



**MASHIKI:** A resident walks by a collapsed house in Mashiki, Kumamoto prefecture, southern Japan, yesterday. Aftershocks rattled communities in southern Japan as businesses and residents got a fuller look yesterday at the widespread damage from an unusually strong overnight earthquake. — AP

### EMBASSY URGES CITIZENS TO BE CAUTIOUS AFTER JAPAN QUAKE

**TOKYO:** Kuwaiti residents in Japan are advised to take precautions due to tremors registered in aftermath of the 6.5-degree earthquake that hit southern region of Kumamoto late on Wednesday, the State of Kuwait Embassy said in a statement yesterday. The Kuwaitis should be vigilant and taken necessary precautions to protect themselves against the tremors, caused by the Wednesday's quake, the embassy said. They are also advised to abide by safety instructions, issued by relevant local authorities. Kuwaiti citizens who may need help or find themselves encountering an emergency situation, should call the diplomatic mission in Tokyo on the following telephone numbers: 0361-3455-03, or 0362-3455-03 or 0363-3455-03. — KUNA



### KUWAIT NAMES NON-RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO KOSOVO

**KUWAIT:** Kuwaiti Ambassador to Albania Fayez Meshari Al-Jassim submitted his credentials to Kosovo's President Hashim Thaci as a non-resident ambassador to Kosovo. During the credentials handing-over ceremony, Jassim relayed the greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the newly-appointed Kosovan President. Meanwhile, the Kosovan leader sent out his greetings to the Kuwaiti leadership and wished the Gulf country prosperity and advancement. During the meeting bilateral ties and cooperation in all domains were discussed. — KUNA

# OPERATIONS TO RESTORE STABILITY IN YEMEN: ANALYSTS

**RIYADH:** A number of Saudi political analysts and media persons have stressed that 'Operation Decisive Storm' and 'Operation Restoration of Hope' are an integrated plan aimed to restore political and economic stability in Yemen. They lauded the Saudi-led Operation Restoration of Hope with its humanitarian aspects, which was launched on April 21, 2015, some 26 days after 'Operation Decisive Storm' achieved its military goals, in accordance with the scheduled plan, without causing casualties or damaging infrastructure and institutions.

#### Military goals

Head of the Shorouq Center for Economic Studies Dr Abdurrahman Baashan said that the coalition managed to weaken military capabilities of Yemen's Houthis and dominated regional waters and airspace.

He said the operation, which came in response to a request by Yemeni President Abd Rabuhh Mansur Hadi, achieved its military goals in a short period of time, and after that Operation Restoration of Hope began alleviating suffering of Yemenis caused by military operation against Houthis.

The command of the Saudi-led coalition announced on April 21, 2015, the conclusion of Operation Decisive Storm and the start of Operation Restoration of Hope in response to Hadi's request.

The command clarified at a statement at that time that Operation Restoration of Hope included several goals, mainly the resumption of political process in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2,216, the Gulf Initiative and the output of comprehensive national dialogue, as well as continued protection of civilians, the evacuation of foreigners and the provision of humanitarian and medical aid to Yemenis in the conflict-affected areas.

The Operation aimed to confront military operations launched by Houthi militias and their supporters.

#### Yemenis' suffering

Meanwhile, Abdulaziz Al-Jabri, head of a media institution, said 'Operation Restoration of Hope' reflected interest of Saudi Arabia and GCC countries in Yemenis, and contributed to alleviating their suffering resulted from the con-



**LAHEJ:** Yemeni loyalist forces checkpoint on a road yesterday in the town of Lahej, 30 kilometers from the port city of Aden. — AFP

flict. He added that all charities and Red Crescent societies in GCC countries, mainly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, sent humanitarian and relief aid to all areas liberated from Houthis as soon as the operation began.

He saw that the King Salman Center for Humanitarian Relief was established upon his great interest in humanitarian action to show a clear message to the world that Saudi Arabia maintains peace and is keen on mitigating suffering of conflict-affected nations and societies, mainly Yemenis.

Mohammad Al-Hammadi, UN Goodwill Ambassador said humanitarian and military operations launched by the Saudi-led Arab coalition in Yemen is carried out in accordance with an integrated plan which has economic, diplomatic and political paths aimed to restore security and stability, and at the same time rebuild areas destroyed by the war.

#### Prominent achievement

Hammadi, who is a Saudi citizen, added the establishment of the King Salman Center is a prominent achievement made through Operation Restoration of Hope. This briefed the

international community on the sorrowful incidents which claimed lives of innocents, he said, adding that as a result of these incidents, Yemen needs humanitarian and political support from the international community.

He noted that Saudi Arabia's centers provided aid to all brothers in Yemen without sectarian or ethnic discrimination, referring to the key role played by the coalition states that led to the issuance of UN Security Council Resolution 2,216 which gave an international legitimacy to the two operations for achieving security and stability in Yemen. In the same context, Aref Al-Udaila, a senior official at a media and research institution, said the two operations is an integration of political and humanitarian action in Yemen, adding that this war was caused by security necessities which posed a threat not only to Yemen but also to all countries in the region, especially Saudi Arabia.

The two operations are historic and fateful decisions which embodied the Islamic, Arab and Gulf cohesion, and revived hopes of achieving unity in the face of risks threaten the region's stability and security, he pointed out. — KUNA

## US, KUWAIT TO BOOST JOINT EXERCISES TO SECURE TERRITORIAL WATERS: OFFICIAL

**KUWAIT:** Interior Ministry Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad stressed the importance of promoting security cooperation and conducting more joint naval exercises between the American and Kuwaiti sides in order to secure territorial waters.

Fahad and the US Fifth Fleet Commander Vice Admiral Kevin Donegan agreed to establish an ongoing training on naval security to

raise the skills of the Kuwaiti coastal guards in dealing with terrorism and smuggling, Ministry of Interior said in a statement on Thursday. Fahad pointed out that current security challenges in the region require more precautions and preventative measures to secure territorial waters. Meanwhile, Donegan praised the performance of the Kuwaiti coastal guards and how they progressed from few years back.— KUNA



**KUWAIT:** Interior Ministry Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad meets with the US Fifth Fleet Commander Vice Admiral Kevin Donegan. — KUNA