



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

01 MARCH 2003



IRAQI DRONES MAY TARGET U.S. CITIES

Feb 25, 2003 Fox News reports: "Iraq could be planning a chemical or biological attack on American cities through the use of remote-controlled 'drone' planes equipped with GPS tracking maps, according to U.S. intelligence.

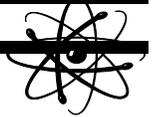
The information about Iraq's unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) program has caused a 'real concern' among defense personnel, senior U.S. officials tell Fox News. They're worried that these vehicles have already been, or could be, transported inside the United States to be used in an attack, although there is no proof that this has happened.

Secretary of State Colin Powell showed a picture of a small drone plane during his presentation to the U.N. Security Council earlier this month. 'UAVs outfitted with spray tanks constitute an ideal method for launching a terrorist attack using biological weapons,' Powell said during his speech. 'Iraq could use these small UAVs, which have a wingspan of only a few meters, to deliver biological agents to its neighbors or, if transported, to other countries, including the United States.'

Powell said there is 'ample evidence' that Iraq has dedicated much time and effort to developing and testing spray devices that could be adapted for UAVs. 'And of the little that Saddam Hussein told us about UAVs, he has not told the truth,' Powell said.

In the arms declaration Iraq submitted to the U.N. Security Council in December, the country said its UAVs have a range of only 50 miles. But Powell said U.S. intelligence sources found that one of Iraq's newest UAVs went 310 miles nonstop on autopilot in a test run. That distance is over the 155 miles that the United Nations permits, and the test was left out of Iraq's arms declaration..."

NORTH KOREA 'RESTARTS NUCLEAR REACTOR'



Feb 27, 2003 BBC News reports: "North Korea has begun operating a controversial nuclear reactor, according to United States officials. The move, if confirmed, will add to diplomatic pressure on Washington to resolve the continuing crisis over North Korea's nuclear program. One unnamed US official said that the intelligence that Pyongyang had restarted its nuclear reactor at Yongbyon was based on satellite photographs.

Analysts suspect the impoverished North is using its nuclear capabilities to extract concessions from Washington, or to stress its power to deter any US-led attack on North Korea after possible war in Iraq.

Such a move would not necessarily mean that the reactor would be used to produce nuclear weapons. But the BBC's Charles Scanlon says that if it was, the reactor would take about a year to produce enough plutonium to make a weapon.

Of more concern, however, would be the re-processing of a stockpile of rods of plutonium that have already been extracted from the reactor when it was last operational, in 1994. These are believed to contain enough plutonium to produce at least five nuclear warheads, the first of which could be ready in a month or so, but US officials said the necessary re-processing plant was still inactive..."

SADDAM SEEN USING PROXY GROUPS TO ATTACK THE U.S.

Feb 26, 2003 The Washington Times reports: "A recent CIA analysis concluded Saddam Hussein is highly likely to use a 'third party' terrorist group to conduct a proxy attack on the United States in advance of American military operations, according to U.S. officials. Analysts within the CIA's intelligence directorate reached the conclusion based on a complicated process that applied statistical probabilities to unknown threat scenarios, said officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

According to one U.S. official, the CIA estimated there is better than an 85 percent chance that Saddam would use proxy terrorists to strike the United States and that the likelihood would increase after any U.S. military action were to begin. The exercise was conducted several months ago and the analysts stated in a report that Saddam could order a terrorist attack against the United States before U.S. forces start operations to oust him.

The analysis stated that if Saddam felt the end of his regime is inevitable that he could 'strike out against us using a third party,' the second official said. The pre-emptive terrorist attack could involve the use of chemical, biological or radiological weapons."

SIR ISAAC NEWTON SET 2060 FOR END OF THE WORLD

Feb 23, 2003 The London Daily Telegraph reports: "Sir Isaac Newton, Britain's greatest scientist, predicted the date of the end of the world - and it is only 57 years away. His theories about Armageddon have been unearthed by academics from little-known handwritten manuscripts in a library in Jerusalem.

The thousands of pages show Newton's attempts to decode the Bible, which he believed contained God's secret laws for the universe. Newton, who was also a theologian and alchemist, predicted that the Second Coming of Christ would follow plagues and war and would precede a 1,000-year reign by the saints on earth - of which he would be one.

The most definitive date he set for the apocalypse, which he scribbled on a scrap of paper, was 2060. Newton's fascination with the end of the world, which has been researched by a Canadian academic, Stephen Snobelen, is to be explored in a documentary, Newton: The Dark Heretic, on BBC2 next Saturday.

'What has been coming out over the past 10 years is what an apocalyptic thinker Newton was,' Malcolm Neaum, the producer, said. 'He spent something like 50 years and wrote 4,500 pages trying to predict when the end of the world was coming. But until now it was not known that he ever wrote down a final figure. He was very reluctant to do so.'

Thousands of Newton's papers, which had lain in a trunk in the house of the Earl of Portsmouth for 250 years, were sold by Sotheby's in the late 1930s.

John Maynard Keynes, the economist, bought many of the texts on alchemy and theology. But much of the material went to an eccentric collector, Abraham Yahuda, and was stored in the Hebrew National Library. It was among these documents that the date was found..."

IRAN SEEKS WMD HELP FROM CHINA, NORTH KOREA

Feb 24, 2003 The Middle East Newslite reports: "The United States has concluded that Iran has increased efforts to obtain technological assistance from China and North Korea for Teheran's missile and weapons of mass destruction programs.

U.S. officials said the threat of imminent war with Iraq has spurred Teheran to conclude its missile and WMD projects to deter future threats from Washington. The officials said Iran is focusing on completing facilities that could produce weapons-grade plutonium.

'The Iranians are very active in seeking assistance from North Korea and China,' Undersecretary of State John Bolton said. 'Although the current focus is on Iraq, and to a lesser extent on North Korea, Iran remains a very serious problem, one that we're committed to addressing, and that we are trying to address by preventing the Iranian government from acquiring these capabilities in nuclear, biological and chemical weapons and long-range missiles.'

Bolton said in an interview to the CNBC network that Iran plays a leading role in the Bush administration's agenda. The undersecretary said he has spent many hours with Russian officials in an attempt to stop Moscow's aid to Teheran's missile and WMD programs..."

SECRET SAUDI PLAN



Feb 22, 2003 ABC News reports: "The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia has recently transmitted a secret proposal to the Bush administration, using one of his own sons, Prince Abdul Aziz bin Abdullah as an emissary, rather than officials from the Saudi Embassy in Washington, sources told ABC News. The Saudis are proposing that after Saddam Hussein's fall, Saudi Arabia should lead a coalition of Islamic nations to occupy Iraq while a transitional Iraqi government is established, with Turkey playing the leading role in the Islamic force.

Senior government officials told ABC News that according to the Crown Prince, an Islamic occupation force would defuse the anti-American hostility that is sweeping the Middle East and putting pressure on moderate Arab governments that are allied with the United States.

The Saudis would then be free to crack down on the extremist Jihadis in the Kingdom who are allied with al Qaeda or are sympathetic to Osama bin Laden. Right now, Saudis feel a full scale crackdown would look like the Kingdom is doing American bidding, at a time when President Bush is very unpopular there..."

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor

ljtuc@msn.com

UCGIA, Oakland, San Jose, & Santa Rosa, California