



PROPHETIC TIMES

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EGYPT CONTINUES MISSILE RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTH KOREA

Feb 14, 2002 The Middle East Newsline reports: "The CIA has dismissed Egyptian assertions that Cairo has ended its missile relationship with North Korea. In both congressional testimony and in its latest report, the U.S. intelligence community has reported that Egypt continues to cooperate with North Korea in ballistic missile programs. The CIA said Egypt remains a key client of North Korea, which is offering intermediate and long-range missiles to the Middle East.

CIA director George Tenet referred to Egypt during testimony last week to the Senate Select Intelligence Committee. In testimony on Feb. 6, Tenet grouped Egypt together with Iran, Libya and Syria as North Korean clients for missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

Congressional staffers said Tenet's assertion came in the wake of several hearings in which House and Senate members questioned Egypt's missile cooperation with North Korea. In closed hearings, U.S. intelligence officials reported that Cairo had sought No-Dong missile engines from Pyongyang..."

UNITED STATES TARGETS SADDAM NEXT

Feb 14, 2002 The Guardian reports: "The Pentagon and the CIA have begun preparations for an assault on Iraq involving up to 200,000 US troops that is likely to be launched later this year with the aim of removing Saddam Hussein from power, US and diplomatic sources told the *Guardian* yesterday.

President George Bush's war cabinet, known as the 'principals committee', agreed at a pivotal meeting in late January that the policy of containment has failed and that active steps should be taken to topple the Iraqi leader.

But, according to a US intelligence source familiar with CIA preparations, the plans for a parallel overt and covert war only landed on the president's desk in the past few days. 'I will reserve whatever options I have. I'll keep them close to my vest. Saddam Hussein needs to understand that I'm serious about defending our country,' Mr. Bush said yesterday..."

LADY THATCHER URGES BUSH TO 'FINISH BUSINESS OF IRAQ'

Feb 12, 2002 The London Daily Telegraph reports: "Lady Thatcher praised President Bush's leadership yesterday and called for the war on terrorism to focus on the 'unfinished business' of Iraq. The former Prime Minister used an article in the *New York Times* to back vigorously the policy outlined in Mr. Bush's State of the Union speech.



Describing Saddam Hussein as 'the most notorious rogue', Lady Thatcher said: 'How and when, not whether, to remove him are the only important questions.' She urged Britain to 'extend strong support' to Mr. Bush.

Lady Thatcher compared the threat of Muslim fundamentalism to that of communism. 'Islamic extremism today, like Bolshevism in the past, is an armed doctrine..."

AMERICAN MILITARY COMMANDERS RELOCATE TO THE GULF

Feb 12, 2002 The Middle East Newsline reports: "Leading U.S. military commanders have transferred their headquarters to the Persian Gulf region in preparation for an attack on Iraq. Commanders of the army, navy and air force have already been transferred to the Persian Gulf. The commander of the U.S. Marines in the Asian region is expected to arrive in Bahrain in the next few weeks. The command, led by Lt. Gen. Earl Hailston and a support staff of 500 people, has been moved from Hawaii.

The U.S. Third Army, a support unit and part of the Central Command, has been operating in Kuwait since Nov. 11. The command has been accompanied by more than 2,000 soldiers as well as advanced tanks and armored systems. The troops have been exercising

with both the Kuwaiti military as well as units from other NATO forces, such as Canada and Germany.

U.S. officials said the effort is meant to prepare for any continuation of the U.S.-led war against terrorism. In all, about 20,000 military personnel are in the Gulf region, including Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar and Saudi Arabia..."

IRANIANS CHANT 'DEATH TO AMERICA'

Feb 12, 2002 *The Associated Press* reports: "Angered by the United States' labeling of Iran as part of an 'axis of evil,' hundreds of thousands of Iranians chanted 'Death to America' on Monday during demonstrations to mark the 23rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution.

The gathering was much larger than last year's commemorations as Iranians used the occasion to show their anger with President Bush's condemnation of their country in his State of the Union address. Many Iranians who said they rarely join such celebrations spoke of taking to the streets to show solidarity.

Men, women and children poured into Tehran's Freedom Square carrying anti-U.S. banners and burning effigies of Uncle Sam..."

ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCES READIES FOR LARGE OPERATION IN GAZA

Feb 13, 2002 *Ha'aretz* reports: "The Israel Defense Forces concentrated large forces in the Gaza Strip last night, preparing for a large-scale ground operation in response to the launch of Kassam-2 rockets from Gaza into Israel on Sunday.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa also reported that Israeli tanks entered Dir al-Balah, in central Gaza, late last night, and that soldiers had begun performing house to house searches there.

Palestinian sources said the IDF had also beefed up its presence around Nablus, with tanks blocking most of the entrances to the city and Apache assault helicopters flying overhead. Palestinians in Hebron reported similar IDF activity around the nearby town of Dahariyeh.

A senior defense source noted that no buffer zone can prevent rocket launches entirely, but Israel hopes to thereby encourage the Palestinian Authority to take action against Hamas, which is responsible for the rockets..."

ARTIFICIAL WOMB DEVELOPED BY SCIENTISTS



Feb 11, 2002 *The Guardian* reports: "Doctors are developing artificial wombs in which embryos can grow outside a woman's body. The work has been hailed as a breakthrough in treating the childless.

Scientists have created prototypes made out of cells extracted from women's bodies. Embryos successfully attached themselves to the walls of these laboratory wombs and began to grow. However, experiments had to be terminated after a few days to comply with in-vitro fertilization (IVF) regulations.

'We hope to create complete artificial wombs using these techniques in a few years,' said Dr Hung-Ching Liu of Cornell University's Centre for Reproductive Medicine and Infertility. 'Women with damaged uteruses and wombs will be able to have babies for the first time.'

The pace of progress in the field has startled experts. Artificial wombs could end many women's childbirth problems - but they also raise major ethical headaches which will be debated at a major international conference titled 'The End of Natural Motherhood?' in Oklahoma next week.

'There are going to be real problems,' said organizer Dr Scott Gelfand, of Oklahoma State University. 'Some feminists even say artificial wombs mean men could eliminate women from the planet and still perpetuate our species. That's a bit alarmist. Nevertheless, this subject clearly raises strong feelings.' ..."