



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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## SOLANA URGES US TO TAKE EU MORE SERIOUSLY

*July 29, 2004* The Voice of America reported: "The European Union Foreign Policy Chief Javier Solana has urged the United States to take the Union more seriously on issues such as Iraq. He also said his organization plans to compete with Washington in key areas such as trade and development. Mr. Solana made his remarks Tuesday in Budapest, shortly after American Secretary of State Colin Powell tried to shore up support for the U.S. policy in Iraq.

Speaking at the annual meeting of Hungarian ambassadors and other officials, Mr. Solana, without mentioning the United States by name suggested that the big military power seems at times out of touch with the international community. Mr. Solana said the fight against terrorism that began after the September 11th-2001 terrorist attacks in the United States cannot be won by the military alone.

"I do not think that the big problems of the world today have to be solved militarily," he said. "If you think that terrorism is going to be defeated through military action you are mistaken. Because terrorism will not be defeated (by military action alone), but by the exchange of intelligence, information and corporation of like minded countries. Mr. Solana said the United States should realize that while there were disagreements over Iraq, Europeans were among the first to serve as peacekeepers in Afghanistan after the overthrow of the Taleban regime, which was harboring the Osama bin-Laden-led terrorist organization. The EU Foreign policy chief added the Union remains concerned about some of America's domestic policies and its lack of respect for international law.

"We disagree about the death penalty," he said. "We disagree about the International Tribunal(s). We disagree about all these things linked to multilateralism in which we believe and (in which) they believe less. And to a certain extend the big military power may probably think that it is not necessary (to have) the rule based societies. But for us we believe that the rule based societies are fundamental."

Mr. Solana's comments came just hours after U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell told the same meeting he realized that the opinion polls in Europe are not very favorable towards the Bush administration's foreign policy. But Mr. Powell predicted that the mood in Europe would change once democracy has taken hold in Iraq and elections are held there. EU Foreign Policy Chief Solana suggested another way to improve TransAtlantic relations is when Washington takes the 25-member state Union more seriously.

Mr. Solana stressed that the EU, the world's largest single market, can compete with America in several areas. "We want to continue to compete (in the area of) humanitarian aid. We want to continue competing and sharing, (in the area) of trade," he said. Mr. Solana says it is time for both U.S. and EU leaders to realize that they need each other more than ever."

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## THREATS FROM IRAN AND LEBANON

*July 29, 2004* Arutz Sheva reported; "Iran threatened on Monday to "wipe Israel off the globe" if Israel were to attack Iran's nuclear program. It is not clear if the Arrow can also intercept Iran's Shihab-3 missiles, which are not only faster than Scuds, but could also be armed with chemical or nuclear warheads. Defense Minister Sha'ul Mofaz said that Teheran had "broken all the rules" when it reneged on its commitment to suspend production of nuclear centrifuge equipment, used in the production of enriched uranium - a prime ingredient for an atomic bomb. He said that international pressure against Iran's nuclear ambitions could obviate the need for a military operation.

In related news, IDF Intelligence Chief Gen. Ze'evi-Farkash revealed this week that Syria had recently supplied the Hizbullah terrorists in Lebanon with improved, Syrian-made katyusha rockets. The unguided missiles have a range of at least 130 kilometers, enabling them to reach as far as Hadera and Netanya"

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## STATEMENT THREATENS 'WATERFALLS OF BLOOD' IN EUROPE

*July 29, 2004* The International Herald Tribune reported: "A statement purportedly from an al-Qaeda-linked group threatens "waterfalls of blood" in European cities because the continent didn't respond to Osama bin Laden's demand that they leave Iraq and Afghanistan within three months.

The statement, dated Wednesday, was posted on an Islamic Web Site known for its extremist content. It was written in the name of the Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades, which has made similar threats in the past. According to the threat, Italy will be the first to face attack for not meeting bin Laden's demand. Premier Silvio Berlusconi has been a steadfast U.S. ally and contributed about 3,000 soldiers to the coalition, behind only the United States and Britain. Poland has about 2,400 troops in Iraq, while several other European countries have smaller contingents there.

