



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

MAY 23 2015

## EUROPEAN JEWS FEAR FOR SAFETY A YEAR AFTER BELGIUM MUSEUM ATTACK

*May 20, 2015* Israel National News reported: "A year after a Muslim gunman murdered four people at the Jewish Museum in Brussels, Jews across Europe increasingly fear for their safety and warn they are on the frontline of an Islamist war against democracy itself.

Since the attack in the Belgian capital on May 24, 2014, Jews have been slain in jihadist attacks in Paris and Copenhagen. Jews were also murdered in a similar attack in the French city of Toulouse in 2012.

'The threat of jihadist attacks in Europe is not limited to the Jewish community,' European Jewish Congress chief Moshe Kantor told AFP.

'Islamist extremists see European democracy and freedom as their primary enemy. However, Jews remain on the frontlines,' he added.

Like EU and European government officials, Kantor voiced concern that Islamist terrorists trained in weapons use and hardened in battle would mount more attacks in Europe following their return from Middle East war zones.

Several thousand European nationals are feared to have joined jihadist groups in Syria and Iraq..."

## ISLAMIC STATE STRONGHOLD GROWS IN NORTH AFRICA

*May 20, 2015* Breitbart.com reported: "As ISIS influence increases daily in the North African nation of Libya, it has also succeeded in penetrating the ranks of Islamists in neighboring Tunisia, securing an oath of fealty from the Mujahidin of Kairouan.

According to reports, the Mujahidin have released an audio message addressed to the ISIS Caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi containing a sworn oath of allegiance. The nine-minute audio message was disseminated primarily through social networks and was still able to be heard in the original language on the net on Tuesday.

The new pact with Tunisian Islamists comes just a week after the Algerian group al-Mourabitoun allegedly also swore its allegiance to the Islamic State. Al-Mourabitoun militias have reportedly been active in the fighting in Libya..."



## NORTH KOREA CLAIMS PROGRESS ON NUCLEAR 'MINIATURIZATION'

*May 20, 2015* BBC News reported "North Korea has repeated its claim to be able to make nuclear warheads small enough to fit on a missile. A defence official said in a statement on Wednesday that its nuclear programme had 'long been in the full-fledged stage of miniaturisation'.

However, analysts say while there is evidence the programme is advancing, it is difficult to assess its true extent. The claim comes hours after North Korea cancelled a planned visit by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Mr Ban was due to visit an industrial complex in the Kaesong economic zone run jointly by the North and South and would have been the first UN chief to visit North Korea in more than 20 years. Speaking at a forum in Seoul, he said the move was 'deeply regrettable' and that no explanation was given..."

## PENTAGON: CHINA LAUNCHES MYSTERIOUS OBJECTS INTO SPACE

*May 19, 2015* SpaceDaily.com reported: "A recent report released by the Department of Defense warns of China's rapidly growing space program, insisting that many of Beijing's space activities are aimed at countering the space capabilities of adversaries in the event of a crisis or conflict.

The annual DoD report to Congress, titled Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China, comes as some in the US Air Force are calling for a more robust defense of US space assets. The US has more than 500 satellites which, according to the USAF, are increasingly exposed to threats from China's rapidly expanding space program and so-called 'counterspace' technologies.

'China possesses the most rapidly maturing space program in the world,' the report said. It goes on to add that in parallel with the program, the country continues to 'develop a variety of capabilities designed to limit or prevent the use of space-based assets by adversaries during a crisis of conflict, including the development of directed-energy weapons and satellite jammers.'

The news is likely to alarm Western countries, particularly the US, which relies heavily on communications and surveillance satellites to maintain an information edge over potential rivals. Beijing's expanding space program and capabilities, according to the report, would undermine that advantage..."

## CALL OF DUTY INCREASES RISK OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

*May 19, 2015* The Telegraph reported: "Millions of boys could be at increased risk of Alzheimer's disease and other mental illnesses in later life through playing action video games such as Call of Duty or Assassin's Creed, according to new research. Scientists say players navigate the screen using a key area of the brain called the caudate nucleus, which leads to loss of grey matter in the hippocampus.

Previous studies have shown reduced volume in the hippocampus, which controls memory, learning and emotion, is associated with neurological and psychological disorders including dementia and depression. The Canadian team said if action gamers have less grey matter, as people who rely on the caudate nucleus normally do, then they may be more prone to mental illness.

