



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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PAKISTAN THREATENS TO USE NUKES



Pakistan

May 30, 2002 *Yahoo News* reports: "Pakistan has threatened to use nuclear weapons even if India stuck to conventional arms in any conflict, asserting that it has never subscribed to 'no-first-use' of atomic weapons and that ruling out their use would give New Delhi a 'license to kill.'"

'India should not have the license to kill with conventional weapons while Pakistan's hands are tied regarding other means to defend itself,' said its new ambassador to the United Nations Munir Akram. The highly bellicose and provocative statements by Akram on the

second day on the job yesterday surprised diplomats and officials at the United Nations who declined to make an immediate comment.



India

Pakistan, he said, has to rely on the 'means it possessed to deter Indian aggression' and would not 'neutralize' that deterrence by any doctrine of 'no-first-use.' ..."

NATO AND RUSSIA LAUNCH NEW ERA

May 28, 2002 *BBC News* reports: "Russia and NATO have signed an agreement which heralds a new era of post-Cold War co-operation."

Protected by missiles, fighter planes and warships standing offshore, 19 NATO leaders and Russian President Vladimir Putin gathered at an airbase outside Rome to establish the NATO-Russia Council. NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson said the council 'begins a new chapter in Euro-Atlantic relations', and called for NATO members and Russia to 'work together in the logic of common interest'.

The pact on a new NATO-Russia Council - agreed earlier this month in Iceland - allows Russia to join NATO's decision-making process, and is aimed at uniting the efforts of Moscow and the alliance in the fight against terrorism.

The 20-nation summit concludes US President Bush's tour of Europe, whose centerpiece was the signing of a landmark nuclear arms reduction treaty in Moscow, which cuts US and Russian atomic arsenals by two-thirds..."

SAUDI ARABIA WARNS OF AL QAIDA COMEBACK USING FORGED DOCUMENTS

May 30, 2002 *The World Tribune* reports: "Saudi Arabia has warned that a resurgent Al Qaida is using forged Saudi documents to mount new attacks on the United States. Saudi officials said the kingdom has received an alert that Al Qaida insurgents are rebuilding their infrastructure for a campaign against the United States and its allies. The infrastructure would include the documents required for Al Qaida agents to slip into Europe and the United States."

A Saudi Interior Ministry statement warned that nationals are being approached for copies of their identity cards and passports, *Middle East Newsline* reported. The statement said foreigners seek to adopt the identity of Saudi nationals for what the statement termed were terrorist operations. Saudi nationals comprised 15 out of the 19 attackers who hijacked U.S. planes and drove them into the World Trade Center and the Defense Department. The kingdom has acknowledged the involvement of Saudi nationals in Al Qaida and has pledged to end this trend.

The ministry said the terrorists are offering Saudis money for the documents. In other cases, the Saudi nationals are being approached for business deals that involve the transfer of their identity documents. Often, the approach is conducted over the Internet or via mobile phone..."

MOST OF STOLEN CYANIDE FOUND

May 30, 2002 *CBS News* reports: "A rural policeman in central Mexico stumbled across 70 drums of sodium cyanide near a dirt road Wednesday, following an 18-day nationwide search for a stolen shipment of the deadly poison, some of which may still be missing.

Soldiers wearing paper masks raced to cordon off the hilly countryside around Honey, a district in Puebla state 80 miles north of Mexico City, after the officer found the blue plastic barrels off a dirt trail, said the municipality's secretary, Juvencio Miranda.

Mexico's defense department said there were 70 containers and that they appeared to be part of the shipment of 96 drums of cyanide hijacked along with a chemical company truck May 10. Twenty of the drums were found along with the abandoned truck a week later. State and local officials have given varying numbers for the drums found and some of the stolen cyanide could still be missing.

Water supplies to Honey were cut as a precaution against possible cyanide contamination, as experts at the scene tested the substance..."

HAMAS: WE WILL NOT BE STOPPED

May 29, 2002 *UPI* reports: "The leader of the military wing of the Palestinian Islamic extremist Hamas group warned in an interview published Tuesday that suicide attacks against Israel would continue, despite stepped up efforts to stop them by Arab countries and the Palestinian Authority.

In a rare interview with the Jordanian weekly *As Sabeel*, Salah Shehadeh, the commander of the so-called Izziddine Qassam Brigades, said that political, financial and military obstacles would not prevent 'martyrs' from carrying out their attacks 'in the midst of the Zionist entity.'

The newspaper ran a full, front-page question-and-answer interview with Shehadeh, who tops Israel's most wanted list, during which he outlined the group's activities, from the way it recruits suicide bombers to the choosing of its targets.

The extremist leader said that his organization faced many obstacles in carrying out attacks on Israel, including a crackdown by the Palestinian Authority security apparatus -- which arrested 14 Hamas activists, earlier this month -- and 'the lack of substantial weapons, such as anti-aircraft and long-range missiles.'

Shehadeh said that each suicide attack costs between \$3,500 and \$50,000 'depending on the nature of the target.' He added 'a lot of money gets paid to buy cars and other services from the Jews to reach the needed target.'..."

IRAQ MOVES FORCES IN SOUTH AND NORTH

May 29, 2002 *The Middle East Newsline* reports: "Iraqi troops and anti-aircraft batteries are moving to the north and south of the country in what appears to be the latest deployment to confront any U.S. military offensive. Iraq is said to have moved troops north near the Kurdish autonomous zone as well as in the south near Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. In both cases, troops have been supported by tanks and artillery.

The Iraqi National Congress said the regime of President Saddam Hussein sent in early May what the group termed was a large military contingent, tanks and artillery near the cities of Irbil and Suleimaniya. Kurdish sources listed the Iraqi force as containing 100 tanks and armored personnel carriers as well as 36 long-range artillery.

The London-based INC warned that Iraqi troops were preparing to attack Kurdish cities. Irbil is ruled by the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and Suleimaniya by the Kurdistan Democratic Party...."