahera TV. The freed Israelis included nine women and four children 9 and under. The military said they were taken to hospitals in Israel to be reunited with their families. At a plaza dubbed "Hostages Square" in

Tel Aviv, a crowd of Israelis celebrated at the news. Yael Adar spotted her mother, 85-year-old Yaffa Adar, in a TV newscast of the release and was cheered to see her walking. "That was a huge concern, what would happen to her health during these almost two months," she told Israel's Channel 12. But Yael's 38-year-old son, Tamir Adar, remained in captivity. Both were kidnapped on Oct. 7 from Kibbutz Nir Oz. "Everyone needs to come back. It's happiness locked up in grief." The hostages included multiple generations. Nine-year-old Ohad Munder-Zichri was freed along with his mother, Keren Munder, and grandmother Ruti Munder. The fourth-grader was abducted during a holiday visit to his grandparents at the kibbutz where about 80 people — nearly a quarter of all residents of the small community — are believed to have been taken hostage. The plight of the hostages has raised anger among some families that the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was not doing enough to bring them home. Hours later, 24 Palestinian women and 15 teenagers held in Israeli prisons in the occupied West Bank and east Jerusalem were freed. In the West Bank town of Beituna, hundreds of Palestinians poured out of their homes to celebrate, honking horns and setting off fireworks that lit up the night sky. The teenagers had been jailed for minor offenses like throwing stones. The women included several convicted of trying to stab Israeli soldiers, and others who had been arrested at checkpoints in the West Bank. According to the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, an advocacy group, Israel is currently holding 7,200 Palestinians, including about 2,000 arrested since the start of the war. Friday's halt in fighting brought Gaza's uprooted population a moment to catch their breath after weeks of fleeing for shelter, searching for food and fearing for family. After the truce began Friday morning, four trucks of fuel and four trucks of cooking gas entered from Egypt, as well as 200 trucks of relief supplies, Israel said. Israel has barred all imports into Gaza throughout the war, except for a trickle of supplies from Egypt. Its ban on fuel, which it said could be diverted to Hamas, caused a territory-wide blackout. Hospitals, water systems, bakeries and shelters have struggled to keep generators running.

OPEC+ Moving Closer to Compromise With African Producers



LONDON (Dispatches) - OPEC+ has moved closer to a compromise with African oil producers on 2024 output levels, four OPEC+ sources told Reuters, after disagreements over those targets forced the group of oil-producing nations to postpone a key meeting. OPEC members Angola and Nigeria were aiming for a higher oil output allowance, officials told Reuters. The postponement of the meeting of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies such as Russia, known as OPEC+, from Nov. 26 to Nov. 30 sent oil prices sharply lower. But they have since recovered, with Brent crude prices on Friday trading above \$81 a barrel. On Thursday OPEC said the meeting would be held virtually. One of the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said he felt "with 99% of confidence" that OPEC+ could reach an agreement on Nov. 30. A second source said that an "understanding has been reached" over the African producers issue. Two other sources said that an agreement was near. Nigeria's governor to OPEC Gabriel Tanimu Aduola told Reuters that he was not aware of any disagreements with other members of OPEC+ over his country's production targets. Nigeria and Angola were among several countries given lower targets at the last OPEC+ meeting in June after years of failing to meet the previous ones. As of October, Angola was pumping less than its quota for 2024, according to assessments by independent sources cited by OPEC. Nigeria is pumping close to its 2024 quota of 1.38 million bpd but less than a 2024 level of 1.58 million bpd being considered for it subject to independent assessments. Several analysts have said they expect OPEC+ to extend or even deepen oil supply cuts into next year in order to support prices. The market is also waiting to see if Saudi Arabia extends its additional 1 million bpd voluntary production cut, which is due to expire at the end of December.



ST. JOHN'S (AFP) - The leaders of Canada and the European Union reiterated strong support for Ukraine in its fight against Russia's invasion, while pledging to deepen coordination on climate efforts. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau welcomed European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President Charles Michel at a summit in Canada's easternmost city, St. John's. "We will stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes," the two sides said in a statement, pledging to "work to address Ukraine's immediate military and defense needs and ensure Ukraine has the long-term security commitments needed." Trudeau announced that Canada would donate 11,000 assault rifles to Ukraine along with nine million rounds of ammunition. Since the Russian invasion began in February 2022, Canada has pledged Can\$2.4 billion (US\$1.8 billion) in military aid to Ukraine. Michel also said that the EU was "ready to do more in the weeks to come." The announcements come as the United States, Ukraine's biggest military backer by far, has been unable to pass additional funding through Congress amid political deadlock. Von der Leyen praised Canada as having backed Ukraine even before the war. She cited Canadian programs to train the military in pro-Western Ukraine and said this had been key in fighting the invasion. Von der Leyen said the EU has now trained 30,000 Ukrainian troops out of its goal of 40,000, and that the bloc will soon disclose what it plans to do with Russian assets it has seized in response to the invasion. The European leaders also expressed interest in Canada's

