Tehran Times

Soleimani's attempt in confronting the crime, while the remarks by the Iraqi intend to introduce Baghdad as a partner between the Iranian and Iraqi nations. They move, have been seeking to create a dispute outlets, in a coordinated and preplanned manner. In the past few hours, U.S.-affiliated media have been creating insecurity in the world. The global anger drives the United States. The global anger drives the United States. The global anger drives the United States. The global anger drives the United States. The global anger drives the United States. The global anger drives the United States.

Another point is that the statements by Iraqi officials condemning the assassination of Soleimani and condemnation of the assassination, reveal global anger at the terrorist nature of the act. The statements by Iraqi officials condemning the assassination, reveal global anger at the terrorist nature of the act. The statements by Iraqi officials condemning the assassination, reveal global anger at the terrorist nature of the act. The statements by Iraqi officials condemning the assassination, reveal global anger at the terrorist nature of the act. The statements by Iraqi officials condemning the assassination, reveal global anger at the terrorist nature of the act.

There has been an increase in air strikes and shelling around Tripoli recent weeks, with no indication that this situation is going to change. The analyst also said, “Hezbollah is now a serious player in the region, and its power is increasing.”

The United Nations has called for a temporary ceasefire to allow its crews to retrieve the bodies of the five civilians killed on Al Safi Road in southern Tripoli to evacuate families from the area.

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Soleimani played a pivotal role in combating terror movements. Adib Moghaddam

Iran takes fifth and last step to end commitment to JCPOA

Tehran says responded appropriately to Pompeo’s undiplomatic letter

Iraqi parliament passes resolution on U.S. troop withdrawal

Iraqi parliament has voted to have foreign troops removed from the country, heading to a call from the caretaker prime minister. The move comes after US as assay of a top Iranian general and a commander of Iraqi military.

End of U.S. malign presence in West Asia has begun Zarif

Tehran – Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said on Sunday that the end of the United States “malign presence” in West Asia has begun. “Whether kicking or screaming, end of US malign presence in West Asia has begun,” Zarif said in a tweet.

Zarif also condemned U.S. President Donald Trump’s threats of targeting 52 Iranian sites, including cultural ones, revealing that targeting cultural sites is an instance of “war crime.”

World reacts to Trump’s threat to raid Iran culture targets as ‘a war crime’

By Afshin Majlesi

Iranian Studies at the London Middle East Institute

Is there going to be a war between Hezbollah and Tel Aviv?

Lebanon and Palestine share a 45-kilometer (28 mile) border that has not seen tensions at different times due to the region’s explosive political and security situation. Israel’s withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2000, was not the end of its territorial or political aspirations in southern Lebanon, as it still has occupied parts of southern Lebanon.

While Zionist regime’s officials, especially Foreign Minister Israel Katz and Defense Minister Neri Brett, launch rhymes about “demonizing Iran and the Lebanese resistance,” its top military and security advisors have been concerned about the possibility of a war with Hezbollah.

The Zionist regime fears the power of the Lebanese resistance. In a second position, a military analyst at the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronoth reported that Lebanon’s Hezbollah has become more powerful over the past decade. Sources are highly concerned about any military conflict that may occur at any moment. Israel is facing a difficult phase.

The analyst also said, “Hezbollah is now a serious player in the region, and its power is increasing.”
Ayatollah Sistanecondole Ayatollah Khamenei over General Soleimani’s martyrdom

**POLITICAL**

**TEHRAN** – In a message to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei on Sunday, top Iraqi cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani expressed condolences over the martyrdom of Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani.

"I extend to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Ali Khamenei my condolences over the martyrdom of General Soleimani," the message read.

Sistani, 88, has not publicly commented on Soleimani’s death. His statement today marks his first public statement on the issue.

By staff and agency

European Union’s foreign policy chief Josep Borrell has invited Zarif to Brussels to discuss the situation in the Middle East and the preservation of a nuclear deal with Tehran.

Borrelltweeted on Saturday, “Spoke with Iranian FM @JZarif about recent developments. Underlined need for de-escalation of tensions, to ensure restraint & avoid further violence. Also discussed importance of preserving JCPOA, which remains crucial for global security. I am committed to role as guarantor of JCPOA.

In Brussels, the sides discussed the situation in the region, the nuclear agreement, and the risks of escalation in the region, according to a statement by the EU Council.

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Zarif said that the sides agreed to meet again in the coming weeks to discuss the nuclear agreement and the risks of escalation in the region.

By staff and agency

Iran summons Swiss ambassador for third time over Trump’s new threats

**POLITICAL**

**TEHRAN –** Swiss ambassador to Tehran Markus Leitner has been summoned to the foreign ministry in Tehran for the third time in a row.

According to the Associated Press, more than 70 planned protests were organized by Code Pink and Act Now to Stop War on Saturday in response to the killing of General Soleimani.

In Minneapolis, protesters gathered near the University of Minnesota holding signs and chanting. Among them is Nima Ahmad, a 29-year-old Iranian-American who offered him their response across their soil.

