



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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## NORTH KOREA FACES FOOD CRISIS AGAIN

*April 11, 2002* *BBC News* reports: "Famine-hit North Korea will run out of food in three month's time unless more international donations arrive immediately, the United Nations food agency has warned. Food aid has already run out in several provinces, the UN's World Food Program said.

It said North Korean women and children were 'looking down the barrel' of a food crisis, as donor pledges take at least two months to translate into food. The new warning came amid a flurry of diplomatic activity aimed at improving relations with South Korea and the US.

Last week the two Koreas agreed to resume contacts following an ice-breaking trip to the North by South Korean presidential envoy Lim Dong-won. North Korea also hinted it was ready to resume a dialogue with the US, suspended since President George W Bush instigated a harder-line approach to relations.

The Stalinist nation has relied on food aid since a massive famine and natural disasters in 1995 caused the collapse of the state-planned economy."



*North Korea*

## UNITED STATES PLANS SOLDIER OF THE FUTURE

*April 11, 2002* *BBC News* reports: "The soldier of the future could be able to leap buildings, heal his own wounds, deflect bullets and become invisible.

These are just some of the futuristic plans of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology which has been selected by the US army to create the battlefield equivalent of Robocop. The \$50m research center will be known as the Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies (ISN). Among the goals of the newly-created ISN will be gadgets that can heal soldiers, uniforms that are nearly invisible and clothing that can become a rigid cast when a soldier breaks his or her leg.

An exoskeleton could be developed to provide protection from bullets, transform into a medical cast and even activate an offensive weapon. Shoes with built-in power packs could release bursts of energy to endow the soldier with super-strength and agility. With a nod to the durability of medieval armor, the institute will also develop a futuristic light-weight chain mail, made up of molecular materials.

The soldier of the future will not only be protected, but present a greater threat to the enemy said director of the ISN Professor Ned Thomas. 'Imagine the psychological impact upon a foe when encountering squads of seemingly invincible warriors, protected by armor and endowed with superhuman capabilities, such as the ability to leap over 20-foot walls,' he said.

The ISN will be staffed by 150 people, including 35 MIT professors, 80 graduate students as well as specialists from the army..."

## RED HEIFER BORN IN ISRAEL IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS

*April 10, 2002* *Israel National News* reports: "In these days of difficulty for the Land of Israel, there is encouraging news as well... It can now be revealed that less than one month ago, a red heifer was born in Israel. After the heifer's owner contacted the Temple Institute, on Friday, April 5th, 2001, Rabbi Menachem Makover and Rabbi Chaim Richman traveled to the farm where the heifer is located, to inspect and validate her status. The rabbis found her to be kosher and were satisfied that this heifer could indeed be a candidate to be used in the process of purification described in the book of Numbers, chapter 19. This is a prerequisite for the rebuilding of the Holy Temple.

Tradition records that a red heifer in our generation is a herald of the Messianic era. It is certainly an important development towards the rebuilding of the Holy Temple. Our sages taught that Israel's redemption can be compared to the dawn. 'In the beginning, it progresses very slowly...but as it continues, it grows brighter and brighter.'..."

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## SAUDI CROWN PRINCE WARNS U.S. OF DANGER OVER SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

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*April 10, 2002* UPI reports: "Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah warned Secretary of State Colin Powell that Israel's continued military operations in the West Bank would endanger U.S. interests in the Arab world, the *Saudi Press Agency* said Tuesday.

Abdullah, on a private visit to Morocco, met Powell there Monday night and urged him to push for implementation of President Bush's call for Israel's immediate withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian territories. Such a U.S. initiative, he said, would protect Washington's credibility in the eyes of the Arab and Islamic worlds, as well as its interests.

The U.S. administration, he said, holds cards that enable it to put an end to the bloodshed and humiliation committed by the Israeli government against 'our brothers in Palestine, and against the humanity of every Arab, Muslim or Christian and every freedom fighter.'

Abdullah and Powell discussed the need for a cease-fire in the Palestinian territories, followed by Israel's withdrawal from lands it conquered in 1967 and the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital, in line with the Arab peace initiative..."

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## SADDAM HUSSEIN PLANS TO END OIL EXPORTS

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*April 9, 2002* *The Middle East Newslines* reports: "Iraq plans to end oil exports in a move meant to pressure Israel and the United States.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said in an address to the nation on Monday that his regime will immediately end all oil exports. Saddam said the halt will last for 30 days and aims to support the Palestinian nation in its war against Israel.

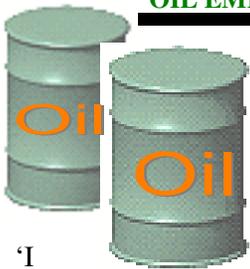
Baghdad has been exporting more than 1 million barrels of oil a day under United Nations auspices. Iraq is believed to be exporting an additional 40 percent to Jordan, Syria and Turkey in violation of UN Security Council sanctions.

Next month, the Security Council will be called to review the UN oil-for-food program. The United States has sought to impose so-called smart sanctions that will place tighter restrictions on military and dual-use Iraqi imports..."

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## OIL EMBARGO THREATENED AGAINST ISRAEL AND ALLIES

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*April 6, 2002* *The AP* reports: "Iran on Friday became the second OPEC country to call for an oil embargo against Israel's allies, while thousands of Arabs across the Middle East protested Israel's offensive into Palestinian territories. Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Muslim oil-producing states should halt supplies to countries supporting Israel.

'I suggest, only for one month, as a symbolic gesture, that Arab and Islamic countries switch off oil to all countries who have close relations with Israel,' Khamenei said in a Friday prayer sermon at Tehran University. Khamenei did not elaborate on which countries should be targeted or whether Iran would take such action unilaterally.

During a visit to Moscow, Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi suggested his government would support Khamenei's suggestions. 'If other Islamic countries join in this call, it will be a very strong instrument against America and Israel,' Kharrazi said.

Three days ago, Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri proposed that Arab countries use oil to pressure the United States into forcing Israel to end its military offensive in the West Bank."

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