In the study, published in Proceedings of the Royal Society B, they tested 26 players and 33 non players who wore skull caps recording their brainwaves and eye movements as they negotiated a virtual maze decorated with trees and mountains from which they had to retrieve objects.

It found the players were twice as likely to use their caudate nucleus (80.76%) during navigation rather than the non-gamers (42.42%) who tended to rely on the brain's spatial memory system, the hippocampus. The caudate nucleus is the brain's reward system and has also been linked with drug and alcohol addiction.

Dr Gregory West, of the University of Montreal, said: "For more than a decade now, research has demonstrated action video game players display more efficient visual attention abilities. Our current study again confirms this notion."..."

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### **REPORT: SAUDIS MAY PURCHASE PAKISTANI ATOMIC BOMB**

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*May 18, 2015* The Times of Israel reported "Saudi Arabia has reached out to its ally Pakistan to acquire 'off-the-shelf' atomic weapons as a nuclear arms race begins to shape up with Shiite rival Iran, US sources said.

'For the Saudis the moment has come,' a former US defense official told the UK's Sunday Times. 'There has been a longstanding agreement in place with the Pakistanis and the House of Saud has now made the strategic decision to move forward.'

The anonymous former official said the US did not believe that 'any actual weaponry has been transferred yet,' but declared that 'the Saudis mean what they say and they will do what they say.'

Tensions between Tehran and the kingdom have grown in the past few months as Saudi Arabia stepped up its air campaign against Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen.

King Salman of Saudi Arabia refused an invitation to attend a landmark summit hosted by US President Barack Obama last week, amid ongoing angst over US-led nuclear talks with Iran.

Former Saudi intelligence head Prince Turki bin Faisal expressed the kingdom's desire for a nuclear weapon last month at the Asan Plenum, a conference held by the South Korean-based Asan Institute for Policy Studies. 'Whatever the Iranians have, we will have, too,' he said, according to The New York Times..."

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### **RUSSIA FLEXES CENTRAL ASIA MILITARY MIGHT AMID AFGHAN FEARS**

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*May 17, 2015* AFP reported: "Russia has deployed hundreds of troops for drills in Central Asia with its ex-Soviet allies in a show of force as anxiety grows over a surge in fighting in neighbouring Afghanistan.

Around 2,500 personnel from the Russian-led Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) are taking part in joint exercises due to run to Wednesday in Tajikistan. The move is seen as re-enforcing Moscow's role as the main guarantor of the fragile region's security after US troops leave Afghanistan.

The Russian deployment of about 500 troops for the drills started last week, bolstered by soldiers from Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia and Belarus. Tajikistan is in a strategic spot, bordering Afghanistan's Kunduz province where over 200 people have died and 10,000 been displaced by a militant offensive.

Russia's foreign ministry says it is "particularly concerned" by the violence, which Afghan local authorities claim has seen the Taliban link up with jihadists from the Islamic State group battling in Syria and Iraq. The uptick in Afghan fighting has rattled Moscow's ex-Soviet allies in Central Asia, and some have looked towards Russia for reassurance.

Tajikistan hosts a Russian military base and has called for Moscow to step up its military assistance to the country."

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### **CALLS FOR AIR FORCE GENERAL WHO SPOKE OF GOD IN TALK TO BE COURT-MARTIALED**

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*May 17, 2015* Fox News reported "An Air Force general who recently spoke about how God has guided his career should be court-martialed, a civil liberties group is saying. In a speech at a National Day of Prayer Task Force event on May 7, Maj. Gen. Craig Olson credits God for his accomplishments in the military, and refers to himself as a 'redeemed believer in Christ.'

The Air Force Times reports that the Military Religious Freedom Foundation has taken issue with Olson's remarks, is calling for the two-star general to be court-martialed and 'aggressively and very visibly brought to justice for his unforgivable crimes and transgressions.'

The group authored a letter to Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Walsh, arguing that Olson's speech violates rules within the Air Force, which prohibits airmen from endorsing a particular faith or belief.

The letter, posted on the group's website, begins, 'This demand letter is sent to you on behalf of countless members of the United States Air Force who are utterly disgusted and shocked by the brazenly illicit and wholly unconstitutional, fundamentalist Christian proselytizing recently perpetrated, on international television ('GOD TV'), and streaming all over the Internet and in full military uniform, by USAF Major General Craig S. Olson on Thursday, May 7, 2015 during a VERY public speech for a private Christian organization (The 'National Day of Prayer Task Force': NDPTF) headed up by Focus on the Family founder, Dr. James Dobson's, wife Shirley Dobson. '..."

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