

# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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## AL QAIDA PLANS SAUDI F-15 SUICIDE ATTACK ON ISRAEL

*September 11, 2003* The Middle East Newline reports: "Al Qaida has planned to hijack a Saudi F-15E fighter-jet and crash it into a major office tower in Israel. Israeli officials said this information was relayed by U.S. intelligence agencies in their interrogation of Al Qaida suspects over the past 18 months. They said Al Qaida was trying to recruit a Saudi air force pilot to fly his F-15E from the Tabuk air base and carry out a suicide attack in Israel.

The Al Qaida plot has been cited by Israel in its arguments to the United States for the immediate removal of Saudi Arabia's F-15E fleet from the King Faisal Air Base in Tabuk. About 50 F-15Es were flown to Tabuk in March 2003 and Riyadh has refused to return them to their bases in eastern and central Saudi Arabia.

On Tuesday, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon became the first Israeli public figure to cite the F-15Es at Tabuk. Ya'alon said Israel has raised the issue with the United States, which sold the F-15s in 1982 and 1995..."

## SADDAM ORDERED NAJAF BOMBING

*September 10, 2003* WorldNetDaily.com reports: "The assassination of a leading Shia cleric who cooperated with the U.S. military in Iraq follows a secret postwar plan by Saddam Hussein to destabilize the U.S. occupation, a former Army intelligence analyst told WorldNetDaily.

A Jan. 23 memo classified Top Secret and found in Iraqi intelligence files orders Saddam's agents to carry out acts of sabotage in the event of the collapse of his regime. They include infiltrating mosques and assassinating imams – specifically in the holy city of Najaf, a key religious center for Shia Muslims oppressed by Hussein's deposed Sunni Muslim regime...

Ayatollah Mohammed Baqer al-Hakim and more than 100 of his followers were killed in last month's car bomb massacre at the Najaf shrine he led. Not long before his assassination, he had accepted the U.S. occupation and even sent his brother and deputy, Abd al-Aziz al-Hakim, to serve on the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council.

The secret directive issued before the war by Saddam's general intelligence service, the Mukhabarat, 'is authentic,' asserted ret. Lt. Col. Stephen Franke, a former Army intelligence analyst who served as Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's personal Arabic interpreter during the first Gulf war and as a weapons inspector in Iraq after the war.

'I've tracked the various Iraqi intelligence security organizations since '91, and these citations are accurate,' he said in an exclusive WorldNetDaily interview. 'They're very consistent with the government documents I've reviewed.'..."

## HAMAS ISSUES SOS TO THE ARAB WORLD

*September 9, 2003* Ha'aretz reports: "In an unusual step, Hamas yesterday issued a call for help to the Arab world, citing Israel's assassination attempt on Sheikh Ahmed Yassin's life and the European Union's inclusion of Hamas on its list of terror groups as the reasons. The organization asked for assistance in its struggle against pressure exerted by Israel and by the West at large, as exemplified by the EU's recent decision.

A Hamas circular distributed in the Gaza Strip and on the Internet declared that, 'in light of the continuing acts of massacre and aggression, the effort to assassinate Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the expansion of the war against Hamas, and its inclusion on the terror organization list, we call on the Islamic Arab world to provide help.'

The circular called on Arab leaders to denounce Israel's assassination policy, and to take diplomatic steps to alter the EU decision. Hamas also asked religious authorities to issue Islamic rulings compatible with the organization's interests. Hamas has also designated this Friday as a 'day of rage' in which rallies are to be staged around the Arab world to protest Israel's assassination policy..."

## U.S. LINKS CHINESE, N. KOREAN WMD AID TO IRAN

*September 9, 2003* The Middle East Newline reports: "The United States has concluded that China and North Korea have coordinated in their efforts to advance Iran's missile and weapons of mass destruction programs.

U.S. officials said the intelligence community has determined that China and North Korea have cooperated in the production and delivery of components for missile and WMD programs to a range of Middle East clients. They said in many cases China, which last year announced export controls on military and dual-use technologies, has produced the components and exported them through North Korea to avoid U.S. sanctions.

The officials also said, North Korea markets missile and WMD systems and components to Middle East clients. The systems are then directed through China and Pakistan where they avoid U.S. monitoring of North Korean ports.

The officials said the determination has led to a decision to impose sanctions on Chinese companies found to have been cooperating with North Korea in the fields of missile and WMD. They said the Bush administration, after a lengthy debate within the National Security Council and State Department, has approved the imposition of new sanctions in an effort to demonstrate a tougher policy toward Beijing..."

## **PRIME MINISTER BLAIR SAYS IN WHITE PAPER EU BLUEPRINT GOOD FOR BRITAIN**

**September 9, 2003** EUObserver reported: "The British cabinet has expressed majority support for the draft constitution, resisting calls for a referendum on the EU blueprint. Although not perfect, the new constitution will be "good for Britain and good for Europe", British Prime Minister Tony Blair stated in his foreword to the Government's White Paper -the UK's official response to the draft treaty.

The opposition however, lambasted the document. "This White Paper is a white flag, a complete surrender to a Euro-pean superstate", the conservative leader Iain Duncan Smith said, according to the *Independent*.

Speaking before the Parliament, the British foreign secretary Jack Straw presented a set of the UK's "red line" requirements ahead of the further debate on Europe's future - mainly that the nation states preserve their power over tax, foreign and defense policy. Mr. Straw dismissed calls for a referendum on the constitution, as its proposals "do not change the fundamental relationship between the EU and its members," BBC reports.

However, the Leader of the House of Commons, Peter Hain appeared to undermine his argument by saying that Mr Blair had privately described the treaty as "absolutely fundamental", the broadsheet *Guardian* points out. The BBC also reported a recent poll suggesting that 82% of the public support the referendum and 9% are against it."

The inter-governmental conference on the future EU constitution starts on 4 October. Meanwhile, calls for a popular vote on the treaty are rising in Britain. Stuart Coster, campaign manager for the all-party Democracy Movement said: "The EU Constitution will have even more far-reaching consequences than the euro". He added: "The government's failure to publicly scrutinize the EU Constitution in a similar way would quite rightly lead to suspicion about what they are trying to hide and this only increase the need for a proper national debate and referendum."

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## **RUSSIA TAKES POSITIVE VIEW ON U.S. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON IRAQ\_**

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**September 6, 2003** USA Today reports: "Russia's foreign minister gave cautious approval Friday to a U.S.-drafted resolution for a greater role in Iraq by the United Nations, saying Moscow wouldn't mind U.S. leadership in a broader international peacekeeping force. Russia — who could veto the resolution as one of five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — joins Britain in supporting the draft. France has criticized the resolution; China said Friday it was studying it.

The U.S. draft offers the United Nations a larger role in governing Iraq, preparing for elections and peacekeeping, although American commanders will retain control. Washington said it wanted a quick vote on the proposed resolution, but France and Germany have responded coolly to the draft, saying it falls short by not granting responsibility to Iraqis or a large enough role to the United Nations..."

*L. Jim Tuck, Pastor*

*UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, Stockton, and Santa Rosa*

*ljtuc@msn.com*