



NORTH KOREA LEADER WARNS OF 'VERY GRAVE' SITUATION

April 3, 2014 SpaceDaily.com reported: "North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un has warned of a 'very grave' situation on the Korean peninsula, where a surge in military tensions has seen the two Koreas trade artillery fire and Pyongyang threaten a new nuclear test. In a meeting with top military leaders on Tuesday, Kim blamed Washington and Seoul for the current frictions, saying they had trampled on peace overtures from Pyongyang.

'The current situation is very grave,' Kim was quoted as saying by the North's official KCNA news agency on Wednesday.

Kim, the supreme commander of the Korean People's Army (KPA), told his most senior officers that despite the North's conciliatory gestures, South Korea and the United States had pushed ahead with joint military drills that Pyongyang views as rehearsals for an invasion.

'The United States and other hostile forces, ignoring our magnanimity and goodwill, are viciously stepping up their manoeuvres in order to annihilate our republic politically, isolate it economically and crush it militarily,' he said. The North Korean military and people will never tolerate the 'US policy of hostility' and will 'crush it thoroughly', Kim added..."

PALESTINIANS NEW LIST OF DEMANDS: PM MUST AGREE TO EAST JERUSALEM AS CAPITAL

April 3, 2014 YnetNews.com reported: "The Palestinians have compiled a new list of demands for the continuation of peace talks, ranging from the release of some 1,200 Palestinian prisoners to a written commitment by Israel accepting the Palestinian state along the 1967 border with East Jerusalem as its capital. The list was presented to the PLO Thursday by Chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat and Mohammed Al-Aalul, a Fatah central committee member, and indicated a hardening of positions by the Palestinians as talks falter..."

APOCALYPTIC PROPHECIES DRIVE BOTH SIDES TO SYRIAN BATTLE FOR END OF TIME

April 2, 2014 Reuters reported: "Conflict in Syria kills hundreds of thousands of people and spreads unrest across the Middle East. Iranian forces battle anti-Shi'ite fighters in Damascus, and the region braces for an ultimate showdown. If the scenario sounds familiar to an anxious world watching Syria's devastating civil war, it resonates even more with Sunni and Shi'ite fighters on the frontlines - who believe it was all foretold in 7th Century prophecies.

From the first outbreak of the crisis in the southern city of Deraa to apocalyptic forecasts of a Middle East soaked in blood, many combatants on both sides of the conflict say its path was set 1,400 years ago in the sayings of the Prophet Mohammad and his followers. Among those many thousands of sayings, or hadith, are accounts which refer to the confrontation of two huge Islamic armies in Syria, a great battle near Damascus, and intervention from the north and west of the country.

The power of those prophecies for many fighters on the ground means that the three-year-old conflict is more deeply rooted - and far tougher to resolve - than a simple power struggle between President Bashar al-Assad and his rebel foes. Syria's war has killed more than 140,000 people, driven millions from their homes and left many more dependent on aid. Diplomatic efforts, focused on the political rather than religious factors driving the conflict, have made no headway.

'If you think all these mujahideen came from across the world to fight Assad, you're mistaken,' said a Sunni Muslim jihadi who uses the name Abu Omar and fights in one of the many anti-Assad Islamist brigades in Aleppo.

'They are all here as promised by the Prophet. This is the war he promised - it is the Grand Battle,' he told Reuters, using a word which can also be translated as slaughter..."

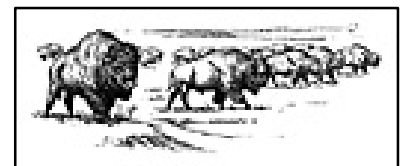
YELLOWSTONE VOLCANO ERUPTION IN 2014? ARE ANIMALS FLEEING PARK AS 'AN ALERT'?

April 2, 2014 theepochtimes.com reported: "A number of bloggers are posting videos that show bison and other animals allegedly leaving Yellowstone National Park, prompting theories that as earthquakes ramp up the seismic activity will set off the Yellowstone supervolcano. Two of the main bloggers behind the discussion stress that there's no way to know when the supervolcano will go off but note that the 4.8 magnitude earthquake that hit on March 30 seemed to set off a reaction from the animals, who are moving for a reason.

"Whether I believe this, or whether I don't believe the story or not, I don't know. I can tell you this story I saw this morning about the buffaloes running the street ... whether or not it's because of any activity in Yellowstone or not, I don't know," said blogger Jay Lee, who posted a story on his site..."But I'll tell you this, whatever the case may be, that their running away from Yellowstone is an alert of some sort."

