



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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## PREACHERS: RAMADAN PRAYERS CAUSED US DEATHS IN IRAQ

*November 1, 2006* YnetNews.com reported: "With October becoming the most deadly month for US troops in Iraq in nearly two years,



Palestinian preachers in several major mosques in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are celebrating the anti-American violence as a gift from Allah bestowed upon Muslims through prayer during the holy month of Ramadan, according to congregants.

Terror leaders told WND the insurgency in Iraq exposed US weakness and will soon force an American withdrawal, citing as proof the "many" people in the US who are comparing the war in Iraq to Vietnam.

Abu Ayman, a leader of the Islamic Jihad terror group in the northern West Bank city of Jenin, told WND, "We saw in Iraq this month how Allah helped the mujahedeen fighters to mark a great victory, a victory that brought the Americans to speak for the first time seriously and sincerely that Iraq is becoming a new Vietnam and that they should fix a schedule for their withdrawal from Iraq."

Continued the terror leader: "During Ramadan (which ended last week), it is known that the motivation of the Muslims and of the mujahedeen in particular is higher than in any other period of the year. The good acts of the Muslims and the mujahedeen are better paid in this month in which the gates of paradise are open and those of hell are closed."

One preacher in the West Bank city of Hebron told WND the death of American troops is "promised by Allah in the holy Quran."

"It is the realization of the verse of El Phil (the elephant) where Allah hit the Prophet's enemies with special and very warm Sejeel stones. The rockets and mortars of the Mujahedeen in Iraq are the Sejeel stones of our days."

The preacher was referring to the Quranic story of "unbelievers" advancing on an elephant to kill Muhammad. According to the Quran, birds from heaven lobbed "Sejeel stones" at the elephant, scaring the animal away and thwarting the attack.

Also in Hebron this past weekend, Hizb A-Tahrir, a popular Palestinian Islamist political party, distributed a pamphlet stating the holiness of Ramadan, which ended last week, was responsible for the large number of American casualties in Iraq. The pamphlet went on to claim the popular Muslim phrase "Allah Hu Akbar" (Allah is the greatest) has "huge significance in the world."

"The Arab traitor leaders think that America is the Akbar, is the greatest, but the deaths in Iraq this month proves what we knew all along that Allah is the greatest and no power is stronger than Allah. May Allah keep cooling our hearts and souls with more and more American soldiers killed," stated the pamphlet."..."

## SAUDIS OIL SITES ON ALERT AFTER CIA BRIEFING

*November 1, 2006* The World Tribune reported: "Saudi Arabia has placed its oil facilities on alert for a terrorist attack. The Saudi Interior Ministry said the kingdom's oil facilities were placed on alert over the weekend. Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mansour Al Turki said oil installations were deemed a "high-probability potential target."

On Oct. 26, Saudi security forces arrested two suspected Al Qaida-aligned insurgents at Sajir, 300 kilometers west of Riyadh. Officials said one of the insurgents was said to have completed studies at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran, in the heart of the oil-rich Eastern Province.

The United States has discussed threats to Saudi oil facilities. The official Saudi Press Agency said CIA director Michael Hayden held talks with Saudi intelligence leaders over the last few days. Officials said Iran may be behind plans for an attack."

## U.S. WORRIES OF NEW IRANIAN EQUIPMENT IN IRAQ

*October 31, 2006* The Middle East Newline reported: "The U.S. military has been concerned over the introduction of advanced military systems in Iraq. Officials said U.S. intelligence has detected the entry of advanced Iranian communications and other systems in Iraq since August 2006. They said some of the equipment was used by Hizbullah in its 34-day war with Israel.

"We believe that the Hizbullah war was used as a testing ground for a range of equipment and some of that was brought to Shi'ite militias over the last few weeks," an official said. The U.S. Army has expressed concern that the Mahdi Army and other Iranian-sponsored Shi'ite militias have received advanced communications equipment. Officials said the equipment was designed to intercept and jam U.S. military communications.

"We have seen some evidence that the Mahdi Army might have intercepted our communications during operations in Sadr City," an official said. "At this point, we can't be sure."

The U.S. Army has sought to assuage concerns of commanders that Hizbullah-tested equipment could endanger troops in Iraq. James Bowden, project leader for the army's single-channel ground and airborne radio system, said U.S. soldiers in Iraq could use their radios without fear of interception."..."