rich mineral resources, especially those used in electric vehicle batteries, with Von der Leyen inviting Canada to join a "critical raw material club" the EU plans to launch at next week's COP28 summit in the United Arab Emirates. The former German defense minister described Canada as "the only country in the Western Hemisphere with all the raw materials required for lithium batteries." The leaders also announced the creation of a Canada-EU Green Alliance to strengthen cooperation in the fight against climate change, notably in regards to carbon markets and green hydrogen. Trudeau, who thanked the EU for its help during Canada's "worst wildfire season on record" over the summer, also announced the sale of several firefighting planes to Europe. The EU leaders meanwhile raised the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), US President Joe Biden's signature climate and social spending law passed last year. The package provides some \$370 billion in investments to combat climate change, mainly in the form of incentives and subsidies for projects in the United States. European leaders have worried EU-based energy and auto companies will be shut out or move to the United States due to the IRA's provisions requiring components to be sourced domestically or among Washington's free-trade partners, such as Canada. "We discussed the consequences for Canada, for the EU, of this IRA put in place by the United States," Michel said. He reiterated the need for the G7 to develop a competitive model based on a "level" playing field. The last EU-Canada summit was held in Brussels in June 2021.



Chinese Military Holds Training Drills Near Myanmar Border

SHANGHAI (Dispatches) - China's military will begin "combat training activities" from Saturday on its side of the border with Myanmar, it said on social media, a day after a convoy of trucks carrying goods into the neighboring Southeast Asian nation went up in flames. The incident, which Myanmar state media called an insurgent attack, came amid security concerns in China, whose envoy met top officials in Myanmar's capital for talks on border stability after recent signs of rare strain in their ties. The training aims to "test the rapid maneuverability, border sealing and fire strike capabilities of theatre troops," the Southern Theatre Command, one of five in China's People's Liberation Army, said on the WeChat messaging app. The brief statement gave no details of timing or numbers of troops. Friday's fire in the town of Muse came as Myanmar's military has lost control of several towns and military outposts in the northeast and elsewhere as it battles the biggest co-ordinated offensive it has faced since seizing power in a 2021 coup. The surge in fighting has displaced more than 2 million people in Myanmar, the United Nations says.

Kim Jong Un Reviews Satellite Photos of U.S. Bases in Hawaii, South Korea

SEOUL (Dispatches) - North Korean state media said that leader Kim Jong Un has reviewed images taken by his country's new spy satellite of "major target regions" including the US military base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and sites across South Korea. Pyongyang successfully put a military spy satellite into orbit earlier this week, but South Korea said it was too early to determine if the satellite was functioning as the North claims. Experts have said putting a working reconnaissance satellite into orbit would improve North Korea's intelligence-gathering capabilities, particularly over South Korea, and provide crucial data in any military conflict. Pyongyang previously claimed, within hours of the Tuesday launch, that Kim was shown photos of US military bases in Guam taken by the satellite, named "Malligyong-1". On Saturday, the North claimed Kim inspected images taken as the satellite passed over Hawaii at around 5 am, including those of "a naval base in the Pearl Harbor, the Hickam air-force base in Honolulu," according to the North's official Korean Central News Agency. Kim also reviewed the satellite's images of the South Korean port city of Busan, which Pyongyang said were taken at around 10 am on Saturday. The photos included ones of the U.S. nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson, Pyongyang claimed. Carl Vinson had arrived at the Busan Naval Base on Tuesday, according to Seoul's military. In an earlier report on Saturday, KCNA said Kim had the day before reviewed the satellite's images of "major target regions" in the South, including its capital and cities hosting US military bases. The Friday images also included some areas of North Korea, it added. Among the South Korean cities mentioned, Pyongyang — around 60 kilometres from

Seoul — hosts Camp Humphreys, the largest overseas US military installation in the world. Pyeongyang is also home to the Osan Air Base, which houses Seoul's Air Force Operations Command as well as a US Air Force base. The North's satellite launch has since prompted the two Koreas to suspend — the South only partially — a five-year-old military accord established to de-escalate tensions on the peninsula. Separately, the top diplomats of South Korea, Japan and the United States on Friday "strongly condemned the launch for its destabilizing effect on the region" after a joint phone call, the US State Department said in a statement. The launch "used ballistic missile technology in violation of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions," it said. Seoul's spy agency has said that Pyongyang, after two failed attempts to put a satellite in orbit earlier this year, received help from Moscow for this week's successful launch. North Korea's National Aerospace Technology Administration would continue "additional fine-tuning" of the spy satellite's functions on Saturday, KCNA said.



