



PROPHETIC TIMES

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CONCERN OVER PROSPECT OF MASSIVE UNREST IN SAUDI ARABIA

Nov 8, 2001 The Middle East Newsline reports: "Saudi Arabia is concerned over the prospect of massive Islamic unrest in the kingdom connected to the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan. Arab diplomatic sources said Saudi officials and diplomats have sent messages to allies that the unrest could erupt when the Islamic fast month of Ramadan begins later this month. Ramadan, which is set by the lunar calendar, is expected around Nov. 15.

The message has been relayed to the United States through Pakistan, the sources said. Pakistan is regarded as one of Riyadh's closest allies and both supported the Afghan ruling Taliban movement, now under U.S. attack.

The sources said Saudi Arabia envisions huge Islamic protests of the war throughout the Middle East and the Persian Gulf. The rallies would then sweep the Saudi kingdom, several of whose leading clerics have condemned the war..."

BIGGEST THREAT IN MIDDLE EAST

Nov 8, 2001 The Associated Press reports: "Iran is the biggest terrorist threat in the Middle East and receives critical support from Russia for its nuclear weapons program, an Israeli Cabinet minister said Wednesday.

Russian President Vladimir Putin insisted in an American television interview taped Monday in the Kremlin that Russia was not providing dangerous weapons technology to Iran. He called such suspicions a 'legend,' or fable.

But Ephraim Sneh, a former Israeli general and now transportation minister, said he was certain 'the central support for the Iranian nuclear project is provided by Russia.' Sneh told reporters at breakfast that Israel was on friendly terms with Russia. But, he said, 'We don't sweep things under the rug.'

Informed that Putin was denying the link in an interview on ABC-TV's '20/20,' Sneh said 'it doesn't change the situation.' He said Israel had advised Russia that its support for Iran was damaging Israel's security..."

IRAN HOLDS WAR GAMES OF ISLAMIC FORCES

Nov 7, 2001 The Middle East Newsline reports: "Iran has held war games by its Islamic volunteer forces. The exercise was one of a series of maneuvers by the Basij forces. The Basij are a volunteer force that helps bolster border security and fights dissidents in universities. Iranian officials said the weekend exercise took place in Fars province near Shiraz. They said 15,000 Basij volunteers participated.

Col. Ebrahim Azizi praised the performance of the Basij, which has been deployed along the border



with Afghanistan. Azizi said the main objective of the war games was to bolster the military capacity of the force.

'The forces proved that they were able to act quite skillfully in time of action,' Azizi was quoted as saying by the official Islamic Republic News Agency. The Basij forces included female combatants, IRNA reported. The exercise ended on late Sunday..."

MANY BRITISH MUSLIMS SUPPORT BIN LADEN

Nov 6, 2001 *The Sunday Times* reports: "4 out of every 10 British Muslims believe Osama Bin Laden is justified in mounting his war against the United States. And more than one in 10 say the attacks on the World Trade Center were justified, write John Elliott and Maurice Chittenden.

A *Sunday Times* survey, the first large-scale poll of the Muslim community since the start of the bombing campaign against Afghanistan, shows 40% believe Bin Laden has cause to wage war against America and a similar proportion say Britons who choose to go to fight alongside the Taliban are right to do so.

Muslim leaders, some of whom said the survey did not reflect mainstream opinion among Britain's 2m Muslims, said they believed the results reflect increasing anger about America's role in the Middle East and central Asia.

British Muslims - 1,170 were interviewed outside mosques across Britain - are less convinced about Bin Laden's tactics: only 11% believe there was some justification for the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The Muslims polled were overwhelmingly against the continued American bombing of Afghanistan: eight in 10 believe the action will lead to worsening race relations in Britain. Asked if it was more important for them to be Muslim or British, 68% chose their faith..."

ISRAEL DISCLOSES ITS NUCLEAR OPTION

Nov 4, 2001 *The Middle East Newslite* reports: "For the first time, Israel has allowed an open discussion of its nuclear program. The discussion is contained in a new documentary on Israel's nuclear capability. It is the first time the government has allowed the production and airing of such a program.

In contrast to previous documentaries on the subject produced abroad, Israeli leaders agreed to be interviewed. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres reviewed the history of Israel's nuclear program and its cooperation with France in the 1950s and 1960s.

Neither Peres nor any other Israeli official acknowledges that the Jewish state has nuclear weapons. Previous assessments have asserted that Israel has up to 200 nuclear warheads.

The documentary, 'A Bomb in the Basement Israel's Nuclear Option,' was produced in France, Israel and the United States and quotes former U.S. officials recalling Washington's opposition to Israel's nuclear program. The documentary will be aired in Israel on Sunday."



Israel