



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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REPORT: NORTH KOREA BOOSTS MULTIPLE-LAUNCH ROCKETS

December 2, 2010 The AP reported: "A news report says North Korea now has more multiple-launch rockets capable of hitting Seoul.

Yonhap news agency says North Korea has increased its arsenal of rockets by 100 pieces to about 5,200. Yonhap cited an unidentified South Korean military source. The agency says the rockets have a range of 37 miles (60 kilometers), putting Seoul within striking distance.

Yonhap said in Friday's report that North Korea was also believed to have deployed surface-to-air SA-2 missiles and SA-5 missiles near the border.

The South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff said it could not confirm the report because it involves military intelligence. The report comes a week after a North Korean artillery attack on a South Korean island killed four people."

CANCUN CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT: SCIENTISTS CALL FOR RATIONING IN DEVELOPED WORLD

November 29, 2010 The Telegraph reported: "Global warming is now such a serious threat to mankind that climate change experts are calling for Second World War-style rationing in rich countries to bring down carbon emissions.

In a series of papers published by the Royal Society, physicists and chemists from some of world's most respected scientific institutions, including Oxford University and the Met Office, agreed that current plans to tackle global warming are not enough.

Unless emissions are reduced dramatically in the next ten years the world is set to see temperatures rise by more than 4C (7.2F) by as early as the 2060s, causing floods, droughts and mass migration.

As the world meets in Cancun, Mexico for the latest round of United Nations talks on climate change, the influential academics called for much tougher measures to cut carbon emissions.

In one paper Professor Kevin Anderson, Director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, said the only way to reduce global emissions enough, while allowing the poor nations to continue to grow, is to halt economic growth in the rich world over the next twenty years.

This would mean a drastic change in lifestyles for many people in countries like Britain as everyone will have to buy less 'carbon intensive' goods and services such as long haul flights and fuel hungry cars.

Prof Anderson admitted it "would not be easy" to persuade people to reduce their consumption of goods

He said politicians should consider a rationing system similar to the one introduced during the last "time of crisis" in the 1930s and 40s.

This could mean a limit on electricity so people are forced to turn the heating down, turn off the lights and replace old electrical goods like huge fridges with more efficient models. Food that has travelled from abroad may be limited and goods that require a lot of energy to manufacture.

"The Second World War and the concept of rationing is something we need to seriously consider if we are to address the scale of the problem we face," he said."

Professor Anderson insisted that halting growth in the rich world does not necessarily mean a recession or a worse lifestyle, it just means making adjustments in everyday life such as using public transport and wearing a sweater rather than turning on the heating.

"I am not saying we have to go back to living in caves," he said. "Our emissions were a lot less ten years ago and we got by ok then."

The last round of talks in Copenhagen last year ended in a weak political accord to keep temperature rise below the dangerous tipping point of 2C(3.6F).

This time 194 countries are meeting again to try and make the deal legally binding and agree targets on cutting emissions."..."

WIKILEAKS CABLES REVEAL CHINA 'READY TO ABANDON NORTH KOREA'

November 29, 2010 The Guardian reported: "China has signalled its readiness to accept Korean reunification and is privately distancing itself from the North Korean regime, according to leaked US embassy cables that reveal senior Beijing figures regard their official ally as a "spoiled child".

News of the Chinese shift comes at a crucial juncture after the North's artillery bombardment of a South Korean island last week that killed four people and led both sides to threaten war. China has refused to condemn the North Korean action. But today Beijing appeared to bow to US pressure to help bring about a diplomatic solution, calling for "emergency consultations" and inviting a senior North Korean official to Beijing.

China is sharply critical of US pressure tactics towards North Korea and wants a resumption of the six-party nuclear disarmament talks. But the Guardian can reveal Beijing's frustration with Pyongyang has grown since its missile and nuclear tests last year, worries about the economic impact of regional instability, and fears that the death of the dictator, Kim Jong-il, could spark a succession struggle.