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Nuggets, Celtics in Trouble in NBA In-Season Tournament

LOS ANGELES (Dispatches) - The Orlando Magic dealt the Boston Celtics' NBA in-season tournament hopes a blow as the Houston Rockets knocked reigning champions Denver out of the new competition. Houston's Jalen Green scored 25 points and Alperen Sengun added 21 points and 15 rebounds for the Rockets, who withstood another monster game from Denver's two-time NBA Most Valuable Player Nikola Jokic to win 105-86. Jokic scored a season-high 38 points to go with 19 rebounds and eight assists for Denver. But the reeling Nuggets, still feeling the absence of injured Jamal Murray, shot just 34 percent from the floor and slumped to their fifth defeat in seven games. Aaron Gordon embodied their offensive woes, going 0-for-12 from the field and putting up just two points. They finished group play at 2-2, but the point differential math meant an end to their chances of advancing. The Magic, who beat the Nuggets two days ago, bullied the league-leading Celtics in the second half on the way to a 113-96 victory that pushed Orlando's winning streak to six games. Moritz Wagner scored 27 points off the bench to lead the Magic and Paolo Banchero added 23 with seven rebounds. Jayson Tatum led the Celtics with 26 points and Jaylen Brown chipped in 18 - 12 of them in the first quarter. Brown connected on just two of 17 shots in the last three quarters as the Magic clamped down defensively to hand the Celtics their biggest defeat of the season. The Celtics led by 12 early in the third quarter when Orlando unleashed a 17-0 scoring run. Orlando opened the fourth on a 10-0 run - capped by Moritz Wagner's running layup - and rolled from there. The result saw the Magic conclude group play in the new tournament at 3-1. The Celtics, who could have secured their berth in the knockout stage, fell to 2-1, level with the

Brooklyn Nets and each with a game remaining when group play concludes on Tuesday. The six group winners and two wild card teams advance to the quarter-finals of the tournament that concludes with semi-finals and the final in Las Vegas in December. Banchero said the new Cup-style competition, designed to lend interest to early-season games, has been "huge." The Minnesota Timberwolves also let a chance to reach the quarters with a victory escape, falling 124-111 to the Sacramento Kings. De'Aaron Fox scored 36 points and handed out 12 assists for the Kings, who improved to 3-0 in group play. In New York, the Knicks roared back from a 21-point third-quarter deficit to stun the Miami Heat 100-98 in a must-win tournament game. Jalen Brunson scored 24 points and Immanuel Quickley scored 20 off the bench for the Knicks, who out-scored the Heat 29-11 in the fourth quarter. Jimmy Butler scored 23 points for Miami but missed a potential game-winning three-pointer with two-tenths of a second left. The Heat will now be fighting for a wild card spot on Tuesday when they take on the Milwaukee Bucks, who were fueled by a career-high 39 points from Brook Lopez in a 131-128 victory over the Washington Wizards. Giannis Antetokounmpo and Damian Lillard scored 31 points apiece for Milwaukee, who at 3-0 are closing in on a quarter-final berth. It marked the first time in franchise history that three Bucks players scored 30 points in the same game. The Phoenix Suns kept alive their bid to advance as a wild card in the West with a 110-89 victory over the Grizzlies. "Hopefully that's enough," said Devin Booker, who scored 40 points to help the Suns overcome the absence of superstar Kevin Durant, who missed his first game of the season with a sore right foot.

