



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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AL-QAIDA'S PLAN TO CONQUER MIDEAST, AFRICA

December 19, 2013 World Net Daily reported: "A Lebanese Sunni Salafist who is a self-proclaimed spokesman for al-Qaida until he was kicked out of Great Britain a few years ago says al-Qaida will use Syria to expand into other Arab countries and into Africa.

'Once the ISIS or Nusra Front begin to establish an Islamic emirate in Syria, they will work to extend it to include not only the Levant but all Arab countries and then Africa,' according to Mullah Omar Bakri.

ISIS, or the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and the Jabhat al-Nusra Front are the two official al-Qaida organizations now operating in Syria.

They have already begun to launch attacks in neighboring Lebanon and appear to be building their forces on, or near, Palestinian camps, some of which are under the control of the United Nations Work and Relief Agency..."



JAPAN UPS MILITARY SPENDING AMID CHINA DISPUTE

December 17, 2013 VOA.com reported: "Japan has announced a large defense build-up and national security strategy aimed at countering China's increasingly assertive claims on disputed territory. The plan calls for increased air and maritime capabilities and comes just weeks after Beijing alarmed the region by unilaterally expanding its Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in the East China Sea.

Japan's Cabinet on Tuesday released details of its first defense spending increase in years, along with a national security plan designed with Chinese aggression in mind. The five-year budget earmarks more than \$230 billion for fighter jets, combat and amphibious vehicles, as well as surveillance drones and early warning aircraft..."

'NO ONE WILL PREVAIL OVER RUSSIA MILITARILY'

December 17, 2013 SpaceDaily.com reported: "Russia will not allow any nation to dominate it in military terms, the Russian president said. Some nations are developing new kinds of weapons, which may tip the global strategic balance, but Russia knows how to counter them.

'Let no one have illusions that he can achieve military superiority over Russia. We will never allow it,' Vladimir Putin said in a speech to the Federal Assembly, the joint session of the two chambers of the Russian parliament. Of particular concern for Russia are the elements of the US-built national anti-ballistic missile system defense (AMD), which it plans to deploy in Europe. The project was for years justified by the perceived threat from countries like Iran. The controversy over Iran's nuclear program may soon be settled, but the AMD goes on as planned, Putin pointed out.

'We realize clearly that the AMD system is only called defensive, while in fact it is a significant part of the strategic offensive potential,' he stressed. Moscow's objections to European AMD and Washington's failure to guarantee that it would not be targeted against Russia, have long mired bilateral relations. But apart from the military aspect, the future system also serves America's desire to stop Europe drifting away and bond it closer, Aleksey Pushkov, the chair of the Foreign Affairs committee in the Russian parliament, told RT.

"The NATO bond is becoming weaker and weaker. Very few European countries are fulfilling their financial obligations towards NATO," he said, citing complaints by the alliance chief, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, during the latest Munich security conference..."

AMERICA'S CHIEF EXPORT: IMMORALITY

December 16, 2013 townhall.com's Matt Barber (pg 2) reported: "...For instance, there has been, of late, great weeping and gnashing of teeth among mainstream media – and other circles of intolerant "tolerance" – over successful efforts by several foreign governments to stem the tide of "LGBT" propaganda within their own sovereign borders. Russia, India, Croatia, Peru, Jamaica and even Australia, for instance, along with other nations, are now moving to inoculate themselves from the fast-metastasizing cancer of sexual relativism.

Having witnessed, from afar, the poisonous results of such propaganda here in the U.S. (the hyper-sexualization of children, the deconstruction of natural marriage and family, the rampant spread of sexually transmitted disease, religious persecution and the like), there seems an emerging global recognition that the radical "LGBT" agenda – a pet cause of Obama's – is not about securing "human rights," but, rather, is about promulgating moral wrongs.

The world is finding that forcing others to "tolerate" – indeed, to celebrate – unfettered licentiousness, under penalty of law, is as harmful to society as is said licentiousness to those who practice it.

The world has looked to America's moral leadership and found it wanting. The climate under Obama has gotten so bad, in fact, that Russian leader Vladimir Putin feels emboldened to claim for Russia the mantle of world moral leader – a proud distinction hitherto held by the good ol' USA. The Daily Mail reports that, in his state of the nation address, "Putin sought to cast Russia as the moral arbiter of the world on Thursday, as he hit out at America's 'non-traditional values' and its influence across the world."