## IRAN, SYRIA CITED AS LEADING CLIENTS OF RUSSIA

*October 31, 2006* The Middle East Newline reported: "Iran and Syria have been deemed the leading defense clients of Russia in the

Middle East. The Congressional Research Service said Iran and Syria were the biggest Middle East importers of Russian weapons from 2002 through 2005. In a report, CRS said the orders marked Russia's return to the Middle East weapons market.

"The principal purchasers of Russian arms were: Iran [\$1.7 billion], Syria [\$800 million], Yemen [\$500 million], Libya, and Israel [\$300 million each]," the report, entitled "Conventional Arms Transfers to Developing Nations 1998-2005," said.

Later, industry sources said the Israeli purchase from Russia comprised the procurement of Il-76 air transports. They said the cargo aircraft were relayed to India as part of Israel's airborne early-warning and control system project, valued at \$1.1 billion."..."

### **NEW STRAIN OF BIRD FLU FOUND**

*October 31, 2006* The Detroit News reported: "A new strain of the H5N1 influenza virus has emerged in China and is poised to cause another global wave of infection among birds and human beings who come into close contact with them, scientists said Monday.

The new bird flu variant does not appear at this point to pose a greater risk to humans than earlier strains, said a leading influenza expert, Robert Webster of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. But he added that the emergence of the new strain shows that H5N1 is still mutating, a process that experts fear could eventually convert it into a form capable of causing a deadly and freely spreading human disease.

The new form of the virus has become the primary version of the bird flu in parts of China and has spread to Hong Kong, Laos, Malaysia and Thailand, Webster and scientists at the University of Hong Kong reported in an article in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Webster said scientists believe that 23 human cases known to be caused by the new strain of virus -- all in China except for one in Thailand -- came from direct contact with infected poultry.

Although H5N1 does not spread easily from human to human, there have been isolated reports of human "clusters," suggesting that at times human transmission has occurred."..."

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### **N KOREA ACCUSES US, S KOREA OF PREPARING FOR NUCLEAR WAR**

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*October 27, 2006* SpaceWar.com reported: "North Korea on Friday claimed the United States and South Korea were planning a nuclear war against the communist state, accusing them of devising a war plan and stocking up on the latest weapons.

"The madcap nuclear war moves against the DPRK (North Korea) are extremely reckless proactive acts that make the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula all the more difficult to resolve and drive the situation to its worst," the Korea National Peace Committee said in a statement carried on the North's KCNA news agency.

The statement also said the North's own nuclear test was part of preparations to defend itself against an US attack. It claimed US outrage over the regime's test was a smokescreen for its own war plans.

"The people and its army are prepared for any provocations, any nuclear war moves," it said. It warned South Korea against relying on the United States for protection which would only make the country more vulnerable to an attack. North Korea carried out its first nuclear test on October 9, sparking international condemnation and UN Security Council sanctions.

South Korea says it will consider revising its policy of reconciliation toward the North to bring it more in line with international sanctions. Under a joint military alliance, the United States has reaffirmed its commitment to extend a nuclear umbrella over South Korea amid an escalating nuclear threat from North Korea.

Seoul reportedly wants Washington, which withdrew all its nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula in 1991, to elaborate on what types of tactical nuclear weapons could be provided under the deterrent strategy. South Korea gave up its quest for nuclear weapons in the 1970s under strong US pressure. "..."

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### **RUSSIA RENEWS ARMS EXPORTS TO IRAN**

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*October 30, 2006* The Middle East Newline reported: "Russia, bolstered by renewed sales to Iran, has emerged as a leading weapons supplier to the Middle East. A congressional study said Russia has become a leading supplier to such countries as Algeria, Iran, Syria, Yemen and other countries regarded as developing. The Congressional Research Service said that in 2005 Moscow surpassed the United States in weapons sales to the developing world.

"Despite its lack of the larger traditional client base for armaments held by the United States and the major West European suppliers, Russia's successes in obtaining new arms orders suggests that Russia is likely to continue to be, for the short term at least, a significant leader in new arms agreements with developing nations," the report said.

The report, entitled "Conventional Arms Transfers to Developing Nations 1998-2005," cited a \$700 million deal by Russia to export the TOR-M1 short-range anti-aircraft battery to Iran. The deal called for the supply of 29 surface-to-air missile systems to the Iranian Air Force."..."

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