Kane Extends Scoring Run as Bayern Ease Past Cologne



BERLIN (Dispatches) - England striker Harry Kane continued his brilliant Bundesliga form, scoring the winner in Bayern Munich's 1-0 win over Cologne. Kane scored a first-half tap-in to give Bayern a tenth win of the season and put them top of the table overnight. "It was one of the easier goals I've scored in my career, but I'll take it," Kane told Dazn after the final whistle. The England captain has now scored 22 goals in all competitions since joining Bayern in August, and has found the net in each of his last seven games in all competitions. His latest strike was all Bayern needed as they eased past struggling Cologne with a controlled performance in the second half. "Some people might look at the result and think they expected a bit more, but it was a really good performance from us today," said Kane. "We controlled the game really well and should have had a few more goals in the first half for sure. Cologne approached the game with their usual gung-ho attitude, pressing high and occasionally managing to unsettle Bayern. Yet Bayern repeatedly tore through their hosts on the counter-attack, and could have been several goals ahead by the half-hour mark. Leroy Sane missed two good chances early on, before Kane finally broke the deadlock on 20 minutes. A quick transition from Bayern left Cologne outnumbered in the box, as Sane sliced through the middle to set up Eric-Maxim Choupo-Moting. Cologne defender Julian Chabot blocked Choupo-Moting's on the line, but Kane was on hand to tap in the rebound. It was the 30-year-old's 18th Bundesliga goal this season, taking his tally to double that of Cologne's team total. The hosts then continued to ride their luck as Kane bombarded their high back line with devastating through balls. Sane scooped another good chance wide of the post, while Marvin Schwabe denied Kingsley Coman with a sharp save. Cologne defended bravely in the second half, as a dominant Bayern side repeatedly failed to put the game beyond reach. Sane had another attempt blocked by Chabot, before Coman flicked a header against the crossbar.

Black Friday for Jets as Dolphins Triumph in New York

NEW YORK (Dispatches) - The Miami Dolphins won the first ever NFL game played on "Black Friday" with a convincing 34-13 victory at the New York Jets. The NFL traditionally plays on Thanksgiving Day but had never before put on a game on the following day, known as America's biggest day of shopping and sales. The Jets handed the Dolphins a valuable gift in the final seconds of the first half when quarterback Tim Boyle threw a "Hail Mary" deep into the end-zone. But Miami safety Jevon Holland intercepted the pass and then weaved his way down the field, showing smart footwork to evade tackles as he returned the ball 99-yards for a touchdown which put Miami 17-6 up at the break. That was to prove the decisive play of the game as the Jets were unable to mount any serious recovery and fell to their fourth straight loss. Holland said his background as a punt returner had helped him deal with the high looping pass from Boyle before he broke out into space. "I had to get busy. I had to show a little sugar and I just got in the zone," he said, before praising the improvements from Miami's defense. "I think it is just getting in our groove. It really is. It takes a little while to understand the defense but I think we are really trending upward and we're excited about it," he said. Just prior to Boyle's ill-fated attempt, the Jets had also scored from a "pick six" when Brandin Echols picked off Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa and sprinted 30 yards to score. Receiver Tyreek Hill had scored the opening touchdown for Miami when Tagovailoa found him short left and he rode a challenge for a seven yard score. Running back Raheem Mostert rushed in two touchdowns in the fourth quarter for Miami, either side of New York scoring when Boyle connected with Garret Wilson - just their 10th offensive touchdown of the season. The win moves the AFC East leading Dolphins to 8-3, level with the Baltimore Ravens atop the Conference standings, while the Jets fall to 4-7.



FIFA Open Disciplinary Proceedings After Brazil-Argentina Brawl



LAUSANNE (Dispatches) - FIFA confirmed disciplinary proceedings have been opened into the football federations of Brazil and Argentina after a brawl delayed the start of a 2026 World Cup qualifying match. Tuesday's match in Rio de Janeiro's Maracana stadium, which world champions Argentina won 1-0, was delayed for around half an hour after rival fans started fighting before kickoff. The iconic stadium descended into chaos, as players tried in vain to get fans to stop the fray. Argentina captain Lionel Messi led his team back to the dressing room, returning only after the violence had been quelled. Police fought back the melee with batons, leaving some fans with bloodied faces and other injuries. "FIFA can confirm that its Disciplinary Committee has opened proceedings against the Brazilian Football Association (CBF) and the Argentinian Football Association (AFA)," world football's governing body said in a statement. Brazil face sanctions for "potential breaches of article 17" of FIFA's disciplinary code, which regulates order and security at matches. Argentina, who inflicted the Brazilians' first ever home defeat in qualifying for a World Cup, face sanctions for the "crowd disturbance" and "delayed kick off". The two teams risk fines as well as international home matches with partial or total closure of their stadium, the two most common sanctions. Argentina are on top of the South American World Cup qualifying standings with 15 points from six games. Brazil's third defeat of qualifying, meanwhile, leaves the five-time world champions in sixth place with seven points from six games. Meanwhile the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said it will take legal action against social media users who attacked its president and players with racist slurs. The move came after users posted comments on the CBF's Instagram page calling black players for the Brazilian national team "monkeys" and CBF president Ednaldo Rodrigues, who has Indigenous roots, an "Indian." The CBF "will take legal action against those involved in these crimes," it said in a statement. "We will take all necessary measures each and every time such attacks occur, without respite. The fight against discrimination is one of our most important causes." The CBF said it also reported the incidents to Instagram, FIFA and South American football confederation CONMEBOL, as well as to police in Brazil, where racist hate speech is a crime punishable by up to five years in prison. The racist messages were written in response to CBF posts on two recent losses to Brazil's arch-rivals Argentina: a 1-0 defeat for the senior men's team in a 2026 World Cup qualifier Tuesday, and a 3-0 loss in the quarter-finals of the under-17 World Cup Friday. It is the latest in a series of racist incidents involving Brazilian players, including Real Madrid star Vinicius Junior, who has endured numerous attacks in Spain, and his teammate Rodrygo, who said he was also targeted with racist slurs on social media after Tuesday's loss. That match - Brazil's first-ever home defeat in World Cup qualifying - was marred by a massive stadium brawl between rival fans, which delayed kickoff by around 30 minutes.

