



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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RUSSIA AND INDIA TO DEVELOP JOINT 5G-FIGHTER BY 2016

March 10, 2010 SpaceWar.com reported: "A Russian-Indian fifth-generation fighter jet could be developed by 2015-2016, a Russian defense industry official said on Tuesday. Moscow and New Delhi are expected to sign a contract on a joint development of the new fighter in the near future, focusing on the design concept and technical requirements put forward by India.

"I hope that we will be able to build a joint fifth-generation aircraft in the next five to six years. It is a time-consuming and complex project," said Alexander Fomin, first deputy head of the Federal Service for Military and Technical Cooperation.

The new aircraft will be most likely based on Russia's T-50 prototype fifth-generation fighter, which has already made two test flights and is expected to join the Russian Air Force in 2015. India's Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) was reported to be seeking a 25% share in design and development in the project. Fomin said the fighter for the Indian Air Force could incorporate several integrated on-board systems developed by third parties.

"The integration is good because we will not have to invent a bicycle and can use the things that our neighbors already have, but it is also a difficult task because we will have to combine all the elements in a unified system," the official said.

The new fighter for the Indian Air Force is expected to feature a two-seat cockpit, advanced electronics and could be armed with BrahMos supersonic missiles.

Russia has been developing its fifth-generation fighter since the 1990s. The current prototype, known as the T-50, was designed by the Sukhoi design bureau and built at a plant in Komsomolsk-on-Amur, in Russia's Far East. Russian officials have already hailed the fighter as "a unique warplane" that combines the capabilities of an air superiority fighter and attack aircraft..."



IRAN AND ISRAEL PLAY CAT AND MOUSE

March 11, 2010 Asia Times Online reported: "Iran and Israel appear to be spoiling for a fight, going by recent belligerent statements emanating from several regional capitals. Military movement on the ground is also lending credence to the idea that the mutual loathing and major ideological differences between the two countries could lead to vortex of violence capable of sucking the entire region into a new war.

"Diplomacy and sanctions are not going to work with Iran. Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinejad is a messianic ideologue. He is a follower of the extremist Shi'ite cleric Mesach Yazdi, who even the late Ayatollah [Ruhollah] Khomeini rejected as too extreme," says senior policy advisor Dan Diker from the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs.

"Iran has been threatening Israel with destruction for a long time and this language needs to be taken seriously," Diker told Inter Press Service..."

The Israeli media have reported that Syria, considered an Iranian proxy, has been transferring advanced weapons, of the type which it dared not to hand over before, to the Shi'ite resistance organization Hezbollah in Lebanon. A senior researcher for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) told the Israeli Knesset, or parliament, that Syria had crossed a red line.

The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a conservative and pro-Israeli think-tank, reported, "Syria may have delivered to Hezbollah Russian-made shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles - the Igla-S [SA-24 by its North Atlantic Treaty Organization code] which could pose a threat to the Israeli Air Force's [IAF's] F-16 fighters."

The IDF has further warned that since the second Israel-Lebanon war in 2006 Hezbollah has engaged in extensive activity, focusing on a military build-up in the south of Lebanon. Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak stated recently that the size of Hezbollah's missile and rocket arsenal stood at approximately 45,000 - much higher than previous assessments.

A further development that has analysts scratching their collective heads is Tehran moving its entire stockpile of low-enriched uranium above ground level. Any attack hitherto would have been dependent on the use of bunker-busting bombs to reach Iran's underground nuclear complex.

Is this a move aimed at provoking an Israeli attack and challenging just how serious Israel is?"...For several years Israel, too, has been upping the ante and the rhetoric by drip-feeding continuous statements to the media warning of the danger Iran allegedly poses and insinuating a possible preemptive strike on the country..."

BUDGET DEFICIT SETS RECORD IN FEBRUARY

March 10, 2010 The Associated Press reported: "The government ran up the largest monthly deficit in history in February, keeping the flood of red ink on track to top last year's record for the full year.

The Treasury Department said Wednesday that the February deficit totaled \$220.9 billion, 14 percent higher than the previous record set in February of last year. The deficit through the first five months of this budget year totals \$651.6 billion, 10.5 percent higher than a year ago.

