

N KOREA SEEKS MILITARY 'EQUILIBRIUM' WITH US

UN CONDEMNS LATEST MISSILE LAUNCH

SEOUL: North Korea said yesterday it aims to reach an "equilibrium" of military force with the United States, which earlier signaled its patience for diplomacy is wearing thin after Pyongyang fired a missile over Japan for the second time in under a month. "Our final goal is to establish the equilibrium of real force with the US and make the US rulers dare not talk about military option," North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was quoted as saying by the state news agency, KCNA.

Kim was shown beaming as he watched the missile fly from a moving launcher in photos released by the agency, surrounded by several officials. "The combat efficiency and reliability of Hwasong-12 were thoroughly verified," said Kim as quoted by KCNA. Kim added the North's goal of completing its nuclear force had "nearly reached the terminal". North Korea has launched dozens of missiles under Kim's leadership as it accelerates a weapons program designed to give it the ability to target the United States with a powerful, nuclear-tipped missile.

After the latest missile launch on Friday, White House National Security Adviser HR McMaster said the United States was fast running out of patience with North Korea's missile and nuclear programs. "We've been kicking the can down the road, and we're out of road," McMaster told reporters, referring to Pyongyang's

repeated missile tests in defiance of international pressure. "For those ... who have been commenting on a lack of a military option, there is a military option," he said, adding that it would not be the Trump administration's preferred choice.

Also on Friday, the UN Security Council condemned the "highly provocative" missile launch by North Korea. It had already stepped up sanctions against North Korea in response to a nuclear bomb test on Sept 3, imposing a ban on North Korea's textile exports and capping its imports of crude oil. The US ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, echoed McMaster's strong rhetoric, even as she said Washington's preferred resolution to the crisis is through diplomacy and sanctions.

"What we are seeing is, they are continuing to be provocative, they are continuing to be reckless and at that point there's not a whole lot the Security Council is going to be able to do from here, when you've cut 90 percent of the trade and 30 percent of the oil," Haley said. US President Donald Trump said that he is "more confident than ever that our options in addressing this threat are both effective and overwhelming." He said at Joint Base Andrews near Washington that North Korea "has once again shown its utter contempt for its neighbors and for the entire world community."

Missile

North Korea's latest test missile flew over Hokkaido in northern Japan on Friday and landed in the Pacific about 2,000 km to the east, the Japanese government said. It travelled about 3,700 km in total, according to South Korea's military, far enough to reach the US Pacific territory of Guam, which the North has threatened before. "The range of this test was significant since North Korea demonstrated that it could reach Guam with this missile," the Union of Concerned Scientists advocacy group said in a statement. However, the accuracy of the missile, still at an early stage of development, was low, it said.

On Thursday, US Secretary of State Tillerson called on China, Pyongyang's only ally, and Russia to apply more pressure on North Korea by "taking direct actions of their own." Beijing has pushed back, urging Washington to do more to rein in North Korea. "Honestly, I think the United States should be doing ... much more than now, so that there's real effective international cooperation on this issue," China's ambassador to the United States, Cui Tiankai, said on Friday.

"They should refrain from issuing more threats. They



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un (center) inspects the launching drill of the medium-and-long range strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong-12 at an undisclosed location. — AFP



This undated combination picture released from North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) yesterday the launching drill of the medium-and-long range strategic ballistic rocket Hwasong-12 at an undisclosed location. — AFP

should do more to find effective ways to resume dialogue and negotiation," he said, while adding that China would never accept North Korea as a nuclear weapons state. North Korea staged its sixth and most powerful nuclear bomb test earlier this month and in July tested long-range intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of reaching at least parts of the US mainland.

Last month, North Korea fired an intermediate range missile that also flew over Hokkaido into the ocean. Warning announcements about the latest missile blared in parts of northern Japan, while many residents received alerts on their mobile phones or saw warnings on TV telling them to seek refuge. The US military said it had detected a single intermediate range ballistic missile but it did not pose a threat to North America or Guam. Global equities investors largely shrugged off the latest missile test by North

Korea as shares on Wall Street set new highs on Friday.

Differences over talks

Trump has promised not to allow North Korea to threaten the United States with a nuclear-tipped missile. Russia's UN ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, said the United States needed to begin talks with North Korea, something that Washington has so far ruled out. "We called on our US partners and others to implement political and diplomatic solutions that are provided for in the resolution," Nebenzia told reporters after the Security Council meeting. "Without implementing this, we also will consider it as a non-compliance with the resolution." Asked about the prospect for direct talks, a White House spokesman said, "As the president and his national security team have repeatedly said, now is not the time to talk to North Korea." — Reuters

UK ON RED ALERT, POLICE HUNT TERROR...

Continued from Page 1

the top in a supermarket shopping bag on the floor of a train carriage. The Parsons Green station where the attack took place reopened by yesterday morning.

Armed police patrolled the streets of London near government departments in Westminster and were guarding Premier League soccer grounds hosting matches yesterday, including the national stadium at Wembley. Cressida Dick, Britain's top police officer, sought to reassure the public as she joined colleagues patrolling the entertainment district on the south bank of the Thames. "Yesterday we saw a cowardly and indiscriminate attack which could have resulted in many lives being lost," she said. "London has not stopped after other terrible attacks and it will not stop after this one."