De Minaur Drives Australia Past Finland to Reach Davis Cup Final

MALAGA (Dispatches) - Alex de Minaur smoothly guided Australia into a second successive Davis Cup final with an assured 2-0 win over Finland in Malaga. The world number 12 wore down Emil Ruusuvuori in a 6-4, 6-3 straight sets triumph, after Alexei Popyrin beat Otto Virtanen 7-6 (7/5), 6-2 in the first singles rubber. Australia, who last won the competition in 2003, will face Novak Djokovic's Serbia or Jannik Sinner's Italy in the final. "For us this cup is a priority, we do everything we can to represent Australia, with pride and passion," said De Minaur. "It's not too bad to reach another final." Australia captain Lleyton Hewitt said reaching the final means "a hell of a lot" to him. "Our boys dug really deep ... we're a tight-knit unit and we've given ourselves another opportunity on Sunday," he added. De Minaur produced a remarkable comeback against the Czech Republic in a rollercoaster classic to help his country reach the semi-finals but had a gentler ride this time at the Martin Carpena arena. Although he and Hewitt have been highly critical of the revamped Davis Cup format, the 24-year-old expertly steered his team into their 49th final. The 28-time champions, behind only the United States, ended Finland's fairytale run with little fuss, and the captains agreed not to play the deciding doubles. Nordic fans outnumbered those in green and gold, just as they did for their superb last eight victory over reigning champions Canada on Tuesday, but this time left disappointed. Finland's number one, Ruusuvuori, 69th in the world, missed the Canada win with a shoulder problem and he had heavy lifting to do after Virtanen's defeat. Ruusuvuori exchanged breaks with De Minaur, with the Australian finally converting his sixth break point in the third game to get back on serve and never looked back. De Minaur broke a second time when the Finn hit a backhand into the net and consolidated to move 4-2 ahead as he hit his stride. Ruusuvuori conceded a third break by slapping a forehand into the net and despite breaking back with a lovely drop shot, De Minaur served out to wrap up the set. At the start of the second he saved a break point against an aggressive Ruusuvuori and then broke himself for a 2-1 lead, which he protected. De Minaur clinched victory with a superb backhand winner, hit on the rise. Hewitt, who played in Australia's last Davis Cup win 20 years ago, knows the final will be tough, whether it is against world

number one Djokovic's Serbia, or number four ranked Sinner and Italy. Popyrin, 40th in the world, had paved the way for De Minaur by showing his quality in the second set to defeat his 171st ranked opponent. "Alexei stood up when he needed to today," added Hewitt. After a tight first set decided by tie-break, the Finn double-faulted to hand his opponent a break for 4-2, and then went wide as the Australian broke again to seal the win. "It's nerves that I have never experienced before in my life, the nerves playing the first tie, the first rubber of

a Davis Cup, winning my first live rubber of a Davis Cup (tie)," Popyrin said. "I just had to keep my head steady and just really focus on my serve and try to capitalise on opportunities when they came." Finland captain Jarkko Nieminen was disappointed not to make further history by taking the team to the final but said the experience was "amazing." "(I feel) empty when you realise that this trip for this year is over, (the) amazing trip that we have had," said Finland captain Jarkko Nieminen. "(I) appreciated the effort of the team, players, the crowd."

