



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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EU APPROVES POLICE MISSION FOR PA

November 9, 2005 Middle East Newsline reported: "The European Union has agreed to launch its first security operation in the Middle East. European Union foreign ministers have approved a three-year police training mission for the Palestinian Authority. The ministers agreed that the program would help build a "sustainable and effective" PA police force.

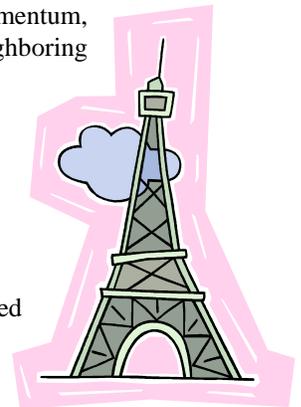
"The mission will support the Palestinian Authority in establishing sustainable and effective police arrangements," the ministers said in a statement on Monday. Officials said this would be the first EU security mission in the Middle East. They said the EU would organize a team of 50, including trainers and financial advisers in an effort to teach the PA how to build, manage and finance a police force..."

EUROPE WORRIED AS FRENCH RIOTS SPREAD

November 9, 2005 EUObserver reported: "As urban riots are spreading all over France and gaining momentum, European leaders are becoming increasingly concerned that France's woes may spread, particularly to neighboring countries with large immigrant populations.

Cars were torched in Germany (Berlin and Bremen) and Belgium (Brussels and Liege) on Sunday and Monday, but the events were qualified by Belgian police as "local" and "isolated" ones and no open confrontations took place. Belgian authorities, however, said they would follow the situation closely. In Italy, it is just "a matter of time" that the problems occur, as the country "has the worst suburbs in Europe", Italian opposition leader and former Commission president Romano Prodi said, according to Liberation.

The British along with the Russian, American, Japanese and Australian governments, have already warned their nationals to be careful and avoid the French suburbs, the French paper wrote on Monday. All this is worsening France's image abroad, the French press comments, adding that Paris usually attracts more than 35 million tourists every year.



The riots started after a controversial incident on 27 October, when two teenagers died while fleeing an identity check by the police. The police, however, denied having chased them. Resentment reached new heights after interior minister Nicolas Sarkozy said that the French suburbs needed deep and tough cleansing from all "the scum".

As a result, the media showed youngsters dubbing Mr Sarkozy "a fascist" and calling his comments purely provocative..."

US MILITARY SETS LASER PHASRs TO STUN

November 8, 2005 NewScientist.com reported: "The US government has unveiled a "non-lethal" laser rifle designed to dazzle enemy personnel without causing them permanent harm. But the device will require close scrutiny to ensure compliance with a United Nations protocol on blinding laser weapons.

The Personnel Halting and Stimulation Response (PHASR) rifle was developed at the Air Force Research Laboratory in New Mexico, US, and two prototypes have been delivered to military bases in Texas and Virginia for further testing.

The US Department of Defense (DoD) believes the weapon could be used, for example, to temporarily blind suspects who drive through a roadblock. However, the DoD has yet to reveal details of how the laser works and has yet to respond to New Scientist's requests for further information.

Laser weapons capable of blinding enemies have been developed in the past but were banned under a 1995 UN convention called the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons. The wording of this protocol, however, does not prohibit lasers that temporarily dazzle a foe

"In the past, the problem with lasers of this type has been that they often permanently blind human targets," says Tobias Feakin, an expert at Bradford University's Non-Lethal Weapons Research Project in the UK.

But he says newer systems may avoid this problem by using less powerful laser beams. "This new wave of low-intensity laser weapons do not have a permanently damaging effect, apparently," he told New Scientist.

Several laboratories across the world are working on such weapons. But even low power laser systems can cause eye damage if they are used at close quarters or for extended periods.

The PHaSR may attempt to address safety concerns by automatically sensing its distance from a target. The limited information

released by the DoD includes mention of an "eye-safe range finder", which may mean the laser's power is adjusted depending on the distance to the target. The system is also said to incorporate a "two wavelength laser system", which may be designed to counter goggles that can filter out certain wavelengths of laser light..."

N. KOREAN ENTITIES HELP IRAN, SYRIA WMD

November 7, 2005 The Middle East Newline reported: "The United States has identified North Korean entities that have facilitated the weapons of mass destruction programs in Iran and Syria.

The Treasury Department has designated eight North Korean entities that were helping WMD and ballistic missile programs in Iran and Syria. Officials said all of the entities were state-owned and have already come under U.S. government sanctions.

The eight North Korean entities operate in Iran and Syria and have contributed to such programs as Iran's Shihab-3 intermediate-range missile and the Scud D medium-range missile. Officials said the entities have also helped in designing chemical warheads for these missiles.

Officials said the North Korean companies have used Russian- or Chinese-origin technology and components for Scud-based programs in Iran and Syria. They said that in many cases the North Koreans served as fronts for technology designers..."

MUSLIM RIOTS BREAK OUT IN DENMARK AS WELL

November 7, 2005 Arutz Sheva reported: "As Muslim riots spread across France, Denmark is also beginning to see its own Islamic Intifada. In Arhus, Denmark, young Muslims were heard chanting, "This land belongs to us!" A masked spokesman for the rioters told Danish reporters that Muslims were tired of being oppressed and harassed and warned the police to stay away. "This is our area. We rule this place," he said.

The riots have increased following a cartoon in Danish paper The Jyllands Pos involving Mohammed. Rocks and firebombs have become commonplace in many neighborhoods and firefighters are afraid to enter them to put out the fires..."



AUSTRALIA FOILS 'TERROR ATTACK'

November 7, 2005 BBC News reported: "Australian police say they have foiled a terrorist attack in the final stages of its preparation, after 16 people were arrested in Sydney and Melbourne. New South Wales police chief Ken Moroney said a "potentially catastrophic attack" had been averted.

One suspect was shot and wounded during a raid in Sydney. Chemicals, weapons, and computers were seized, police said. The operation came nearly a week after Australia's anti-terror laws were changed to give police greater powers. Police raided 23 houses in Sydney and Melbourne early on Tuesday, as part of the country's largest counter-terrorism operation. The raids involved about 500 police officers and followed a 16-month investigation, officials said.

"I'm satisfied that we have disrupted what I would regard as the final stages of a large-scale terrorist attack, or the launch of a terrorist attack," Mr Moroney told Australia's ABC radio..."

U.S. INTEL WARNS AGAINST ASSAD OVERTHROW

November 9, 2005 The Middle East Newline reported: "The U.S. intelligence community has warned the Bush administration against overthrowing Syrian President Bashar Assad. Administration sources said a report by U.S. national intelligence director John Negroponte warned that Assad could be replaced by an even more anti-U.S. regime. The classified report, said to reflect the view of the CIA and most of the U.S. intelligence community, ruled out a democratic revolution in Syria .

"The assessment is that Assad is probably the most sensitive to U.S. needs in the Syrian leadership today," a source familiar with the report said. "Others in his circle who could replace him are more radical and intent in bringing Syria closer to Iran and other U.S. rivals."

The report, first disclosed by the Philadelphia Inquirer on Monday, was completed in September 2005, prior to the release of the interim United Nations investigation that called for the interrogation of six senior Syrian intelligence officers. The officers included Assad's brother In-law, military intelligence chief Gen. Assaf Shawkat..."

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor

UCGIA Oakland, San Jose, Stockton, and Santa Rosa

ljtuc@msn.com