

The War in Donbass. Kiev Deploys Tanks and Rocket Launchers, Recent Developments in Iraq and Palestine

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Yesterday Donetsk was hit by a record 800 artillery shells. The Telmanovo suburb was hit particularly hard, but the shelling was also very violent in the airport region. At least one local was killed and 2 wounded by the shelling. Meanwhile, Kiev has been continuing to pull its forces to the contact line. These forces include tanks and artillery systems, even multiple rocket launchers. The vice-speaker of the People's Council Denis Pushilin informed that if Kiev escapes from the Minsk agreement the war will blaze up at any moment and it can touch not only Donbass. However, the vice-commander of Defense Ministry Corps Eduard Basurin didn't confirm the information about full alert of the DPR's Army.

The crew of Russia's REN TV channel came under fire near Donetsk airport on Wednesday, the channel said on its website. "The Ukrainian military opened fire at the REN TV crew today when our correspondents were working near the Donetsk airport, which is one of the biggest flash points (in Donbass). Shooting has been under way in the village of Oktyabrsky, one kilometer away from Donetsk airport, for days," REN TV said on its website. It is still unknown whether anybody was killed or wounded. We remember, many of Ukrainian public experts and politicians claim that pro-Kiev forces have to kill Russian journalists in Donbass constantly.

At least 60 people have been killed and 200 others wounded in a truck bomb attack in Iraq's Sadr City yesterday. The massive truck bomb ripped through the Jameela market in Baghdad's crowded Sadr City neighborhood shortly after dawn on Thursday. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the explosion, but such attacks are usually blamed on ISIS terrorists.

Mekorot, the Israeli firm, on Wednesday cut crucial water supplies to some areas in the northern West Bank. Palestinian authorities also said that water supplies north of the northern city of Nablus were mostly impacted after the move by Mekorot. The Palestinian Authority, which runs the West Bank, said it is working to reconnect the empty water pipes with another source of water.

The PWA has contacted Mekorot, but is yet to receive a response. Last week, dozens of Palestinian residents of the northern West Bank village of Kafr Qaddum staged a sit-in to

protest the move by Mekorot to cut off supplies to 4,000 residents of the village. We remember, Israelis, including settlers, have access to 300 liters of water per day while the West Bank average is around 70 liters, below the World Health Organizations recommended minimum of 100 liters per day for basic sanitation, hygiene and drinking.

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