Zarif posted photos of Iraqis participating in the funeral procession in Mashhad.

On Twitter, Zarif wrote, "A reminder to those hallucinating about eliminating ISIS war crimes by targeting cultural heritage: THROUGH MILLENNIA of history, barbarians have come and razed our cities, killed thousands of our proud Iraqi brothers and sisters, burned our cities, razed our monuments and burnt our libraries. Where are they now?" Zarif wrote. He added, "No more erreurs, a standing tall." Also writing on his Twitter account on Saturday, the Iranian chief diplomat commen-

The new threats by Trump came after the Iraqi parliament voted on Sunday for the agreement to host US troops in Iraq.

For his part, Ghani expressed condolences over martyrdom of General Soleimani in the shrine city of Mashhad.

"Our advantage is strategic air and naval power," he said, adding, "We are always grateful for Israel’s steadfast support in defeating terrorism. The bond between Israel and the United States is unbreakable, the bond between Iran and Iraq is unbreakable.

Those masquerading as diplomats and those who should be dead, the leaders and politicians of this region should not even bother to open a law dictionary.

"Iran will not act in a way that makes the United States weaken the [Iran nuclear] agreement," he said.

"We should keep our strategy clear and our forces ready. And if necessary, we will definitely strike back," he added.

"For the Emir of the World, there is no mistake in completely depriving ourselves of the position in Iran. General Barry McCaffrey warned on Saturday, "It was a killer move for the American military.

"In a visit to Soleimani’s family, Velayati expressed condolences over martyrdom of General Soleimani in Baghdad.

"Leaving the US was a huge mistake. We still remain and renew it. We are under constant pressure, and we are guaranteed to use our resources. The US has not found a way to get a foothold in the region.

"President Donald Trump tweeting on an American flag, taking photos for propaganda for such a critical situation in such a dangerous manner. I don’t think they thought through it," he continued, noting the Iran-US relations are not the same as Iran-US relations.

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U.S. President Donald Trump that Washington would hit
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Ali Khamenei released a message on Friday
query, without elaborating,
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Debt will kill the global economy. But it seems no one cares.

By Philip Irwin

The warning signs are clear. Debt is rising for both emerging and developed business sectors, which has put the past decade in the books of history by borrowing to previously unheard of levels.

Last October, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) pointed out that 40 percent of corporate debt in eight leading countries – the U.S., China, Japan, Germany, France, Italy and Spain – would become an expensive exercise in the event that it would be impossible to secure. In other words, the debt servicing requirements of emerging and developed people, would have high levels of interest rates.

Worriedly, the IMF said the “risky” were elevated in eight of 10 countries that bore debts exceeding 60 percent of GDP, and in emerging markets, adding that this situation was one of the reasons why the world economy is likely to be affected by the crisis. Whether the world will join the IMF, it is emerging and developed countries, which are major debtors.

Unlike the richer nations already mentioned, the IMF, the EIU and across Africa, the U.S. and South Africa have been covered by the report affected by existing private debt and have government bonds. And this extra state borrowing is not only larger, but also, for a long time, it is a significant deficit, which would need new government support and higher financing.

There is little evidence that anyone is paying any attention to the dire warnings issued by the IMF. The IMF, for example, has warned about the risks of high debt levels, which would have high levels of interest rates. They are also in the habit of voting for interventions in order to afford higher debt repayments.

But really, this is a back-to-front way of doing things. Governments that promise to keep taxes low and avoid excessive spending, are also in the habit of voting for interventions in order to afford higher debt repayments. It is a back-to-front way of doing things.

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Solar energy prospects getting brighter

By Dr. Nowail Al-Mosawy

The Paris climate agreement was a watershed moment for climate policy. It represents a firmly established commitment by countries, through governments, policy makers and thought leaders as they have promised to restrict global warming to below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

But it is not just words and intentions that have changed. The share of global electricity in GDP has increased by 27.5 percent from 2010 to 2018 - representing an unprecedented rise in the world's energy mix. The IEA report of 2019 and the report by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) all agree on this.

At the end of the last year, the world's total renewable energy generation grew by 11 percent, but this growth represents a little more than a third of total installed electricity capacity.

It is clear to see: there is evidence of a seismic renewable energy shift. The momentum of the last few years is now driving significant change across the globe. A campaign was launched by the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to create a Solar Decathlon in China in 2017. China has since launched a government-led campaign to build 500,000 solar-minis systems and 100,000 solar homes over the next few years.

The same report states. The renewables project pipeline.”

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait agree to restore shared oil production

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have also agreed to the restoration of shared oil production in the oilfield that straddles both countries. The production is one of the key elements of Kuwait’s national economy.

The agreement was announced on December 24 to restore shared oil production from the offshore oilfield that wields significant power in the region. It marks a major breakthrough in talks that had been ongoing between the two countries for more than a year.

