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“STRIKING ISRAEL WILL BRING DESTRUCTION UPON HAMAS”

July 28, 2016 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu participated on Thursday afternoon in a ceremony celebrating the completion of a defense project for housing in the communities of the Gaza belt. While there, he emphasized achievements in deterrence as a result of Operation Protective Edge, and threatened a powerful reaction to a disturbance of quiet.

‘The Operation gave us the quietest two years of the past decade,’ he said. ‘Look, we don’t have the ability to shape the strategic environment in which we live, but we do have the ability to achieve deterrence against our enemies and, when needed, strike their terror infrastructure in a significant way.’

According to the Prime Minister, the policy now is to react with determination against any disturbance of calm – even the slightest – ‘and to convey to the enemy that the rules of the game have changed. If we have quiet, Gaza will have quiet, striking us will bring destruction upon Hamas, and Jihad, and anybody that tries to hurt us from the other side of the fence. We will react powerfully to any attempt to hurt our communities and our citizens.’ ...”

MIAMI BLOOD DONATIONS HALTED OVER ZIKA FEARS

July 28, 2016 AFP reported: “US regulators Thursday called for a halt to blood donations in the Miami area as investigators probe four potential non-travel associated cases of the mosquito-borne Zika virus, which can cause birth defects.

If confirmed, the cases would mark the first time that mosquitoes carrying the virus are known to be present in the mainland United States. The US territory of Puerto Rico has already seen a surge in local transmission of Zika, which can spread by mosquitoes or sexual contact.

“In consideration of the possibility of an emerging local outbreak of Zika virus, and as a prudent measure to help assure the safety of blood and blood products, FDA is requesting that all blood establishments in Miami-Dade County and Broward County cease collecting blood immediately,” said a statement from the US Food and Drug Administration.

This freeze should remain in place until each individual unit of blood collected in the two counties can be tested “with an available investigational donor screening test for Zika virus RNA or until the blood establishments implement the use of an approved or investigational pathogen inactivation technology,” it said.”...”

BRITISH CLERGY ADVISED TO INCREASE SECURITY AS LONDON WARNED: YOU’RE NEXT

July 27, 2016 Breitbart.com reported: “Church officials have been advised to tighten their security measures following the beheading of a Catholic priest by Islamist militants in France yesterday. The advice comes amid warnings that an attack on British soil is ‘highly likely’.

Although there is no specific intelligence relating to possible attacks on the Christian community, the heinous murder of Father Jacques Hamel, targeted as he celebrated Mass in a provincial church just south of Rouen, has highlighted the potential danger to Christian clergy from Islamic terrorism.

Consequently, the National Police Chiefs’ Council is urging the Christian community to be alert to potential threats but not alarmed, to report any concerns, and to review their security measures.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said: ‘Following recent events in France, we are reiterating our protective security advice to Christian places of worship and have circulated specific advice today. We are also taking this opportunity to remind them to review their security arrangements as a precaution...’

THE RISE OF COMMERCIAL SPACEPORTS

July 27, 2016 spacedaily.com reported: “Just last year, the FAA gave Houston the “go-ahead” to build America’s 10th commercial spaceport. Yes, the US already had nine spaceports designated for commercial operations. One must ask, “Why do we need 10 spaceports for so little commercial space activities?”



This represents a great deal of investment and ongoing expense for an industry still in its infancy. The reason for all this excitement among several states and entrepreneurs is space tourism, the so-called “killer” space application that has yet to become reality. Yes, the media continues to expend a great deal of energy and newsprint on the topic.

So much so, that any person might think we are launching tourist spaceships every hour on the hour, to several orbiting hotels and resort complexes. In reality, that industry is still taking “baby” steps toward the future objective of populous orbiting resorts and theme parks.

Progress is slow. We are still taking baby steps toward sending passengers on suborbital flights. It is true that multiple companies are in the development and testing phases. But, the presumptive front-runner, Richard Branson is well behind his own schedule. In fact, he had predicted a steady flow of launches that carry wealthy tourists to the edge of space by 2009.

That schedule has been stretched more than six years already. The 2014 crash of SpaceshipTwo has increased the delay and caused some customers to ask for refunds on deposits. One additional casualty of this situation is Spaceport America, a \$200 million facility investment that is gathering dust, and not much more.”...”

Thanks to the early hype, spaceport projects have attracted international attention, and countries around the globe have announced plans for building such facilities.”...There appears to be little doubt that space tourism will become a reality.”...”

