

U.S. deploys more troops to West Asia

Pentagon reiterates its claim that Iran was behind tanker attacks; Russia and China call for restraint

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

China and Russia warned on Tuesday about escalating West Asian tensions after Washington said it would deploy 1,000 more troops to the region and renewed accusations that Iran was behind a tanker attack.

The U.S. moves came as Iran set a 10-day countdown for world powers to fulfil their commitments under a nuclear deal abandoned by Washington, saying it would otherwise surpass the uranium stockpile limit mandated by the accord.

"I have authorised approximately 1,000 additional troops for defensive purposes to address air, naval, and ground-based threats in the Middle East," acting Pentagon chief Patrick Shanahan said in a statement. "The recent Iranian attacks validate the reliable, credible intelligence we have received on hostile behaviour by Iranian forces and their proxy groups that threaten U.S. personnel and interests across the region."

Meanwhile, in an interview to Time magazine on Monday, Mr. Trump said he would order a U.S. military response if Iran had to be stopped getting nuclear arms, but he was not eager for war otherwise, downplaying the attacks on the oil tankers. He, though, accepted the U.S. intelligence assessment that Iran was behind the explosions.

"I would certainly go over nuclear weapons," he said, "and I would keep the other a question mark."

The U.S. has blamed Iran for last week's attacks on two tankers in the Gulf of Oman, a charge Tehran denies as "baseless". The Pentagon released new images on Monday that it said showed Iran was behind the attack on one

of the ships. The U.S. argument centres on an unexploded limpet mine on the tanker ship *Kokuka Courageous* that it says was removed by Iranians on a patrol boat.

"Iran is responsible for the attack based on video evidence and the resources and proficiency needed to quickly remove the unexploded limpet mine," the Pentagon said in a statement.

The U.S. released a grainy video last week it said showed the Iranians removing the mine. The images released on Monday show the site where the unexploded mine was allegedly attached, the Iranians on a patrol boat who are said to have removed it, and damage from another device that did explode.

'Won't wage war'

However, Iran President Hassan Rouhani insisted on Tuesday that Tehran would "not wage war against any nation." "Despite all of the Americans' efforts in the region and their desire to cut off our ties with all of the world and their desire to keep Iran secluded, they have been unsuccessful," Mr. Rouhani said.

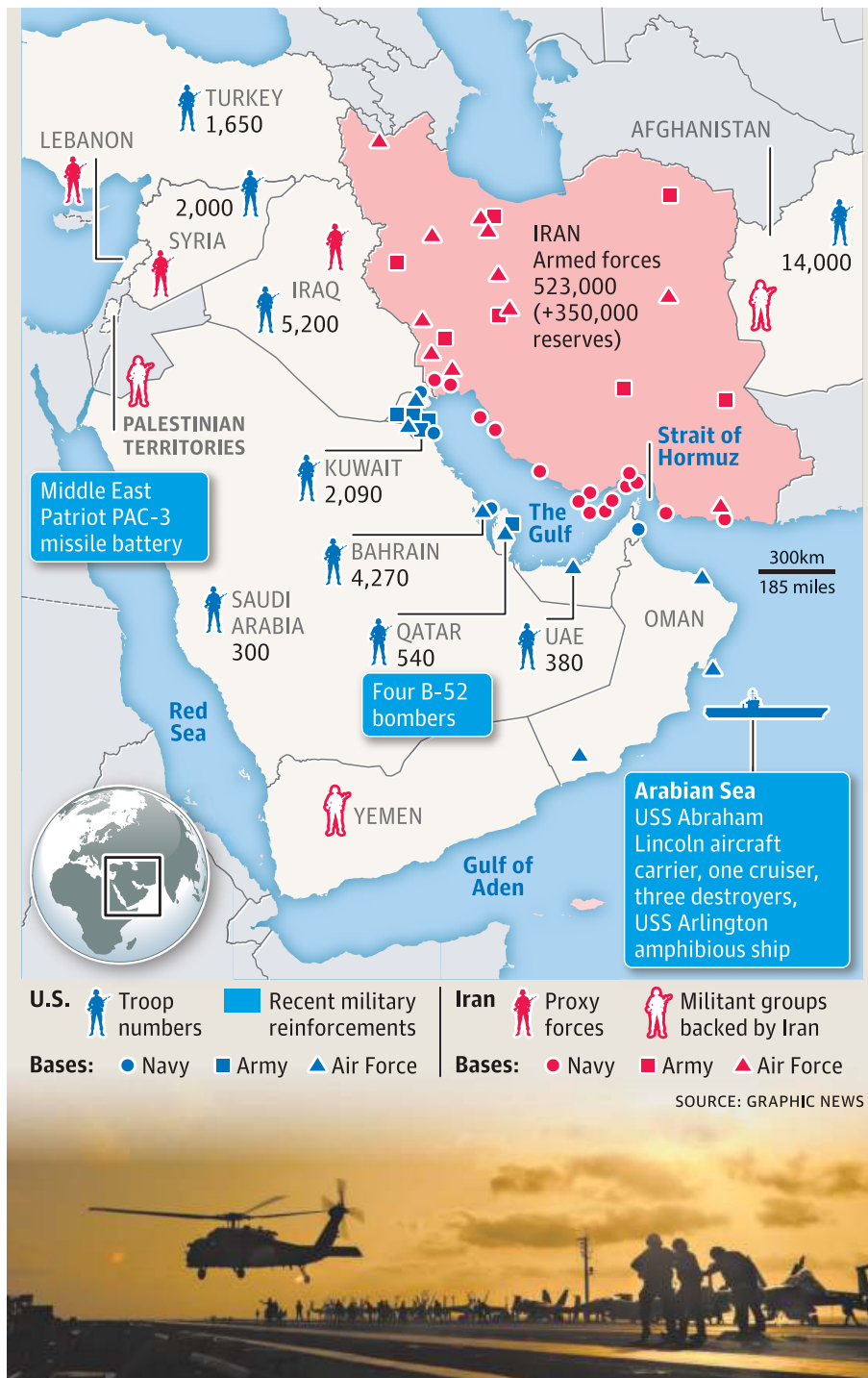
In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov urged all sides "to show restraint." "We would prefer not to see any steps that could introduce additional tensions in the already unstable region."

