

Iran Issues 'Murder and Terrorism' Arrest Warrant for Trump Over Soleimani Assassination

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Global Research, June 30, 2020

Common Dreams 29 June 2020

Region: Middle East & North Africa, USA

Theme: Intelligence, Law and Justice, US

NATO War Agenda

In-depth Report: <u>IRAN: THE NEXT WAR?</u>

The Iranian government on Monday issued an arrest warrant for U.S. **President Donald Trump** and recommended that he face "murder and terrorism charges" over the January <u>assassination</u> of **Gen. Qasem Soleimani** that brought the two nations to the <u>brink</u> of all-out war.

Ali al-Qasimehr, Tehran's top prosecutor, said Iran is also seeking the arrest of 35 other unnamed officials the country believes were involved in the assassination of Soleimani, who was a leading commander in the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps.

"The 36 individuals who were involved in the assassination of Qasem Soleimani have been identified and they include political and military officials from the U.S. and other governments," al-Qasimehr <u>said</u> during a meeting of the Iranian judiciary Monday. "At the top of the list is U.S. President Donald Trump, and his prosecution will be pursued even after the end of his term in office."

U.S. Special Representative for Iran **Brian Hook** <u>dismissed</u> the arrest warrants as a "propaganda stunt."

Iran has reportedly requested that the France-based International Criminal Police Organization—commonly known as Interpol—assist with the effort to arrest Trump, who ordered the drone strike that killed Soleimani. Al-Qasimehr said Iran has urged Interpol to put out a "red notice" for the arrest of Trump and the other officials.

As Al-Jazeera explained:

Under a red notice, local authorities make the arrests on behalf of the country that requested it. The notices cannot force countries to arrest or extradite suspects, but can put government leaders on the spot and limit suspects' travel.

After receiving a request, Interpol meets by committee and discusses whether or not to share the information with its member states. Interpol has no requirement for making any of the notices public, though some do get published on its website.

Soleimani's Jan. 2 killing by a U.S. drone strike in Baghdad was condemned by human rights

advocates and legal experts at the time as a violation of international law.

Agnes Callamard, the United Nations special rapporteur on extrajudicial executions, <u>said</u> on Jan. 7 that "it is hard to imagine how" Soleimani's killing could be legally justified.

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