The production of the offshore oilfield is divided between the two countries. The field’s output has increased from 4.8% in 2018, from 20.18% in 2017. The production of the offshore oilfield is expected to increase to 4.8% in 2019, from 20.18% in 2017.

Solar energy prospects getting brighter

Solar energy, which has been a source of tension between the Persian Gulf neighbors since 2016, is now more in harmony with the two countries. The field’s output has increased from 4.8% in 2018, from 20.18% in 2017. The production of the offshore oilfield is expected to increase to 4.8% in 2019, from 20.18% in 2017.

The empowerment of our youth and our women has been a priority for the two countries, with the government working to ensure electricity for all by March 2021. This was very close to its nameplate capacity, said the ICIS report. Instead, supply pushed into Europe reached a record high, attributed to a supplier that reported prices for new power generation were beginning to increase in January. This was very close to its nameplate capacity, said the ICIS report.

The con-
Conflict with Iran threatens fight against ISIS

The American assassination of a top Iranian commander may make it impossible for American forces to stay in Iraq. That could ease a US comeback.

Neil Clark

Iran has forced America’s hand, and potentially pushed its troops out of Iraq. But the former top American military official in the Middle East, David Duque, argues that the US military strike that killed the Iranian commander Qassem Soleimani was a two-for-one victory. For it not only removed the leader of one of the Islamic State’s most effective operations commanders, but also a host of Iranian-backed militias that did much of the ground fighting to drive ISIS out of Iraq and Syria.

Duque, who served as the US military official in the Middle East from 2019-2020, said that Soleimani had also re-directed the wrath of those militias and their many political allies inside Iraq squarely against the American president.

“Soleimani thought that the best way to drive ISIS out of Iraq was to make it into a war of attrition, and that’s what happened in the years when the US forces were still deployed there,” Duque said. “If you were a staunch Zionist there’s probably no one in the region who would have been as pleased as him or anyone else that US forces were there.”

“The US government knew that the US military forces in Iraq were an irritant to him,” Duque told Al Arabiya English. “He had the interest of the American force in Iraq perfectly calculated, so that’s the way it would be returned to him.”

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Killing of Soleimani unlikely to lead to major escalation

BY MICHAEL TAYLOR

ASIA TIMES — On Friday morning a US drone strike killed Iran’s Quds Force commander Qassem Soleimani at Baghdad International Airport. Almost certainly Iran will respond in a flurry of violence and other destructive action emanating within Iran. There will be few, if any, voices for moderation. The government will respond with a vengeance. It is not clear just how many further attacks on Iran are unwise.

Iran currently is the seventh largest producer of oil, the world’s only significant gas producer, and is a major player in the global oil market. Iran’s oil and gas reserves are estimated to be the world’s third largest. Iran is a major player in the Middle East, and its current scenario seems to be taken out of the same playbook as those that have caused previous crises.

The next question is, how will regional powers react to Iran’s response to an American strike on Iran? Iran is also likely to respond to the attack. Iran is the largest importer of US goods and services into the Middle East. Iran’s leaders have always used oil revenue as a source of political stability. Iran is also a major player in the global oil market. Iran’s oil and gas reserves are estimated to be the world’s third largest. Iran is a major player in the Middle East, and its current scenario seems to be taken out of the same playbook as those that have caused previous crises.

U.S.-Iran war? China and Russia are both potential targets for any escalatory response from Iran. The US labels China a strategic competitor and it will not engage in any conflict with China. Iran, for its part, is likely to respond with a vengeance. It is not clear just how many further attacks on Iran are unwise.

China might take Iran’s side in a war with U.S.

BY CHRISTINA LIN

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Physicists calculate how long it’ll take us to explore the galaxy

When you’re preparing for any journey it helps to know how long it’ll take, and even more so when we’re talking about interstellar travel. Now a couple of physicists have tried to calculate more precisely how long it would take us to visit another star system, using existing spacecraft. They looked specifically at four unmanned space probes already launched by NASA, but these figures also give us an idea of how long it might take human missions to reach the reaches of the Solar System.

The timescale for the collision of a spacecraft with a star is of order 2016 (one hundred thousand years), so the spacefarers would need to learn a lot about the science before there’s a direct hit.

To get to their conclusions, Cynan Buil-Jones from the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy in Germany, and Davide Farnocchia from the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy in Germany, and the University of California observed Gaia’s most up-to-date map has the locations of some 1.3 billion stars, spanning more than 70 million parsecs (around 230,000 light-years) from the Sun and nearly 26 kilometers wide. “It sits right in the middle of the Milky Way and is about 1.4 times as massive the Sun,” reads the study. “It is the center of the Milky Way galaxy, and it is the closest star to Earth, is about 1.4 times as massive the Sun.”

Of course future space missions don’t have to follow the path of those four probes. Alpha Centauri, in a mere 4.3 light-years or 1.3 parsecs away, is the closest star system. We could, in theory, Voyager 1 could make it there in less than 80,000 years.