China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned all sides "not to take any actions to provoke the escalation of tension in the region, and not to open a Pandora's box." He urged Washington to "change its practice of extreme pressure" but also called on Tehran not to abandon the nuclear deal.

(With Reuters inputs)

Face to face

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said the U.S. is considering a 'full range of options' amid rising tensions with Iran. He, however, emphasised internal diplomacy over military response. A look at the current U.S. and Iranian troop deployment in West Asia



U.S. will deport millions of illegal migrants: Trump

Immigration agency will begin process next week: President

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

The United States will start removing "millions" of illegal migrants next week, President Donald Trump said on Monday, adding that Guatemala is preparing to sign a safe third country deal.

"Next week ICE will begin the process of removing the millions of illegal aliens who have illicitly found their way into the United States. They will be removed as fast as they come in," Mr. Trump said on Twitter, referring to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

He added that "Guatemala is getting ready to sign a Safe-Third Agreement," an apparent reference to a pact in which migrants entering Guatemalan territory would have to apply for refugee status there, not in the United States.

The U.S. is facing a surge in migrant arrivals from Gua-



Donald trump

temala and other impoverished Central American countries which are plagued by gang violence.

Mr. Trump has called it "an invasion," and has made the fight against illegal migration a central plank of his administration.

'Conditional aid'

Earlier on Monday, the U.S. said it would not offer any more aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras unless they take "concrete actions" to deter undocumented migrants from heading for the U.S. For fiscal 2019, \$370 mil-

lion initially planned will be allocated to other foreign policy priorities, the State Department said, and all future aid is now conditional.

"We will not provide new funds for programs in those countries until we are satisfied the Northern Triangle governments are taking concrete actions to reduce the number of illegal migrants coming to the US border," State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortigas said.

Under a deal between the U.S. and Mexico this month to avert threatened tariffs, Mexico agreed to deploy 6,000 National Guardsmen to reinforce its southern border, and to expand its policy of taking back migrants as the United States processes their asylum claims.

"Mexico, using their strong immigration laws, is doing a very good job of stopping people," Mr. Trump said on Monday.

China declines to confirm if it hosted Taliban's Baradar

Saudi paper reported that the leader was in Beijing for talks

ATUL ANEJA
BEIJING

China on Monday declined to confirm that it had hosted Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, the Taliban's deputy chief of political affairs, ahead of a crucial seventh round of talks between the Afghan militant group and the U.S.

"I cannot confirm that and I have to learn and check about the relevant situation before answering your question," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said in response to a question during his regular media briefing.

Arab News, the daily from Saudi Arabia, had reported on Sunday that Baradar, who heads the Taliban office in Doha, is visiting Beijing for talks with Chinese officials, days ahead of a crucial seventh round of talks in Qatar with U.S. officials. China has



Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar

played an increasingly active role in the Afghan peace process, alongside the U.S. and Russia.

