

Majority of world leaders refuse to halt arms sales to Saudi Arabia



New York, October 26 (RHC)-- The ongoing U.S.-backed, Saudi-led bombing of Yemen has come under renewed scrutiny in the wake of the Saudi murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said she will halt arms exports to the Saudi kingdom, but other leaders have yet to follow suit. Amnesty International has urged French President Emmanuel Macron to halt arms sales to the Saudis, while Prime Minister Justin Trudeau faces similar pressure in Canada. Trudeau has said he's unlikely to cancel a 2014 deal with the Saudis for the sale of armored vehicles. U.S. President Donald Trump has said he will not halt weapons sales to Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, Turkish investigators have reportedly found several suitcases, a laptop and clothing that may be linked to the murder in a car belonging to the Saudi Consulate. Earlier this week, Sky News reported that parts of Khashoggi's dismembered body were found in the garden of the Saudi consul general's Istanbul home, although the reports remain unconfirmed.

This comes as a Reuters report into Saud al-Qahtani, a top aide for Mohammed bin Salman, claims that al-Qahtani directed Khashoggi's killing remotely via Skype, instructing those carrying out Khashoggi's interrogation and murder to "Bring me the head of the dog."

Meanwhile, in Riyadh, the Saudi royal family met with Jamal Khashoggi's family, including his son,

releasing photos of the highly publicized event to the press. Salah Khashoggi appeared visibly strained as he shook the crown prince's hand. Jamal Khashoggi's children are banned from leaving Saudi Arabia.

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