These calculations have yet to be peer-reviewed but they give you some idea of the sheer scale of the galaxy, not to mention the entire Universe, and the kind of technology humankind will have to develop to get beyond our Solar System.

We might have to spend several generations in transit in order to reach the nearest stars, at least scientists agree. The latest report on the Trump administration’s plans to build a space station that has so far remained the stuff of sci-fi books and movies. Experts don’t think we could one day travel at close to the speed of light (and get to Alpha Centauri in four years or so), but this is very much theoretical for the time being. In the meantime, perhaps we’d best just focus on Mars.

(Source: scienveder.com)

The first glimpses of a pulsar’s surface hint at complex magnetism

A pulsar in the Milky Way is ready for its close-up.

Two teams of astronomers independently have gotten the first glimpses of a pulsar’s magnetic field with surprising results. Neary created maps of that surface reveal a smattering of bright hot spots that might contribute to fundamental physics,” says Cole Miller, an astronomer at the University of Maryland in College Park and author of one of the studies, both of which appear in the December issue of the journal Nature.

To search for those hints, the teams lined up a pulsar dubbed PSR B1913+16 with NICER, an X-ray telescope attached on the International Space Station. Researchers had already known the pulsar’s X-ray brightness fluctuates in sync with its rotation. To find out what’s causing the pulses, they needed to engineer what the star might look like.

The surface of the star, however, had a surprise in store. Bright spots are scattered around the surface, rather than just placing spots anywhere to host match the X-ray that’s been previously found on other pulsars. Rather than just placing spots anywhere to host match the X-ray that’s been previously found on other pulsars.

The eastern parts have begun to struggle during the reform and opening-up policy in the late 70s to spur economic development during the reform and opening-up policy in the late 70s to spur economic development.

While Özel agrees that the information is “definitely more understanding will come out of this,” she says, “This is a good place to start.”

Computing with molecules: A big step in molecular spintronics

Spintronics or spintronics in contrast to conventional electronics uses the spin of electrons for information storage, transport, and processing. Potential advantages are increased data density and increased energy efficiency. Spintronics promises the ultimate in information storage, transport, and processing. Potential advantages are increased data density and increased energy efficiency.

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Iraqi nationals top list of foreign tourist arrivals in Khorasan

IRAN

TEHRAN — Iraqi nationals topped the list of foreign tourist arrivals in Khorasan Province, according to粗写意的な文書。197,699 foreign travelers, of whom some 60 percent were Iraqi nationals, visited the eastern Iranian province of Khorasan during the first nine months of the current Iranian calendar year ended March 21, 2020, compared to the same period last year, provincial tourism chief has said.

“Iraqi tourists ranked first for visiting Khorasan Province in the first nine months of last year. They accounted for 220,000 tourists from other countries, especially from the Europe.”

The world's safest airlines for 2020

The world’s safest airlines for 2020

The list of the top 10 safest airlines for 2020 was published by Airlinesceo.com, a leading aviation news website, which monitors 405 airlines, including audits from aviation bodies and crash and serious incident reports.

Airline safety is one of those things you hope you never have to worry about when you travel. While some more nervies of flyers may shudder at the thought of their plane taking off into thin air, the rest of us just get a little anxious. The safety record of the airline you’re flying with can help alleviate your fears.

The safety record of the airline you’re flying with can help alleviate your fears. The world’s safest airlines for 2020 are:

1. Air New Zealand
2. Qantas
3. Delta Air Lines
4. Icelandair
5. Virgin Atlantic
6. Air Canada
7. SAS
8. Finnair
9. Unibail
10. Air Malta

The list is compiled by the Airlinesceo.com team using the data from various sources, including the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and various other aviation authorities. The list is updated annually to reflect the latest safety records of the airlines.

Having your credit card rejected or running out of cash can be a common occurrence when traveling, which can make your vacation planning more difficult.

The joy in planning a vacation in Europe comes from the mazelike streets and charming cafes, not the boring details of how you pay for them. But if you're traveling in Europe, you may have to adjust your budgeting strategy.

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By Robert David Steele

Robert David Steele, a former Marine Corps infantry officer of 30 years and now President of the Open Source Everything Engineering (OSEE), contributes regularly to dnainfo.com and Foreign Policy Magazine.

President Donald Trump now understands that the war on terrorism in the Middle East and in particular derived from his penetration of the American Jewish establishment. The story goes back to the beginning of the end of America's empires.

Robert Steele: WORLD WAR III? UPDATE, 5.0. "Terrorist attacks initiated by the United States over the past week will only hasten the departure of much of the U.S. military from the region. The Pentagon and the White House have been insisting that Iran was behind an alleged Kata’ib Hezbollah attack on a U.S. installation that then triggered an attack by Washington on claims that terror groups were present in Washington even though the attack by Washington on claims that terror groups were present in the Middle East after the end of the Iraq War in 2011.

It is not only a massacre of the American soldiers who have fought in many nations, but it is also a massacre of the Iranian soldiers who have fought in many nations, and who have been killed in the war on terrorism in the Middle East and in particular derived from his penetration of the American Jewish establishment. The story goes back to the beginning of the end of America's empires.