Key stakeholders

The daily said that in April, China, Russia and the U.S. had pressed the Taliban to hold talks with Afghan politicians and civilians as an important step to end the 17-year conflict. "It seems that Taliban leaders are making efforts to hold consultations and exchange their views

with key stakeholders ahead of the next round. The visit is an indication that the seventh round is important," the newspaper quoted Abdul Hai Mutmayen, who was the Taliban's chief spokesman in Afghanistan's Kandahar province, as saying.

Back channel talks

In the past, China has held talks with the Taliban. In mid-July 2015, an Afghan Taliban delegation led by Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai from the Qatar office had held back channel talks in China, prompting the Chinese Foreign Ministry to say that it maintained contact with all parties engaged in Afghan peace talks.

In the same year, the Taliban and the Afghan government representatives had reportedly met in Urumqi, the capital of China's Xinjiang Province.

Lam shelves extradition bill for now

REUTERS
HONG KONG

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam on Tuesday signalled the end of a controversial extradition bill that she promoted and then postponed after some of the most violent protests since the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

In a closely watched press conference, Ms. Lam apologised for the turmoil but refused to say the bill would be "withdrawn", only that it

wouldn't be re-introduced during her time in office if public fears persist.

This was the strongest indicator yet that the government was effectively shelving the legislation that would allow people to be extradited to mainland China to face trial, even if it fell short of protester demands for the government to scrap the bill altogether.

"Because this bill over the past few months has caused so much anxiety, and wor-

ries and differences in opinion, I will not, this is an undertaking, I will not proceed again with this legislative exercise if these fears and anxieties cannot be adequately addressed," Ms. Lam told reporters.

Ms. Lam, asked repeatedly whether she would quit, refused to do so, saying there remained important work ahead in the next three years, which would bring her to the end of her current five-year term of office.

Pak. Army chief gets more say in economic matters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

In a move that would further expand the powerful Pakistani military's influence, Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa has been made a member of the newly-formed National Development Council (NDC) headed by Prime Minister Imran Khan, the *Express Tribune* reported on Tuesday.

The military is now set to play a greater role in economic matters of Pakistan.

The 13-member NDC will set policies and strategies for development and provide guidelines for regional cooperation, according to a notification. It will provide measures for local coordination and provincial Chief Ministers will also be invited to the council's meetings.

IN BRIEF



Shanahan drops out of Pentagon head race

WASHINGTON
U.S. President Donald Trump announced on Tuesday that acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan will withdraw his nomination to lead the Pentagon. The announcement came in a tweet from the President, who said Mr. Shanahan had done "a wonderful job" but would step aside to "devote more time to his family." He added that the Secretary of the Army, Mark Esper, will be the new acting Secretary. AP

UN calls for 'independent' probe into Morsi's death

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA

The UN human rights office called on Tuesday for an "independent inquiry" into former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi's death on Monday while in state custody.

"Any sudden death in custody must be followed by a prompt, impartial, thorough and transparent investigation carried out by an independent body to clarify the cause of death," said Rupert Colville, spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

He noted that Morsi "also



Mohamed Morsi

appears to have been held in prolonged solitary confinement," and said the investigation must "encompass all aspects of the authorities' treatment of Morsi to examine whether the conditions of his detention had an impact on his death."

Libra is Facebook's cryptocurrency

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN FRANCISCO

Facebook is leaping into the world of cryptocurrency with its own digital money, designed to let people save, send or spend money as easily as firing off text messages.

"Libra" - described as "a new global currency" - was unveiled on Tuesday in a new initiative in payments for the world's biggest social network with the potential to bring crypto-money out of the shadows and into the mainstream.

Facebook and some two

dozen partners released a prototype of Libra as an open source code to be used by developers interested in weaving it into apps, services or businesses ahead of a rollout as global digital money next year.



An eponymous nonprofit association based in Geneva will oversee the blockchain-based Libra, maintaining a real-world asset reserve to keep its value stable.

The initiative has the potential to allow more than a billion "unbanked" people around the world access to online commerce and financial services, said Libra Association head of policy and communications Dante Disparte.

Libra Association debuted with 28 members including Mastercard, Visa, Stripe, Kiva, PayPal, Lyft, Uber and Women's World Banking.

Facebook will be just one voice among many in the association, but is separately building a digital wallet called Calibra.

KERALA INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KINFRA)
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Request For Proposal (RFP)

KINFRA invites online bids from competent & financially sound agencies/firms for the following work.

