



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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BRITAIN 'MAY LOSE CONTROL' OF TB AS CASES SOAR

Dec 5, 2002 The London Daily Telegraph reports: "Rates of tuberculosis in some areas of London are higher than in parts of the developing world and the disease in Britain is running ahead of efforts to contain it, campaigners said. New figures show that the borough of Brent, north-west London, has 116.5 cases per 100,000 of the population compared with Tajikistan with a rate of 115, China with 113 and Brazil with 64. Close behind Brent is Newham, east London, with 104 cases per 100,000 and Hackney, north London, with 87.2.

Paul Sommerfeld, chairman of TB Alert, said: 'The message is that we have to look at the global problems, and Britain is part of that. In the league table of western Europe, Britain is the highest after Portugal and Spain.'

TURKEY APPROVES USE OF MILITARY BASES BY U.S.

Dec 5, 2002 The Middle East Newsline reports: "Turkey has approved a U.S. request of use of military bases in the NATO ally amid a promise of more than \$3 billion in aid from Washington. Turkish leaders are said to have agreed to U.S. use of Turkey's air space and military bases in any offensive against the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The leaders said Washington would first require United Nations endorsement, but officials said this condition appears flexible.

'If it comes to that, then of course, we will cooperate with the United States because it's a big ally and we have excellent relations with the United States,' Turkish Foreign Minister Yasar Yakis said on Tuesday. 'What we mean by cooperation is opening air bases and opening facilities to use...'

Yakis said Ankara would also allow U.S. fighter-jets to launch strikes against Iraq from Turkish air bases. He did not say whether Turkey would fly combat missions against Iraqi targets, but other officials said Washington has asked Ankara for 35,000 soldiers to help contain northern Iraq and its Kurdish and Turkmen populations..."

HEZBOLLAH CALLS FOR GLOBAL ATTACKS

Dec 4, 2002 The Washington Times reports: "The leader of the Lebanese Muslim group Hezbollah is urging a global suicide bombing campaign, increasing the prospect that the regional conflict between Arabs and Israelis will expand to mimic or even merge with al Qaeda's war against the West. Two recent speeches by the Lebanon-based Hezbollah leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, have raised the specter of attacks outside the region by a powerful and well-organized military force — a force that successfully pushed the Israeli army out of southern Lebanon two years ago.

'By Allah, if they touch Al Aqsa we will act everywhere around the world,' Sheik Nasrallah told an estimated 10,000 gun-toting, bearded fighters in southern Lebanon on Friday. Several hundred 'suicide commandos' also took part.

Al Aqsa refers to a sacred Muslim site in Jerusalem that, although under Israeli military control, is in practice administered by Palestinian Muslim authorities. The site, holy to both Jews and Muslims, is a flash point for...outbreaks of violence.

Taken alone, Sheik Nasrallah's remarks might be interpreted as no more than a warning to Israel not to alter the status quo. But earlier in the week, at a rally in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, Sheik Nasrallah issued a far more ominous threat. 'Martyrdom operations — suicide bombings — should be exported outside Palestine,' he said. 'I encourage Palestinians to take suicide bombings worldwide. Don't be shy about it,' he added.

SAUDIS RALLY NEIGHBORS AGAINST POST-SADDAM DEMOCRACY

Dec 4, 2002 The World Tribune reports: "Saudi Arabia is working to form an Arab coalition to oppose any U.S. drive to impose democracy on the Middle East. Arab diplomatic sources said the kingdom has