China's moves to distance itself from Kim are revealed in the latest tranche of leaked US embassy cables published by the Guardian and four international newspapers. Tonight, the US secretary of state, Hillary Clinton, said the US "deeply regrets" the release of the material by WikiLeaks. They were an "attack on the international community", she said. "It puts people's lives in danger, threatens our national security and undermines efforts to work with other countries to solve shared problems," she told reporters at the state department."..."

PAKISTAN COURT: NO PARDON YET FOR CHRISTIAN WOMAN

November 30, 2010 CBN.com reported: "A Christian woman in Pakistan facing the death sentence for blasphemy cannot be pardoned until a court rules on her appeal, the chief judge on the high court in Lahore ruled Monday.

On Nov. 8, Asia Bibi was sentenced to death by hanging for allegedly blaspheming the Muslim Prophet Mohammed. The mother of five has said the charges are false. The case has drawn international attention, and Pakistan's President Asif Ali Zardari has said he will pardon Bibi if the appeal is delayed.

Meanwhile, Muslims in Lahore are warning the president not to pardon Bibi...Bibi's husband said local imams have threatened to burn their home and kill the family."

SCIENTISTS FIND 200 SEXTILLION MORE STARS IN THE SKY

December 1, 2010 The Associated Press reported: "The night sky may be a lot starrier than we thought. A study suggests the universe could have triple the number of stars scientists previously calculated. For those of you counting at home, the new estimate is 300,000,000,000,000,000,000. That's 300 sextillion.

The study questions a key assumption that astronomers often use: that most galaxies have the same properties as our Milky Way. And that's creating a bit of a stink among astronomers who want a more orderly cosmos.

It's one of two studies being published online Wednesday in the journal Nature that focus on red dwarf stars, the most common stars in the universe. The study that offers the new estimate on stars is led by a Yale University astronomer. He calculates that there are far more red dwarfs than previously thought, and that inflates the total star count.

A second study led by a Harvard University scientist focuses on a distant "super Earth" planet and sees clues to the content of its atmosphere -- the first of this kind of data for this size planet. It orbits a red dwarf.

Red dwarf stars -- about a fifth the size of our sun -- burn slowly and last much longer than the bigger, brighter stars, such as the sun in the center of our solar system, said Yale astronomer Pieter van Dokkum. His study looks at how many red dwarfs are in elliptical-shaped galaxies.

When scientists had estimated previously how many stars there were in the universe, they assumed that all galaxies had the same ratio of dwarf stars as in our galaxy, which is spiral-shaped. Much of our understanding of the universe is based on observations inside our Milky Way and then extrapolated to other galaxies.

But about one-third of the galaxies in the universe are not spiral, but elliptical, and van Dokkum found they aren't really made up the same way as ours. Using the Keck telescope in Hawaii, van Dokkum and a colleague gazed into eight other distant, but elliptical, galaxies and looked at their hard-to-differentiate light signatures. The scientists calculated that elliptical galaxies have more of those dwarf stars. A lot more.

"We're seeing 10 or 20 times more stars than we expected," van Dokkum said. By his calculations, that triples the number of estimated stars from 100 sextillion to 300 sextillion."..."



RUSSIAN TACTICAL NUCLEAR MISSILES A US CONCERN

November 30, 2010 AFP reported: "Russia moved tactical nuclear warheads to within miles of its borders with NATO countries as recently as late spring, complicating US ties with Moscow, a report said Tuesday, as Congress mulled a new arms control treaty.

The Wall Street Journal cited US officials who described the movements and cautioned that they ran afoul of pledges Moscow made as early as 1991 to remove the weapons from outposts near Eastern European NATO allies such as Poland.

US diplomatic cables out of Moscow leaked just before the Journal report highlighted a flurry of negotiations between the two former Cold War adversaries over their nuclear stockpiles, tactical weapons and a controversial US-NATO missile defense system in countries that border Russia.

US Senator John McCain, the top Republican on the powerful Senate Armed Services Committee, said the report was cause for concern.

"It's very disturbing because it's a violation of a commitment they made back in 1991, and they did not inform us," McCain told AFP.

"It argues for a strict verification on any treaty, any agreement on which we're engaged."..."

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