"We will create waterfalls of blood that will drag you to their depths. You have condemned your people to that. The infidel Europe has done the same to its people by following America. We will destroy European cities, starting by you,

Berlusconi," the statement said. "The cities will bleed until all of you, European leaders and people, come to your senses. Withdraw your deadly missions from Iraq."

The same group made a similar threat against Italy on Monday. There was no immediate comment from the Italian government, but it had approved continued funding for the Iraq mission Tuesday, a day after the other statement.

In an audiotape on April 15, bin Laden said he was calling a truce for three months and urged European states to leave Iraq, Afghanistan and other Muslim countries within that period or risk a terror campaign. There was no way to verify the authenticity of the statement.

U.S. officials and some terrorism experts believe Abu Hafs al-Masri Brigades, which claimed responsibility for the Madrid train bombings that killed about 191 people on March 11, lacks credibility and has only tenuous ties to al-Qaida. It has issued claims for events in which it almost certainly had no involvement, including blackouts in North America and Britain..."

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### **U.S. PANEL URGES NEW TIES WITH SAUDIS**

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*July 25, 2004* The Middle East Newsline reported: "A presidential commission that examined the Al Qaida suicide strikes on New York and Washington in 2001 has urged a revision of U.S. relations with Saudi Arabia. The report by the commission also cited an Al Qaida plot to attack Israel with a fighter-jet from the Saudi Air Force. The plot was not executed.

The commission that investigated the Sept. 11, 2001 Al Qaida strikes against the United States did not cite any involvement by the Saudi royal family. The report did not find any evidence of Saudi government financing or operational aid to Al Qaida. But the 10-member bipartisan commission termed Saudi Arabia a "problematic ally" in the war against Al Qaida and aligned groups."

### **NORTH KOREA REJECTS LIBYAN EXAMPLE FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT**

*July 24, 2004* The Voice of America reported: "North Korea has dismissed a U.S. proposal that it follow the example of Libya and scrap its nuclear weapons in exchange for aid and diplomatic recognition. The dismissal comes days after a U.S. State Department official made the suggestion during a visit to the region.

A North Korea Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted by the country's official news agency Saturday as saying a U.S.-proposed arrangement to settle the dispute over the communist state's nuclear weapons program is "little worthy to be discussed."

The spokesman called the American proposal "nothing but a sham offer." He repeated Pyongyang's offer to freeze its nuclear facilities as a first step toward dismantling them, but only if Washington lifts economic sanctions, takes the North off its lists of sponsors of terrorism and provides energy aid.

On Wednesday, U.S. Undersecretary of State John Bolton urged North Korea to learn from Libya, which recently agreed to abandon its weapons of mass destruction in return for normal relations with Washington and its allies.

Despite Saturday's rhetoric, there has been a flurry of activity this week, aimed at promoting engagement with Pyongyang. Following Mr. Bolton's four-day trip to Seoul, he went on to Tokyo, while Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi spent two days in South Korea. The North Korea question was discussed in both cases.

Also in recent days, 80 South Korean trucks loaded with rice crossed the heavily fortified demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas to deliver food aid to the North. Separately, Washington on Friday pledged 50,000 tons of food aid to North Korea to be delivered this year.

Three rounds of talks on North Korea's nuclear ambitions have been held in Beijing, but none has produced a breakthrough. The United States, Russia, China, Japan and the two Koreas took part.

Libya consummated years of efforts to repair ties with the West with an announcement in December that it was scrapping its nuclear and other unconventional arms programs. It also vowed not to trade arms with Iran, North Korea, Syria or other states accused of arms proliferation.

North Korea's initial reaction to Tripoli's move was a Foreign Ministry statement, dismissing hopes that it might emulate Libya as the "folly of imbeciles."

*Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor  
UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, Stockton, and Santa Rosa  
ljtuc@msn.com*