Critical threat level

The last time Britain was put on "critical" alert was after a suicide bomber killed 22 people at a concert by the American singer Ariana Grande in Manchester in May. The threat level remained at the highest setting for four days while police raced to establish if the man had worked alone or with the help of others. Prior to that it

had not been triggered since 2007. Prime Minister May said the public should not be alarmed by armed officers on the streets, a rare sight in Britain.

"This is a proportionate and sensible step which will provide extra reassurance and protection while the investigation progresses," she said in a televised statement late on Friday. The bomb struck as passengers were travelling to the centre of the British capital. Some suffered burns and others were injured in a stampede to escape from the station, one of the above-ground stops on the Underground network. Health officials said none was thought to be in a serious condition.

"I was on the second carriage from the back. I just heard a kind of 'whoosh'. I looked up and saw the whole carriage engulfed in flames making its way towards me," Ola Fayankinnu said. "There were phones, hats, bags all over the place and when I looked back I saw a bag with flames." Islamic State has claimed other attacks in Britain this year, including two in London and the Manchester pop concert. Western intelligence officials have questioned similar claims in the past, saying that while Islamic State's jihadist ideology may have inspired some attackers, there is scant evidence that it has orchestrated attacks. — Reuters

KURDISH MPs BACK REFERENDUM

Continued from Page 1

since a dispute between them and Barzani's KDP caused the suspension of the assembly in October 2015. "Those assembled in parliament today think this is a lawful session, but this is unlawful," Birzu Majeed, the head of Gorran's parliamentary block, told a news conference held while parliament was in session. Lawmakers from a third party, the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), ensured the required quorum. The PUK is a historic rival of the KDP but supports the referendum plan.

Meanwhile, Iranian-backed Iraqi Shiite paramilitary groups have threatened to dislodge the Kurdish forces from the Kirkuk region, which is due to take part in the referendum. Kirkuk is home to sizeable Arab and Turkmen populations and lies outside the official boundaries of the Kurdistan region. It is claimed by both the Kurds and the central government in Baghdad. Kurdish peshmerga fighters seized Kirkuk and other disputed territories when the Iraqi army collapsed in the face of Islamic State in 2014, preventing its oilfields from falling into militant hands. — AFP

AMIR CONDEMNS LONDON ATTACK

Continued from Page 1

Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), urged the Kuwaiti nationals, including the students, to be cautious follow-

ing the terrorist incident. It urged them to call 02075903400 in case of emergency, noting that the consulate staff work round the clock and are ready to offer any required help for the Kuwaitis. — Agencies

DUBAI INAUGURATES LARGEST SOLAR POWER...

Continued from Page 1

The project is considered an integral part of the emirate's Clean Energy Strategy 2050. The statement noted that Sheikh Mohammed highlighted the UAE's model for sustaining a green economy based on environmental sustainability and clean energy. The UAE has a clear strategy for implementing and further developing this model to maximize its benefits, in addition to investing

in infrastructure, building capabilities and developing specialized local talent.

"We have made steady progress in realizing the goals of Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 that was launched as part of our objective to transform Dubai into a global clean energy and green economy hub. The carbon footprint of Dubai will be the lowest in the world by 2030," said Sheikh Mohammad. "We are proud that by demonstrating their capabilities, our local talents have proved that they are ready to assume responsibility," he added. — KUNA

Premier Brands

To see your ad here, call:
+965 248 35 616 / 617
 E MAIL: info@kuwaittimes.net
 ads@kuwaittimes.net
 Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

BACK TO SCHOOL Offers

<p>Panasonic EH-7261 Hair Styler</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 10 16 6 </div> <p>• Dual Voltage 110 - 240 V</p>	<p>Panasonic EH-HV10-K695 Hair Straightener</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 10 16 5 </div> <p>Available colors: ■ ■</p> <p>• AC 220-240V • Power: 2200W • Automatic heating protection • 2 speed heat settings • 2 different size nozzles</p>	<p>Panasonic ES-EU10-V461 Epilator</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 14 18 3 </div> <p>• Foam Epilator, wet / Dry • 20 Tweezers • 1 Head (Arms/Legs) • 30 min usage • 220-240V</p>
<p>ORCA ORD-8817</p> <p>• Professional Hair Dryer • Black Pearl finish • 50/60 Hz, AC: 220-240V • 2 speed/ 4 heat setting • 2 different size Nozzles</p>	<p>ORCA ORD-8800G</p> <p>• AC 220-240V • Power: 2200W • Automatic heating protection • 2 speed heat settings • 2 different size nozzles</p>	<p>Panasonic EH-ND12-P695 Hair Dryer</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> 14 18 3 </div> <p>• Powerful 1000w • 1000W • 3 Heat Settings - Set Nozzle</p>

• Kuwait 1 (The New str.) • Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower) • Hawalli 1 (Tunis str.) • Hawalli 2 (Bin Khalid str.) • Shuwaikh (4th Ring road) • Al-Rai (4th Ring road) • Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarak str.) • Farwaniya (Behind police Station) • Fahaheel (Opp. General Parking) • Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.) • Airport (Departure Hall)

Credit: Start from SKD • Up to 48 month • Interest approval

Shop Online www.best.com.kw Free Delivery

1809 809

2017/09/18