



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 28 2015

## **PENTAGON ADMITS NO STRATEGY TO BLUNT ISIS EXPANSION**

*February 26, 2015* World Net Daily reported: "The Pentagon admits it does not have a military strategy to blunt the spread of ISIS beyond its self-proclaimed caliphate in portions of Syria and Iraq.

The jihadist movement now has pledges of allegiance from groups with a presence in 12 countries, from the Middle East, to North Africa to Central and Southeast Asia.

In response to a question from WND at an off-camera news conference Wednesday, U.S. Army Col. Steve Warren, director of the Pentagon's press office, said the U.S. Defense Department's strategy regarding the Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL, is focused only on Iraq.

'That is where our military strategy is focused,' Warren said. 'And the strategy, to put it simply, is to attack ISIL in Iraq using air power supported by Iraqi security forces on the ground to drive ISIL out of Iraq while simultaneously striking ISIL from the air in Syria in an effort to deny them safe haven. So, choke them in Syria, kill them in Iraq.'

As for ISIS' spread to the other 12 countries, Warren conceded it is a concern to the Defense Department but added that 'claims of allegiance' from Sunni jihadist groups in the 12 non-contiguous countries are 'largely terrorist organizations which already were in existence which we already were tracking and knew about and are really what I would call embryonic-level associations with ISIL proper.'..."



## **'MEIN KAMPF': A HISTORICAL TOOL, OR HITLER'S VOICE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE?**

*February 24, 2015* The Washington Post reported: "Germany is getting ready for the first new run of Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" since the end of World War II. Old copies of the offending tome are kept in a secure "poison cabinet," a literary danger zone in the dark recesses of the vast Bavarian State Library. A team of experts vets every request to see one, keeping the toxic text away from the prying eyes of the idly curious or those who might seek to exalt it.

"This book is too dangerous for the general public," library historian Florian Sepp warned as he carefully laid a first edition of "Mein Kampf" Adolf Hitler's autobiographical manifesto of hate on a table in a restricted reading room.

Nevertheless, the book that once served as a kind of Nazi bible, banned from domestic reprints since the end of World War II, will soon be returning to German bookstores from the Alps to the Baltic Sea.

The prohibition on reissue for years was upheld by the state of Bavaria, which owns the German copyright and legally blocked attempts to duplicate it. But those rights expire in December, and the first new print run here since Hitler's death is due out early next year. The new edition is a heavily annotated volume in its original German that is stirring an impassioned debate over history, anti-Semitism and the latent power of the written word."..."

## **CHINA SUBMARINES OUTNUMBER U.S. FLEET: U.S. ADMIRAL**

*February 25, 2015* Reuters reported: "China is building some "fairly amazing submarines" and now has more diesel- and nuclear-powered vessels than the United States, a top U.S. Navy admiral told U.S. lawmakers on Wednesday, although he said their quality was inferior.

Vice Admiral Joseph Mulloy, deputy chief of naval operations for capabilities and resources, told the House Armed Services Committee's seapower subcommittee that China was also expanding the geographic areas of operation for its submarines, and their length of deployment. For instance, China had carried out three deployments in the Indian Ocean, and had kept vessels out at sea for 95 days, Mulloy said.

"We know they are out experimenting and looking at operating and clearly want to be in this world of advanced submarines," Mulloy told the committee.

U.S. military officials in recent months have grown increasingly vocal about China's military buildup and launched a major push to ensure that U.S. military technology stays ahead of rapid advances by China and Russia.

Mulloy said the quality of China's submarines was lower than those built by the United States, but the size of its undersea fleet had now surpassed that of the U.S. fleet. A spokeswoman said the U.S. Navy had 71 commissioned U.S. submarines. U.S. submarines are built by Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc. and General Dynamics Corp.

In its last annual report to Congress about China's military and security developments, the Pentagon said China had 77 principal surface combatant ships, more than 60 submarines, 55 large and medium amphibious ships, and about 85 missile-equipped small combatants.

Mulloy did not provide details about the number of surface ships now operated by China. He said the U.S. military did not believe China carried nuclear missiles on its submarines, but that it had been producing missiles and testing them."..."