The blood of the Americans, who have fought and died in the Middle East, and who have been killed in the war on terrorism, is on the hands of the Iranian soldiers who have fought in many nations, and who have been killed in the war on terrorism in the Middle East and in particular derived from his penetration of the American Jewish establishment. The story goes back to the beginning of the end of America's empires.

Philip Giraldi is a former Central Intelligence Agency officer of the United States Intelligence Community and a prominent critic of U.S. policy in the Middle East and in particular derived from his penetration of the American Jewish establishment. The story goes back to the beginning of the end of America's empires.

By Payman Yazdani

The United States is now at war with Iran in a conflict that could easily have ended, but will not end well. There will be no declaration of war, and much to the delight of Washington, no Middle Eastern nation will be asked to declare war on Iran. The war will be fought by proxy and the region will be destabilized. The region will become the new Middle East, which will not be under American control, but will be a region of chaos and instability, where the United States will be embroiled in endless wars, both military and economic, that will cost the United States billions of dollars and the lives of its citizens.

The war with Iran is a war of attrition, a war of不对称, and a war of terrorism. It is a war of terror, a war of destabilization, a war of division, and a war of destruction. It is a war of the United States against Iran, a war of the United States against the Iranian people, a war of the United States against the Iranian government, and a war of the United States against the Iranian people.

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England's first wild beaver colony in centuries is 'helping communities and climate'

Scotland and Wales also broke national records for warmest winter, with a temperature of 3.5°C at the seafront at Dawlish on 21 February and 20.8°C recorded in Portmadog, Gwynedd, five days later.

De Mark Cyril, head of the Met Office's National Climate Information Centre, said: “It is notable how many of these extreme records have been set in 2020, and how many more are reflecting higher than low-temperature extremes: a consequence of climate change.

“We are expecting the warming trend to continue through the 21st century and the world is not capable of breaking these records. It is the future we are communicating about. It highlights the need to act now to reduce emissions.”

Words in the News
Super tanker oil slick

(October 07, 2002)

Oil is leaking from the French super tanker, the Limburg, which was blown off course by winds off the eastern coast of Yemen. The ship's owners say the Limburg has been the target of a terrorist attack, but the Yemeni officials insist it was an accident. The report from Hesia Salada.

Yemeni experts who flew over the Arabian Sea say that crude oil is spilling out of the ruptured hull of the Limburg. They say several of the ship's safety systems could not be evaluated because the main body of the ship was flooded. The ship's owner said there was an accident aboard the tanker, but the sky was cloudy and the wind was blowing. Japanese investigators are now expected in Yemen to assist in an enquiry into the cause of the leak. The Yemeni government said the vessel was proceeding to the Gulf of Aden. The Yemeni government said it was in the process of establishing the cause of the leak. The report from Hesia Salada.

Oil from the ruptured hull of the Limburg is now causing significant environmental damage. It has also drawn tourists to the river to see the spill. The Yemeni government has said it is considering the option of allowing the Limburg to sail on to its destination to avoid causing further damage to the environment. The report from Hesia Salada.

Words
ruptured: burst open, broken
hull: the main body of a ship or other vessel
oil slicks: a layer of oil floating on the surface of the sea
evaluate: to form an idea of the amount, number, or value of something
explosives: a substance which can be exploded, especially any of such substances
blasting: the explosive destruction of high compressed air spreading outwards from a blast
sought sanctuary: looked for a safe place to stay
clackdown: strong, official action to stop unlawful activity
resulted: reached the capture of

Three Asiatic cheetah cubs spotted in northeastern Iran

Iran's first wild beaver colony in centuries is helping communities and climate

The beavers have also drawn tourists to the area, helping local commerce. Wildlife experts have come from Britain about four centuries ago, until a colony — believed to have been seen from the 16th century — was spotted along the Devon River.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) was concerned that it may not have lasted long. After the animals were tested as healthy, Natural England allowed the bearers to live freely along the river as part of a five-year trial to assess whether they positively affect the environment.

A Defra spokesperson said: “We are committed to restoring missing native species, including beavers, where there are clear environmental and socio-economic benefits. A decision on any future work following the River Otter project will be taken after its conclusion.”

Devon Wildlife Trust's Mark Elliott said the mammals have created "beautiful areas of rare habitat", benefiting water voles, otters and wading birds such as snipe and woodcock.

"It's been really beneficial from a conservation point of view,” he said. However, Prof Briner said there are some downsides, such as beavers targeting orchard trees and causing flooding for landowners.

Clare Robinson, from the National Farmers' Union said there are concerns about the "potential damage to farmland and the landscape caused by beavers' physical activities”.

"It is crucial that farmers have the tools to manage any impacts a beaver reintroduction could have,” he said. The trial for the Devon beavers will come to an end this year.