"It also could be from this video, where poachers are killing them, chasing them, abusing them, running them around," he said. "Could be hundreds of things for them to be running. I wanted you to listen [to the videos] and make up your own mind on what to think. "

A series of smaller quakes have hit the region over the past few weeks, and those quakes have been linked to the recent 5.1 magnitude quake (and aftershocks) that hit in the Los Angeles region.



Tom Lupshu, who describes himself as a “noted Ohio survivalist and search-and-rescue expert,” said on YouTube that nearly one quarter of the northern elk herd at Yellowstone National Park are missing, according to the annual winter count.

“Biologists aren’t sure if there’s been a stunning decline in the herd or if other factors have skewed the tally,” he said. “Current Helium releases at 1000 times above normal. Complete media blackout. Herds of bison running for their lives on the public roadways and they were not being chased or rounded up, the bison were running down the mountain slopes onto roadways running right past a filming crew. They detect something vast and deadly. The Yellowstone Supervolcano is the only thing there that would fit the bill.”

U.S. WARNS NORTH KOREA ON ‘PROVOCATIONS’

April 1, 2014 VOAnews.com reported: “The United States is warning a new round of saber-rattling by North Korea is ‘dangerous and has to stop.’ The warning comes as U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel prepares for a week-long trip focusing on issues in Asia, including North Korea’s nuclear and missile programs.

North Korea’s latest attempt to grab attention with live-fire artillery drills - lobbing artillery rounds into South Korean waters - is not going over well with U.S. officials. Defense Secretary Hagel gave a stern response during a briefing with reporters Monday.

‘The provocation that the North Koreans have once again engaged in is dangerous and it needs to stop,’ he said. The North Korean live-fire drills follow a series of missile tests and threats of ‘a new form of nuclear test.’...”

EBOLA: GUINEA FACING ‘UNPRECEDENTED EPIDEMIC’

April 1, 2014 Sky News reported: “Doctors Without Borders has said an Ebola outbreak in Guinea has become an ‘unprecedented epidemic’, as neighbouring Liberia confirms its first cases. In a statement, the charity, also known as Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) said the geographic scale of the epidemic was unmatched. MSF coordinator Mariano Lugli said: ‘We are facing an epidemic of a magnitude never before seen in terms of the distribution of cases in the country.’

Mr. Lugli said previous outbreaks handled by MSF were ‘much more geographically contained and involved more remote locations.’

He added: ‘This geographical spread is worrisome because it will greatly complicate the tasks of the organisations working to control the epidemic.’

Guinea’s health ministry has reported 122 suspected cases, with at least 78 deaths linked to the virus. Of those there are 22 laboratory confirmed cases. Liberia also confirmed its first cases overnight on Sunday...”

GAZA: NEW HAMAS LAW MANDATES LASHES, AMPUTATIONS

March 31, 2014 Arutz Sheva reported: “Hammas, the terrorist group governing Gaza, has replaced a nearly 80-year-old law with a harsh new one based on Sharia Islamic law. The new rules stipulate severe punishments such as lashes and amputations.

Faraj Al Ghoul, Legal Department head of Gaza’s Palestinian Legislative Council, announced the Gazan parliament will put the new law into effect, replacing Ordinance Number 74 that has been on the books since 1936. The ordinance, which was part of the British Mandate Criminal Code, outlawed same-sex acts between men.



A senior Hamas official told United Arab Emirates-based Gulf News that the old law needed replacing for being ‘impractical,’ adding that the new law, ‘which is inspired by’ Sharia, was drafted to stem the spread of crime.

Under the new law, minor offenses bear a minimum of 20 lashes, while criminal cases require a minimum of 80 lashes. Usage of the death penalty is also expanded under the new Sharia-compliant law, which includes two articles that order a thief’s hand to be cut off, and that repeat offenders serve at least seven years in jail...”

KERRY HEADS TO ISRAEL IN PEACE TALK PUSH

March 31, 2014 VOAnews.com reported: “U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry travels to Israel Monday in an effort to reach agreement on a deal to extend Middle East peace talks that are threatened by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s reluctance to release more prisoners. Kerry says ‘some judgments have to be made’ about going forward on a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

It is the second time in less than a week that Kerry has changed his schedule to try to prevent peace talks from collapsing over the prisoner controversy.

Israeli leaders want the peace process extended beyond the end of next month before they release more prisoners, arguing that Palestinians will have no incentive to continue with talks once the detainees are freed. Palestinians say they will quit now if Israel refuses to release those prisoners, among them Israeli Arabs detained before the 1993 Oslo peace accord.

Israel promised to free this group as part of the deal that launched nine months of peace talks in exchange for Palestinians agreeing not to take diplomatic action against Israel at international organizations such as the United Nations...”

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