Name of work: Selection of Operating Agency to Operate, Maintain and Manage 3 Nos of Warehouses (Food Processing) at KINFRA Mega Food Park, Palakkad

Bid Fee	EMD	Last Date
Rs 2,950/- (Inclusive of GST)	Rs 50,000/-	03/07/2019 at 5:00PM

The RFP document(s), can be downloaded from the e-Government Procurement (e-GP) website (www.tenders.kerala.gov.in). For more details visit the website www.kinfra.org
Place : Thiruvananthapuram Sd/-
Date : 19/06/2019 Managing Director

एवएलएल लाइफकेयर लिमिटेड
(आरंभ संस्था का उद्देश्य)

HLL Lifecare Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
CIN: U25193 KL 1966 GOI 002621

Regd. & Corporate Office, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 012, Kerala
E-mail: exports@lifecarehll.com, Ph: 0471 - 2354949

Global Tender for Selection of Overseas Operations Associate for International Business Division

HLL Lifecare Limited, a Mini Ratna Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India invites tenders from interested parties for managing end-to-end operations/activities in Brazil on behalf of their International Business Division.

Pre bid meeting: 26th June, 2019; 11:00 HRS at HLL Lifecare Limited, Trivandrum
Last date for submission of tender: 9th July 2019, 17:30 HRS

The tender document and other details are available in website www.lifecarehll.com. Subsequent amendments/ addendum, if any, will be published in the above mentioned website.
Associate Vice President (IBD)

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BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LIMITED
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BOILER AUXILIARIES PLANT, RANIPET-632 406(TN)

Call for Supplier Registration

BHEL, Ranipet calls for registration from reputed Manufacturers for supply of items required for their Products viz., Fans, Air-Pre Heaters, Electrostatic Precipitators, Fabric Filter, Desalination / Water Treatment System, Gates & Dampers and Flue Gas Desulphurisation used in Power Plant and Industrial Boilers.

For detailed item list and mode of application, please visit <https://supplier.bhel.in> and select Unit as "BAP-Ranipet"

Note: Registration process for items required by BHEL is always open at <https://supplier.bhel.in>. Prospective suppliers (including MSEs & owned by SCs/STs) may visit this site and apply for registration in the respective Unit'. MSE and SC/ST entrepreneurs are eligible for concessions as per MSME Act 2006

For clarifications, if any, please call, Manager/Purchase (SDC), BHEL-BAP-Ranipet : 04172-241664, 284474.

**HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING**

(Office of the Chief Engineer, 1st Floor, PH Building, Seshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
(Phone No. 080-22274892 E-mail: cekhdsrp@gmail.com Website: cekhdsrp-hfw@karnataka.gov.in)

No: H&FWD/Eng.Wing/CE/TA-1/AE-3/TND/Nabard-RIDF-XXIV/Corrigendum-4/2019-20/487 Date: 17-06-2019

CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender invited vide Notification No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/NABARD-RIDF-XXIV/2018-19/3872 Dated: 08.03.2019 & Corrigendum issued vide Nos: (1) 138 Dated: 04.05.2019, (2) 190 Dated: 14.05.2019 and (3) 293 Dated: 23.05.2019 for the work of **Construction of additional 3 (Three) floors to New MCH Building at Holenarasipura in Hassan District.** Now the calendar of events are revised for this work as under :-

- 1) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **01-07-2019 upto 16.00 Hrs.**
- 2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **03-07-2019 at 16.00 Hrs.**

NOTE: 1) All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2) Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer
HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080 - 40931272
website : www.kiadb.in e-Mail: cdcoce@kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-02/3490/2019-20 Date: 17.06.2019

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender for providing consultancy services for Project Management Consultancy Services from Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following work: Name of Work: (1) Consulting Services for Proof Checking of Design, Project Management Consultancy for the work of Establishment and Commissioning of 1.2MLD capacity CETP in two modules of 0.60 MLD capacity to be implemented in phased manner for treating the waste water generated from chemical units at Kolhar Industrial Area, Bidar District to ZLD on turnkey basis including operation & maintenance of plant for a period of 60 months. Estimated amount: Rs.4434.00 Lakhs. Approx. EMD: Rs. 2.00 Lakhs.

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>.

Scheduled of dates are as follows:

- Last date to receive pre bid Queries : 24.06.2019 Up to 17:00Hrs
- Pre bid meeting will be held on : 26.06.2019 at 12:00 noon
- Last date for submission of bids is : 15.07.2019 upto 16:00Hrs
- Time and date of opening Technical bids is on : 17.07.2019 at 11:30Hrs.

Sd/-
Chief Development Officer & Chief Engineer

DIPR/DDU/RO-458/2019-20