



DABIQ: ISIS COULD TRANSPORT NUKE FROM NIGERIA INTO U.S. THROUGH MEXICO

June 4, 2015 Breitbart.com reported: "The Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL), in the latest edition of its propaganda magazine, indicated that it could purchase a nuclear weapon in Pakistan, take it to Nigeria, and then smuggle it into the U.S. through Mexico by using existing trafficking networks in Latin America.

In an op-ed article published in the ninth edition of ISIS' Dabiq magazine released in late May, the jihadist group claims it could transport a nuclear device in the same way illicit drugs are smuggled into Europe through West Africa, adding that Boko Haram's presence in Nigeria could facilitate the transaction. The Nigeria-based Islamic terrorist group, Boko Haram, pledged allegiance to ISIS in March.



Mexico

In March, Gen. John Kelly, commander of U.S. Southern Command (Southcom), warned that Islamic terrorist groups such as ISIS could exploit the capabilities and knowledge of Latin American smuggling networks to infiltrate the U.S. through Mexico and possibly bring in weapons of mass destruction.

The general, in October 2014, acknowledged that illegal drugs from South America move 'through West Africa, up the Maghreb and into Western Europe,' adding that ISIS enemy al Qaeda and its affiliates take 'a lot of money to allow it to flow.'

According to the alleged author of the Dabiq op-ed article, kidnapped British photojournalist John Cantlie, ISIS could smuggle a nuke into the U.S. by using the same route and reversing the flow— moving the nuke from West Africa into South America, from where it could be transported into the United States through Mexico..."

EXCLUSIVE: VIETNAM EYES WESTERN WARPLANES, PATROL AIRCRAFT TO COUNTER CHINA

June 4, 2015 Reuters reported: "Vietnam is in talks with European and U.S. contractors to buy fighter jets, maritime patrol planes and unarmed drones, sources said, as it looks to beef up its aerial defenses in the face of China's growing assertiveness in disputed waters. The battle-hardened country has already taken possession of three Russian-built Kilo-attack submarines and has three more on order as part of a \$2.6 billion deal agreed in 2009. Upgrading its air force would give Vietnam one of the most potent militaries in Southeast Asia.

The previously unreported aircraft discussions have involved Swedish defense contractor Saab (SAABb.ST), European consortium Eurofighter, the defense wing of Airbus Group (AIR.PA) and U.S. firms Lockheed Martin Corp (LMT.N) and Boeing (BA.N), said industry sources with direct knowledge of the talks. Defense contractors had made multiple visits to Vietnam in recent months although no deals were imminent, said the sources, who declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter. Some of the sources characterized the talks as ongoing.

One Western defense contractor said Hanoi wanted to modernize its air force by replacing more than 100 ageing Russian MiG-21 fighters while reducing its reliance on Moscow for weapons for its roughly 480,000-strong military. Vietnam has ordered about a dozen more Russian Sukhoi Su-30 front-line fighters to supplement a fleet of older Su-27s and Su-30s.

"We had indications they want to reduce their dependence on Russia. Their growing friendship with America and Europe will help them to do that," said the defense contractor.

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter, during a visit to Vietnam on Sunday, pledged \$18 million to help Hanoi buy U.S. patrol boats. But any deal with Lockheed or Boeing would likely be the most significant involving a U.S. firm since Washington started easing a long-time embargo on the sale of lethal weapons to Vietnam in October."..."

U.S. OFFICIAL: 10,000 MILITANTS KILLED DURING ANTI-IS CAMPAIGN

June 3, 2015 VOAnews.com reported: "U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Wednesday that the military campaign to stop the Islamic State group has killed more than 10,000 of its fighters. His comments to France's Inter radio came a day after he and officials from other coalition partners met in Paris with Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi to discuss their strategy to fight the Islamic State group.

The U.S. began leading a campaign of airstrikes against Islamic State targets last August in support of Iraqi ground troops, and a month later expanded to bombing sites in neighboring Syria. Those airstrikes -- an average of 14 per day -- have helped pro-government forces reclaim some areas, but the militants continue to make gains, including seizing the western Iraqi city of Ramadi last month. Blinken said Tuesday that despite some setbacks, combining the aerial campaign with training, equipping and assisting effective local forces is a 'winning strategy.'..."

RUSSIA CLAIMS RIGHT TO PLACE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN CRIMEA

June 3, 2015 Breitbart.com reported: "Russian reports forced the American navy to release a video of Russian planes flying close to the USS Ross in the Black Sea in order to prove it was only a 'routine encounter.' Russia previously claimed America acts 'aggressively' in the Black Sea and told world officials they can plant nukes anywhere in their territory, including Crimea. The Russian media declared the air force sent out 'a flight of six of its Su-24 'Fencer' strike fighters' because the US missile destroyer USS Ross entered 'territorial waters.'

'The crew of the ship acted provocatively and aggressively, which concerned the operators of monitoring stations and ships of the Black Sea Fleet,' claimed an anonymous source. 'Su-24 attack aircraft demonstrated to the American crew readiness to harshly prevent a violation of the frontier and to defend the interests of the country.'