FRENCH CHURCH ATTACK: PRIEST'S THROAT SLIT IN HOSTAGE-TAKING NEAR RONEN

July 26, 2016 ChristianToday.com reported: "A French priest has been killed in a hostage attack in a church, a police source told Reuters on Tuesday.

The priest, named as Father Jacques Hamel, had his throat slit while celebrating mass in a church in the small town of Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, near Rouen. One other was seriously wounded and is 'fighting for their life', said the French interior ministry.

The two assailants burst into the small church during morning mass and took five people hostage in the church in northern France. The hostages included two nuns and two worshippers as well as the priest, who was in his 80s, according to BFM TV.

The two hostage takers have been shot dead by police. French police confirmed they had 'neutralised' the two men, who were armed with blades.

The identity and the motives of the attackers was unknown. There is no confirmation this was an Islamist attack despite speculation..."

TOP ARAB DIPLOMATS VOW TO DEFEAT 'TERROR'

July 25, 2016 timesofIsrael.com reported: "Arab foreign ministers vowed on Saturday to 'defeat terrorism' as they gathered for a regional summit just over a week after a jihadist-claimed truck attack in the French Riviera left 84 people dead.

In a statement, they also called for a 'definitive solution' to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as Arab League heads of state prepared to meet in the Mauritanian capital on Monday and Tuesday.

Omar Bashir, the Sudanese president who is wanted by the world's top criminal court, is expected to attend the summit.

'We must defeat terrorism, it's a priority,' Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said as the meeting began.

His Mauritanian counterpart Isselkou Ould Ahmed Izidbih called on Arab states to coordinate more closely with African nations in order to achieve this goal.

The ministers also agreed to support 'all (initiatives) that can help to end the crises of the Arab world, especially the Syrian, Libyan and Yemeni conflicts,' a statement said..."

GERMANY REELS AFTER MULTIPLE KILLINGS

July 25, 2016 euobserver.com reported: "A spate of killings over the weekend has left Germany in shock as police attempt to piece together the motives behind the attacks.

On Sunday (24 July), a 27-year old Syrian migrant who had failed to obtain asylum killed himself and injured 12 others after detonating a bomb at a music festival in Ansbach, in southern Germany.

Sunday's attacks came after a shooting on Friday in a shopping centre in Munich, in southern Germany, by an 18-year German-Iranian who appears to have been inspired by Anders Breivik, a Norwegian far-right mass killer.

The shooting left nine people dead, most of whom were young people of Turkish and Kosovar-Albanian origin, and another 21 injured. The killer, who then committed suicide, had suffered from depression.

The weekend murders' had been preceded by an axe and knife attack one week earlier on a commuter train near Wurzburg, in southern Germany, by a teenage Afghan refugee who appears to have been inspired by Islamic State (IS), the jihadist group based in Syria and Iraq. Earlier still in April, three Muslim teenagers in Essen, north-west Germany, detonated explosives at a Sikh temple, killing three people.



The attacks in Germany come in the wider context of IS-linked terrorist attacks in France, Belgium and Turkey. German authorities are now calling for tighter gun controls after it emerged the Munich mall gunman had bought a pistol and 300 rounds of ammunition on the internet..."

Whatever the broader motives, the attacks are likely to feed into the anti-refugee rhetoric espoused by the fringe Alternative for Germany (AfD) party or the Pegida anti-immigrant movement.

The AfD party, weakened by internal fighting, had already asked for chancellor Angela Merkel's resignation following the Friday mall shooting. But popular support for Merkel was strong prior to the latest attacks. The chancellor, who had welcomed over 1 million asylum seekers to Germany last year, has seen approval ratings soar..."

Germany has so far been spared the mass killings perpetrated by IS militants in France and in Belgium. But German interior minister Thomas de Maiziere has also said that Germany is in the "target area of international terrorism."..."

VIOLENCE AGAINST EGYPT'S CHRISTIANS ESCALATES AT ALARMING RATE

July 24, 2016 Breitbart.com reported: "Violence against Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Christian minority, one of the largest and oldest groups of Christians in the Middle East, has escalated at an alarming rate in the last several weeks, with little official response.

Since late May, Christians in Egypt have been the victims of at least a dozen sectarian attacks, and activists and politicians say the government has done little to stop it, despite Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi's early overtures to the Coptic community and their staunch support of him.

'It is escalating in a very short time,' said Mina Thabet, programme director for minorities and vulnerable groups with the Egyptian Commission of Rights and Freedoms..."