The Obama administration is projecting that the deficit for the 2010 budget year will hit an all-time high of \$1.56 trillion, surpassing last year's \$1.4 trillion total. The administration is forecasting that the deficit will remain above \$1 trillion in 2011, giving the country three straight years of \$1 trillion-plus deficits.

The administration says the huge deficits are necessary to get the country out of the deepest recession since the 1930s. But Republicans have attacked the stimulus spending as wasteful and a failure at the primary objective of lowering unemployment.”...”

BRAIN SCAN CAN READ PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS

March 11, 2010 AFP reported: “A scan of brain activity can effectively read a person's mind, researchers said Thursday. British scientists from University College London found they could differentiate brain activity linked to different memories and thereby identify thought patterns by using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI).

The evidence suggests researchers can tell which memory of a past event a person is recalling from the pattern of their brain activity alone. “We've been able to look at brain activity for a specific episodic memory -- to look at actual memory traces,” said senior author of the study, Eleanor Maguire.

“We found that our memories are definitely represented in the hippocampus. Now that we've seen where they are, we have an opportunity to understand how memories are stored and how they may change through time.”

The results, reported in the March 11 online edition of *Current Biology*, follow an earlier discovery by the same team that they could tell where a person was standing within a virtual reality room in the same way. The researchers say the new results move this line of research along because episodic memories -- recollections of everyday events -- are expected to be more complex, and thus more difficult to crack than spatial memory.

In the study, Maguire and her colleagues Martin Chadwick, Demis Hassabis, and Nikolaus Weiskopf showed 10 people each three very short films before brain scanning. Each movie featured a different actress and a fairly similar everyday scenario.

The researchers scanned the participants' brains while the participants were asked to recall each of the films. The researchers then ran the imaging data through a computer algorithm designed to identify patterns in the brain activity associated with memories for each of the films. Finally, they showed that those patterns could be identified to accurately predict which film a given person was thinking about when he or she was scanned.

The results imply that the traces of episodic memories are found in the brain, and are identifiable, even over many re-activations, the researchers said. The results reinforce the findings of a 2008 US study that showed similar scans can determine what images people are seeing based on brain activity.”

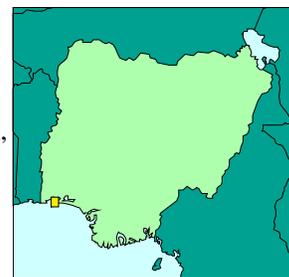
RELIGIOUS HATRED, POVERTY BEHIND NIGERIA VIOLENCE

March 11, 2010 The Associated Press reported: “Christians and Muslims once shared their lives together in Nigeria's fertile central belt, buying each other's goods in mixed neighborhoods and cultivating each other's farms across a sun-baked plateau.

But growing religious hatred, political and ethnic rivalries, and increasing poverty have led to two outbursts of savage violence already this year. Men, women, children and even babies were butchered, and that harmony seems lost forever. Now, many people carry weapons and man impromptu road blocks, fearful of the military, the police and each other.

Sunday's bloodshed was mostly about revenge: Christian villages near the city of Jos were attacked before dawn, less than two months after Muslims were targeted and a mosque torched. Hundreds had been killed in January, their corpses stuffed into wells and sewage pits.

Survivors of the weekend attack say simple, one-room houses were set ablaze, the flames illuminating villages that have no electricity. Residents, mostly of the minority Berom ethnic group, ran from their burning homes. Assaults with machetes were waiting. Many of those who were cut down were children. At least 200 people died.



Nigeria

One 20-year-old man arrested for allegedly taking part in Sunday's attacks said his family members died at the hands of rioters in January. Of those who were attacked on Sunday, he said: “There are some people that kill(ed) all our parents. We went to avenge what they did to us.”

Nigeria, a nation of 150 million people, is almost evenly split between Sunni Muslims in the north and the predominantly Christian south. The recent bloodshed has been happening in central Nigeria, where dozens of ethnic groups vie for control of the nation's fertile “middle belt.”...”Jos is a mini-Nigeria. All segments of Nigeria are here,” said state police commissioner Ikechukwu Aduba.

After the January violence, human rights groups said text messages had been sent with the addresses of mosques and churches. Texts also offered instructions on how to dispose of bodies. One read: “Kill them before they kill you.”

Survivors said the weekend attackers asked people “Who are you?” in Fulani, a language used mostly by Muslims, and killed those who did not answer back in Fulani.”...”

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