However, the video clearly shows the destroyer in international waters, 25 miles away from Crimea, when the planes flew next to the ship.

'The US navy operates routinely in the Black Sea, in accordance with international law,' explained Eileen Lainez, a Pentagon spokeswoman..."

NATO FLEXES MUSCLES IN BALTICS, POLAND

June 1, 2015 spacedaily.com reported: "US-led NATO drills began Monday in the Baltic states and Poland, a move intended to reassure Russia's nervous neighbours amid tensions over Ukraine. Russia's increased military presence in the Baltic Sea and regional airspace since its annexation of Crimea from Ukraine last year has jangled nerves in the area, which lay behind the Iron Curtain 25 years ago.



NATO

More than 6,000 troops from 13 NATO countries are participating in the Saber Strike 2015 drills in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, all EU and NATO members.

"This is one of the biggest exercises in Lithuania since we joined NATO" in 2004, Major General Almantas Leika, commander of Lithuania's land forces, told reporters in Vilnius.

"The huge allied presence demonstrates solidarity with the countries of this region," he said, adding that Lithuania is hosting the command centre for the drills.

NATO has been guarding the skies over the three small Baltic states since 2004, when they joined the defence alliance but lacked the air power to monitor their own airspace. Last month, the Baltic trio formally asked NATO to permanently deploy several thousand troops in their region as a deterrent to Russia. NATO has not yet replied to the request, military spokesman Lithuanian Captain Mindaugas Neimontas told AFP.

The exercises, organised by the US Army in Europe, will run until June 19 and include Abrams tanks and B-52 bombers, General Leika said. The drills take place after Russia last week began conducting unexpected war games involving 12,000 troops and 250 aircraft, at the same time as NATO planes joined Nordic air forces for a drill in Sweden's sub-Arctic north."

AMBASSADOR BOLTON SAYS ISRAEL MUST STRIKE IRAN SOON

June 1, 2015 Arutz Sheva reported: "On the sidelines of the Israel Day Concert in New York's Central Park on Sunday, former US Ambassador to the UN John Bolton gave a rundown of Iran's nuclear program and the impending deal on curbing it, in an exclusive Arutz Sheva interview. While negotiations between Iran and world powers have reached an interim agreement ahead of a June 30 deadline for a final deal, Bolton predicts that the Iran negotiations are 'doomed to failure.'

'I don't think Iran has any intention of giving up its efforts to get deliverable nuclear weapons,' said the former ambassador. 'Even if a deal is signed sometime in the summer I think the ayatollahs will violate it even before the ink is dry.'...Faced with the threat of a nuclear armed Iran, Israel will have to choose whether to strike Iran's nuclear facilities based on estimations that within the next 20 months Iran will be able to produce a nuclear arsenal. Israel must decide soon, he added, because once Iran has the bomb, 'any attack would risk nuclear retaliation.'..."

REPORT: ISIS BRANCH IN SAUDI ARABIA CALLS FOR EXPULSION OF SHI'ITES

May 30, 2015 Haaretz reported "Saudi Arabia's branch of militant group Islamic State has said it wants to clear the Arabian Peninsula of Shi'ite Muslims and urged young men in the kingdom to join its cause, the U.S.-based SITE monitoring center has reported. Islamic State, also known as ISIS and ISIL, claimed two suicide bombings carried out on May 22 and May 29 on Shi'ite mosques in eastern Saudi Arabia, where the bulk of the Saudi Arabia's Shi'ite minority lives. The attacks killed 25 people. In the 13-minute-long recording, the speaker said Islamic State had ordered its followers everywhere to 'kill enemies of Islam, especially Shi'ites', according to SITE.

'What then if they live with their disbelief in the Peninsula of Mohammad,' SITE quoted the speaker as saying, referring to the Arabian Peninsula, birthplace of Islam and where Saudi Arabia is located.

'They are disbelievers and apostates, and their blood is permissible to be shed, and their money is permissible to be taken. It is a duty upon us to kill them ... and even to purify the land from their filth,' he said. ..."

ISIS HOLDS MASS EXECUTIONS IN CAPTURED ROMAN AMPHITHEATER

May 30, 2015 Breitbart.com reported: "A Roman-built amphitheatre has been used for the public execution of captured prisoners of war before an audience for the first time in perhaps 1,500 years, after ISIS forces captured the classical ruins at Palmyra last week.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reports twenty prisoners, thought to be captured Syrian soldiers who had attempted to defend the ancient city from the Islamic State, were put to death before an audience of militants and locals. The observatory reports the amphitheatre dead were just a few of the near-70 executed in the area so far, on suspicion of being enemy forces, or giving them shelter, reports The Independent. The 2,000 year-old amphitheatre is just one building in a captured city of ancient ruins, which are considered some of the best preserved in the world...

The execution of captive soldiers and criminals became widespread in amphitheatres across the Roman world after the establishment of the Pax Romana during the reign of Emperor Augustus (31 BC – AD 14). Criminals were sometimes required to act in plays where characters were required to actually die on stage, while others were executed in groups en masse by soldiers – just as the Islamic State did this week..."