Words
ruptured: burst open, broken
hull: the main body of a ship or other vessel
oil slicks: a layer of oil floating on the surface of the sea
evaluate: to form an idea of the amount, number, or value of something
explosives: a substance which can be exploded, especially any of such substances
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Iraqi parliament passes resolution on U.S. troop withdrawal
Moqtada Al-Sadr calls for the closure of the American embassy in Baghdad

Speaking at an emergency session of the parliament, Al-Sadr, who is one of the biggest figures in the country's political arena, condemned President Donald Trump for ordering the assassination of Qasem Soleimani, the commander of Iran's Revolutionary Guard's Quds Force, in a precision air strike in Baghdad International Airport early on Friday. "This operation is the clear expression of the American government's support to terrorism," he said.

On Saturday, the Iraqi parliament approved a resolution calling for the withdrawal of all American troops from the country. The move comes just days after the US assassination of Soleimani, the head of the Quds Force of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), who was killed in a US airstrike on his way to Baghdad International Airport. The US military announced that Soleimani was the "architect of thepone of Islamic radicalism in the Middle East" and "was responsible for planning and directing terrorist attacks".

The vote, which was passed by 175 members of the 325-seat parliament, effectively mandates the withdrawal of American troops, who have been stationed in Iraq since 2003 as part of the US-led coalition against ISIS. The US forces are currently stationed at several bases across the country, including at Al-Asad Air Base in Anbar province and at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Speicher in Salahuddin province.

The resolution also calls for the closure of the US embassy in Baghdad and the US consulate in Erbil, and for the expulsion of all American diplomats and military personnel from the country. The Iraqi government has already taken steps to implement the resolution, with security forces seen near the US embassy and American military bases.

The US government has not yet announced its response to the resolution, but has warned that it may impose sanctions on Iraq if the country proceeds with the resolution.

Al-Sadr's move is likely to be seen as a significant blow to US efforts to stabilize Iraq and counter the influence of Iran in the region. The US has been trying to build a coalition of Arab countries to counter Iran's influence, but the killing of Soleimani has raised tensions and put the US in a vulnerable position.

The resolution is also likely to be welcomed by the Iraqi population, which has long been critical of the US presence in the country. However, the move to expel US forces is unlikely to be easy, as the US has been a key ally in the fight against ISIS and has provided significant military and financial support to the Iraqi government.

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In a November, a day after his investment in Hammarby, Ibrahimovic was the target of racist attacks with fire and paint and the word ‘Judas’ daubed across the front of his car.

In the latest incident the statue had collapsed against the barrier protecting the entrance to the stadium, which was too high to reach.

"It’s a vanadoppmum complaint has been lodged," a police spokesman told AFP.

There are calls from local inhabitants for the statue outside Malmo’s city stadium to be moved.

“I don’t understand why people are so divided in this country. It’s simply wrong. It’s better to express yourselves in a democratic way,” Malmo deputy mayor Freda Trolleby told AFP.

A citizen’s initiative to remove the statue will be considered in February, she added.

Ibrahimovic has set to make his debut for former club AC Milan in Serie A on Monday after signing a six-month contract with the former European champions last week (Source: Mirror)

NBA fines Wizards guard Thomas $25K for bumping referee

Washington Wizards guard Isaiah Thomas was fined $25,000 by the NBA Saturday for inappropriate contact with a referee in a 121-105 win over Philadelphia. Thomas received a technical foul and was ejected for the incident, which took place 88 seconds into the first quarter.

The 30-year-old American was being double-covered by Portland Trailblazers Anthony and Damian Lillard, both of whom he fouled. He battled for control of the ball with Anthony and moved forward, sticking his arm into the chest of referee Kopit, who was standing out of bounds.

The play was reviewed by officials before the ejection was upheld.

Although the contact could have been Thomas trying to steady himself against Kopit rather than push the referee, it made no difference in enforcing the foul.

"He made physical contact with a referee," referee crew chief Mark Ayotte said after the game. "This is the first time this season that has just pushed the official’s head while just a push during the dead ball contact with the referee."

Kopit, 40, moved from Crevecoeur to the United States with his family for months, killing 23 people and burning

Barca strike was planned, says Wu Lei as China hails Espanyol hero

Ibrahimovic was the first NBA player to appear in a game in four different decades. The phrase “a fine vine” comes to mind.

As the court is transformed into a mini-Palau, Vladimir Putin’s presence was confirmed.

A “near-death” experience off the coast of Australia is deeply (heartbreaking).

Maria Sharapova has pledged $27,400 (25,000 AUD) to Australia’s bushfire relief and vowed Nadal Djokovic to do the same.

A five-time grand slam champion became the latest of a host of tennis stars to donate to the cause after Australian Nick Kyrgios kick-started a wave of support from the sport earlier this week.

Wildfires have raged across Australia for months, killing 23 people and burning

"I want to show fans around the world that there are a lot of talents in Japan," he said after the match.

"I’ve never really taken that long of a break before. But I think it was really necessary because my shoulder was kind of worn down.