Russia has barred “LGBT” and other sexual anarchist propaganda.

“Mr. Putin defended his government’s increasingly conservative values,” continued the report, “and decried the ‘review of norms of morality’ in the West and elsewhere.

“‘This destruction of traditional values from above not only entails negative consequences for society, but is also inherently anti-democratic because it is based on an abstract notion and runs counter to the will of the majority of people,’ Mr. Putin said, adding there could be no benefit for society for treating ‘good and evil’ equally.”

How sad that the leader of an atheist government, in a country where tens of millions have died under Marxism – another of Obama’s pet causes – could out-Christian our once-Christian nation.”...”

EU DANGLES UNPRECEDENTED' AID PACKAGE FOR ISRAEL-PA DEAL

December 16, 2013 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “The European Union on Monday pledged ‘unprecedented’ levels of support to both Israel and the Palestinian Authority in the event that the two parties reach a final status agreement which would include the establishment of a Palestinian Arab state in Judea and Samaria, along with the ethnic-cleansing of at least 100,000 Jews in communities throughout the region.

Commending US Secretary of State John Kerry for his efforts in launching direct talks between the two, EU foreign ministers said the 28-nation bloc would ‘contribute substantially’ to post-conflict arrangements to ensure the sustainability of a peace deal.

‘The EU will provide an unprecedented package of European political, economic and security support to both parties in the context of a final status agreement,’ the ministers said in a statement.

‘In the event of a final peace agreement the European Union will offer Israel and the future state of Palestine a Special Privileged Partnership [the highest level of recognition the union can confer on non-member states - ed.] including increased access to the European markets, closer cultural and scientific links, facilitation of trade and investments as well as promotion of business to business relations.

‘Enhanced political dialogue and security cooperation will also be offered to both states,’ the statement added...”

U.S. PLAN GIVES JERUSALEM HOLY SITES TO VATICAN

December 15, 2013 World Net Daily reported: “Secretary of State John Kerry quietly presented a U.S. plan for eastern Jerusalem that calls for an international administrative mandate to control holy sites in the area, according to informed Palestinian and Israeli diplomatic sources.

The exact composition of the international mandate is up for discussion, the sources said, but Kerry’s plan recommended a coalition that includes the Vatican, together with a group of Muslim countries such as Turkey and Saudi Arabia.

The international arrangement is being proposed as a temporary solution for about two to three years while security arrangements in Jerusalem between Israelis and Palestinians are finalized, said the sources.

Israel, the sources said, was not receptive to the particulars of Kerry’s plan, especially the concept of Turkish participation in Jerusalem. Kerry told the Israelis he would hold talks with the Kingdom of Jordan about its playing a leading role in the proposal in the place of Turkey, the sources added...”

CHINA'S JADE RABBIT ROVER ROLLS ON THE MOON'S SURFACE

December 14, 2013 BBC News reported: “China’s Jade Rabbit robot rover has driven off its landing module and on to the Moon’s surface. The robotic vehicle rolled down a ramp lowered by the lander and on to the volcanic plain known as Sinus Iridum.

Earlier on Saturday, the landing module containing the rover fired its thrusters to perform the first soft landing on the Moon since 1976. The touchdown in the Moon’s northern hemisphere marks the latest step in China’s ambitious space programme. The lander will operate there for a year, while the rover is expected to work for some three months.

The Chang’e-3 mission landed some 12 days after being launched atop a Chinese-developed Long March 3B rocket from Xichang in the country’s south. The official Xinhua news service reported that the craft began its descent just after 1300 GMT (2100 Beijing time), touching down in Sinus Iridum (the Bay of Rainbows) 11 minutes later.

“I was lucky enough to see a prototype rover in Shanghai a few years ago - it’s a wonderful technological achievement to have landed,” Prof Andrew Coates, from UCL’s Mullard Space Science Laboratory, told BBC News.

Chang’e-3 is the third unmanned rover mission to touch down on the lunar surface, and the first to go there in more than 40 years. The last was an 840kg (1,900lb) Soviet vehicle known as Lunokhod-2, which was kept warm by polonium-210. But the six-wheeled Chinese vehicle carries a more sophisticated payload, including ground-penetrating radar which will gather measurements of the lunar soil and crust.”...”