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## **ISLAMIC STATE 'ABDUCTS 90 CHRISTIANS IN SYRIA'**

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*February 24, 2015* BBC News reported: "Islamic State (IS) has abducted dozens of Assyrian Christians from villages in north-eastern Syria, activists say. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported that at least 90 men, women and children were seized in a series of dawn raids near the town of Tal Tamr. Some Assyrians managed to escape and made their way east to the largely Kurdish-controlled city of Hassakeh.

It comes as Syrian Kurdish fighters backed by US-led air strikes continue to advance into IS-held territory. On Monday, a Kurdish official said IS militants had been forced back to within 5km (3 miles) of the town of Tal Hamis by the Popular Protection Units (YPG).

The Syrian Observatory confirmed the advance by the YPG and said at least 12 IS fighters had been killed on Monday. Hassakeh province is strategically important in the fight against IS because it borders both Turkey and areas controlled by the group in Iraq..."

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## **MYSTERIOUS DRONES OVER PARIS CAUSE PANIC**

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*February 24, 2015* Telegraph.co.uk reported: "Police spotted at least five drones flying over sensitive sites in Paris including the US embassy and the Eiffel Tower between one o'clock and six o'clock this morning.

The sightings raised fears in the French capital, still on maximum security alert seven weeks after three Islamist gunmen killed 17 people in a series of attacks.

Extra guards have been posted in Paris shopping malls following a threat to target them by al-Shabaab, the Somalia-based affiliate of al-Qaeda.

The first drone was sighted by police guarding the US embassy near the Champs-Élysées around 1.00am. Others were sighted during the night over the Eiffel Tower, the Invalides military museum and the Place de la Concorde, a police source said.

'It could be a coordinated action but we don't know yet,' the source said. Police reinforcements were called in but failed to capture the drones or identify those controlling them, the source said..."

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## **SISI CALLS FOR 'UNIFIED ARAB FORCE' TO FIGHT TERROR**

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*February 23, 2015* Arutz Sheva reported: "Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said Sunday that a 'unified Arab force' was needed to fight the growing terrorist threats in the Middle East.

'The need for a unified Arab force is growing and becoming more pressing every day,' he was quoted by CNN as having said in a televised address, noting that Jordan and the United Arab Emirates have offered to send troops as Egypt steps up its efforts to battle the Islamic State (ISIS) in neighboring Libya.

'The challenges in the region, and facing our countries, are huge challenges, and ... we can overcome those challenges once we are together,' Sisi said.

His comment comes a week after a series of Egyptian airstrikes targeted ISIS in Libya, in retaliation for the slaughter of 21 Egyptian Christians by the jihadist group. On Sunday, Sisi stressed the Egyptian army isn't an aggressor angling to invade foreign territory.

'Your armed forces only protect the people of Egypt, and we coordinate with our Arab brothers,' he said, according to CNN..."

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## **IRAN IS DEPLOYED, 'PLANNING WAR' ALONG ISRAEL'S NORTHERN BORDER**

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*February 23, 2015* Arutz Sheva reported: "Iran has built an active front from Israel's northern Mediterranean border adjacent to Rosh Hanikra, all the way to the Golan Heights.

The goal: to undermine and wage war against the 'Zionist entity' with conventional, powerful military means from within Lebanon and Syria.

So says Yigal Carmon, Counter-terrorism Adviser to prime ministers Yitzhak Shamir and Yitzhak Rabin, and founder and president of the prestigious Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

'Iran has taken advantage of the chaos in the Middle East to form a united front from Tehran, through Baghdad, Syria and Lebanon,' Carmon told Kol Yisrael public radio on Monday. 'It has turned Syria into a Hezbollah-state for this purpose, and is making inroads into the PA-controlled areas in Judea, Samaria and Gaza for this purpose.'

Carmon and his MEMRI colleague Yael Yehoshua publicized a ten-page treatise on the topic last week, but it has received relatively little publicity.

Iran has several objectives, Carmon explained: 'These include deterring Israel from attacking Iran's nuclear capabilities, capturing the Golan from Israel, and the like – but these are sub-objectives. Their main goal is ultimately to destroy Israel.'

He said that what must be done now is, at least, to sound the alarm: 'During the Yom Kippur War, people saw the threat before them, but many people didn't want to say anything. We must not make that mistake again.'..."