"But after that, I just did rehab and slowly started playing again and I think that that was a big contributor as well. I don’t feel anything in my shoulder and I like to think that I’m playing well now."

"Thank you. I almost cry every time I give @darren_cahill a

Amazingly, Grigor Dimitrov despatched the Bulgarian star 6-4, 6-4. He has stayed true to his word and more than justified his promise.

"I want to say fans around the world that there are a lot of talents in Japan," he said after the match.

"I’m like, how far out are you trying to take us, because it’s black, like, the water is black now, and the impression is like a tiny dot, and I can’t really swim that well," she said.

"I feel like I’m experiencing so many things in my life and I’m learning all the new things. I’m really happy," she said.

"For Wu, it was a night that will live long in the memory." (Source: ESPN)

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Iran coach predicts bright future for women volleyballers

TEHRAN — Women’s volleyball head coach Mitra Shahanian has predicted a bright future for the Iranian team. Team Melli have traveled to Sukhoon Rachatisma, Thailand on Saturday to compete at the 2020 Women’s Asian Olympic Qualification Tournament. Iran have been drawn in Pool B along with Indonesia, South Korea and Kazakhstan. Pool A consists of Chinese Taipei, Australia and Thailand. The top two of each pool advance to crossover semifinals, followed by the deciding match and the winner qualifies to the 2020 Women’s Olympic Volleyball Tournament.

“I believe in these young players because we’re talking about a generation that can make a change in our volleyball. We are going to improve with our young and experienced players. I have already said this is our second team. The team have an average age of 21 years and an average height of 180 centimeters,” Shahanian said.

“We’ve finished in seventh and eighth place in the previous editions but I hope that we come in a better place in the near future. They are here to make it happen. If we discover our talented players and they get investment at just the right time, I have no doubt we can shine in the continent in the future,” she added.

The 2020 Women’s Asian Olympic Qualification Tournament is a volleyball tournament for women’s national teams organized by Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) and Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) and will be held in Sukhoon Rachatisma, Thailand from Jan. 7 to 12, 2020.

Gabriel Calderon threatens to cancel contract with Persepolis

TEHRAN — Argentinian coach Gabriel Calderon has threatened Persepolis to cancel his contract if the football club failed to pay his latest wages on time. A player who is spending his vacation in Argentina, has sent a letter to the Iranian club and has given them 10 days to terminate his contract. He has had many quarrels with the Persepolis’ officials after was appointed as the team’s coach in July. Calderon replaced Branko Ivanovic in the Iranian popular football team. Last month, Italian coach Andrea Romano parted company with Esteghlal after the Iranian football club failed to transfer his salary over 6 months from the U.S. sanctions.

Now, Calderon is going to follow through his promises’ footsteps. Persepolis, who sit top of the Iranian Professional League, are going to win the league for the fourth successive time. Iran’s football federation is expected to confirm the team’s Red also are favorites to defend their title in Haji Cup.

Yahya Golmohammadi close to Team Melli hot seat

TEHRAN — Ex-iran captain Yahya Golmohammadi has moved one step closer to become Team Melli’s new coach. Golmohammadi is currently heading Iran’s top-flight football team Persepolis. With less than three months remaining until the restart of the 2019-2020 FIFA World Cup qualification, the Iranian federation has not introduced the new head coach. Maryam Wiltse left his role as a coach of Team Melli in early December, just seven months after replacing Carlos Queiroz at the helm of the three-time Asian champions. Wiltse’s assistant Vahid Hashemi also is among the candidates to lead Team Melli.

Iran football federation had already announced that it has reached an agreement with former Persepolis coach Branko Ivanovic but it seems the federation has changed the decision. Maryam Wiltse will remain as the team’s assistant coach and will be in charge of the reserves.

Safdarian wins silver at Ice Climbing World Cup

TASNIM — Mohammad Reza Safdarian from Iran finished in second place at the 2020-2021 UIAA Ice Climbing World Cup on Sunday. The competition kicked off on Friday in Changshun, capital city of northeast China’s Jilin province. France’s climber Louis Lecleraux won the title with 15.320 points in the Men’s Lead. Safdarian came second with 14.302 points and bronze medal went to South Korean climber Heeyong Park who scored 14.310 points.

Founded in 2002, the Ice Climbing World Cup is the highest-level event of the sport, namely among the strongest men’s and women’s speed races and difficult races. China’s leg this year attracted nearly 80 athletes from 16 countries and regions, including Iran, the United States, Canada, Russia and France.

Bonyan Diesel named Gen. Qassem Soleimani stadium

TASNIM — Bonyan Diesel Stadium has been changed to General Qassem Soleimani stadium. The name of soccer-specific Bonyan Diesel Stadium, which位于Bakhtin Shi Sci football club has been changed in tribute to General Qassem Soleimani. The revered General and Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the second-in-command of Iran’s Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), were martyred in U.S. airstrikes in the Iraqi capital Baghdad early Friday.

Iran’s Ministry of Sports had already announced that all nationwide sporting events which are scheduled for the Saturday and Sunday have been cancelled because of martyrdom of General Soleimani.

Oman’s Al Habsi announces international retirement

Legendary Oman goalkeeper Ali Al Habsi announced his retirement from international football on Saturday, having made his national team debut more than 18 years ago.

The 38-year-old Al Habsi is considered one Asia’s best goalkeepers both at home and abroad. America militarism is the weapon wielded by imperialism, to enforce its policy and plundering of the non-white world.

‘There is nothing new about American terrorist attacks against Black and Brown people for the expansion of American imperialism,’ Kaepernick tweeted Saturday.

In a separate tweet, he wrote: ‘America has always sanctioned and besieged Black and Brown bodies both at home and abroad. America militarism is the weapon wielded by imperialism, to enforce its policy and plundering of the non-white world.’

Although he didn’t specifically refer to Soleimani’s death early Friday morning in Baghdad, it’s assumed that the incident is what prompted him to tweet for the first time in 2020.

(Source: Daily Mail)

NBA coach accuses Mike Pence of lying about Soleimani’s involvement in 9/11

Stov Kerr did not hesitate to make his thoughts known on President Donald Trump’s killing of Iranian general Qassem Soleimani. The Golden State Warriors head coach tweeted Friday that Vice President Mike Pence lied about claims of General Qassem Soleimani’s involvement with the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and retweeted several posts condemning the assassination.

Among Kerr’s retweets are posts calling the attack a “potentially catastrophic” blunder, denouncing a possible war with Iran and excoriating people who supported the Iraq war.

On Saturday, Kerr detailed his perspective on the attack with reporters, warning against an “authoritative, unaccountable” war.

A transcript of Kerr’s comments:

I just follow what’s going on in the world because it’s always of great interest to me. I’m just so interested in the world because it’s so a big part of my life.

I try to use my Twitter platform to remind people to do their homework before we all blindly wave the flag and get ourselves into another mess like we did in Iraq.

[Before the Iraq war] I remember the patriotism for the city that I grew up in. Since that time, we do a good job in our league and the other leagues supporting our veterans, bringing them to games and giving them ovations, which I wholeheartedly support. But what I think would be even more supportive is to not get involved, not send soldiers overseas to an unnecessary, unnecessary war in the first place. That’s how we can best support our men and women who are representing us.

We have a history in this country all you have to do is read Vietnam, Iraq, people are misled by our government. It happened in Vietnam, we know that. The facts are not facts. We have to be very careful right now with what we’re being told. If we’re led into another war, the implications for so many families, so many people are so drastic that we all need to understand what’s happening and support our troops by making sure we press our government to do the right thing.

One of the most politically outspoken figures in the sports world, Kerr grew up in the Middle East and lost his father to an incident is what prompted him to tweet for the first time in 2020.

(Source: Daily Mail)
Iranian artists creating works on Martyr Soleimani

**TEHRAN** — The director of Art Bureau of Cultural Center, Hojjatoleslam Meisam Amrudi, said on Sunday that a number of Iranian artists are creating artworks of commander Qassem Soleimani in a project initiated by the organization.

About 30 painters, graphic designers and sculptors, including Mehdi Farrokhli, Ahmad Oluhtalab, Kamis Sadeghi, Shahram Shrizadi, Abbas Mortazavi, Nasser Solti and Maldeh-Dadyar Gurnish, are collaborating on the project.

Painter Hassan Rohalami’s painting “The Apotheosis of Qassem Soleimani”, which depicts Soleimani’s remains embraced by Imam Ali (AS), the third Imam of Imam Ali (AS) of the country of Iran is in tears for him.”

The director of the music center of the Baharan Cultural Center, Hojjatoleslam Ali Shirazi, the official representative of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Nasser Abu Hamid, said that Instagram’s decision and cultural organizations have stepped up to support the play for better performances.

The skeletons of the divers were confirmed to have been underwater in a small explosion, which caused the vessel to be capsized, killing three divers. A Sundance Film Festival program designed to increase diversity among media workers also supported the play.

The chosen writers are women, minorities, and people out of a pool of 319 applicants to receive travel stipends. The program designed to increase diversity among media workers also supported the play.

The played was about the soldiers of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps’ “Panther Division 41”, which was led by Soleimani during the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war.

“The play also showcased on the 75th Iranian divers who were buried alive in scattered mass graves in Iraq”, said Zariri who was the director of the play.

“However, we are planning to present the play to the spotlight on the character of the commander in the play this year,” he added. Zariri expressed his hope that cultural organizations step up to support the play this year to enable better performances of “Like a Fish on Land.”

The skeletons of the divers were unearthed by an excavation team in early June, 2015. Most of the skeletons were discovered handshocked with ware with no sign of execution. The divers were members of a shock troop squad, which crossed the Arvand River to overlook Umm al-Baas, a nearby island on the Shatt-al-Arab waterway, during the Operation Khur 4 on December 29, 1996. However, they were captured by Iraqi forces.