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## CHINA MULLS RAMPING UP ITS MISSILE DEFENSE WITH RUSSIA

*August 04, 2016* spacedaily.com reported: "With the televised demonstration of China's latest system of intercepting incoming ballistic missiles during the intermediate stage of their flight, it looks like the People's Republic is poised to become the second country after the US to deploy a missile shield.



In an interview with Sputnik, Vasily Kashin, a Moscow-based military expert, said that in their effort to develop what may be dubbed HQ-19, the Chinese may possibly be working closely with Russia, whose S-500 Prometey missile defense system, now under development, and the strategic missile system A-235 Nudol, which is currently undergoing trials, will be able to shoot down incoming warheads even before they enter the atmosphere.



The long-range A-235 missile will have a range of up to 1,500 km and will be able to carry a nuclear warhead which will dramatically improve its ability to shoot down enemy warheads.

"What really matters here is just how many such missile defense systems China will be able to deploy and who they are going to be used against. The modern US ballistic missiles are either land or sea-based intercontinental ones the ATACMS short-range Chinese missiles will hardly be able to deal with," Kashin said.

As for Japan, Kashin said that even though it has no ballistic missiles of its own, Tokyo, with its advanced space program, could have no problem developing such missiles. Taiwan shuttered its ballistic missile programs back in the 1990s, relying instead on cruise missiles. South Korea's Hyunmoo ballistic missiles have limited range and pose no real threat to China.

"The deployment of a limited missile defense system will give the Chinese an edge over regional powers, like Iran, Pakistan, India and North Korea, capable of building medium-range missiles and eventually relatively primitive types of ICBMs. And it will also come as a potent means of containing the imaginary missile threat by India," Kashin added.

With the new system in place, China will also be able to shoot down US spy satellites. Vasily Kashin said that even though the publicized tests of China's new missiles defense system were apparently meant as Beijing's answer to the deployment of US THAAD missiles in South Korea..."

## GOVERNMENT TO LIFT MORATORIUM ON CROSS-SPECIES, 'CHIMERA' RESEARCH

*August 4, 2016* thewashingtontimes.com reported: "The National Institutes of Health is planning to lift a moratorium on funding for research studying the effects of injecting animal embryos with human stem cells. The agency last year issued a moratorium for such funding while it studied the issue further. But NPR is reporting the NIH plans to lift that reprieve and allow scientists to conduct so-called "Chimera" experiments under strict and closely monitored parameters.

"They want to take human stem cells and put them inside these animal embryos, in the hopes that the human stem cells, which can become any kind of cell or tissue in the body, will become integrated into the embryos and then develop into animals that have partially or even fully human parts in their bodies," said NPR health correspondent Rob Stein on Thursday.

Scientists say the experiment could lead to major medical breakthroughs that could save countless human lives, such as the ability to grow human organs that could be used to save the lives of patients in need of transplants.

Additionally, researchers hope growing human body parts in animal embryos will allow them to study those parts more closely, perhaps leading to medical breakthroughs in how to cure diseases such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's. But the experiments bring up difficult ethical questions about how to treat potentially partially human species..."

## N. KOREA FIRES MISSILE INTO JAPAN WATERS FOR FIRST TIME

*August 2, 2016* spacedaily.com reported: "North Korea fired a ballistic missile directly into Japanese-controlled waters for the first time Wednesday, drawing an outraged response from Tokyo and ramping up tensions with the United States and South Korea.

The US military said the North had actually launched two Rodong intermediate-range missiles simultaneously, but one appeared to have exploded on take-off.

The launches followed a North Korean threat of "physical action" over the planned deployment of a sophisticated US anti-missile system in South Korea, and came just weeks before the start of large-scale, joint South Korea-US military exercises.

Japan said the one missile had landed in the Sea of Japan, some 250 kilometres (155 miles) off its northern coast and within the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

"It's a serious threat against our country's security," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told reporters. "This is an outrageous act that cannot be tolerated."

The United States condemned what it called a clear violation of UN Security Council resolutions explicitly prohibiting North Korea's use of ballistic missile technology..."

## ISLAMIC STATE ANSWERS POPE FRANCIS: OURS IS A RELIGIOUS WAR AND WE HATE YOU

*August 2, 2016* Breitbart.com reported: "The Islamic State terror group has come out publicly to reject Pope Francis' claims that the war being waged by Islamic terrorists is not religious in nature, assuring the pontiff that their sole motivation is religious and sanctioned by Allah in the Qur'an.

In the most recent issue of Dabiq, the propaganda magazine of the Islamic State, ISIS criticizes Pope Francis for his naiveté in clinging to the conviction that Muslims want peace and that acts of Islamic terror are economically motivated.

“This is a divinely-warranted war between the Muslim nation and the nations of disbelief,” the authors state in an article titled “By the Sword.”

The Islamic State directly attacks Francis for claiming that “authentic Islam and the proper reading of the Quran are opposed to every form of violence,” saying that by doing this, “Francis continues to hide behind a deceptive veil of ‘good will,’ covering his actual intentions of pacifying the Muslim nation.”

Pope Francis “has struggled against reality” in his efforts to portray Islam as a religion of peace, the article insists, before going on to urge all Muslims to take up the sword of jihad, the “greatest obligation” of a true Muslim. Despite the obviously religious nature of their attacks, the article states, “many people in Crusader countries express shock and even disgust that Islamic State leadership ‘uses religion to justify violence.’”

“Indeed, waging jihad – spreading the rule of Allah by the sword – is an obligation found in the Quran, the word of our Lord,” it reads.”...”

### **‘GERMANS HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS’ POLISH EXPERTS BLAST MERKEL & CLAIM EUROPE ‘IS DEAD’**

*August 1, 2016* express.co.uk reported: “Former Central Bureau of Investigation officer Jacek Wrona gave a damning forecast about the future of Europe, claiming people have lost faith in the political system.

Speaking on a Polish chat show, he said: “The worst problem for the police service is political correctness. “Europe is at the end of its existence. “Western Europe is practically dead. These people live in a void, without ideas. And then come along the young, who only want to make money, as once did the barbarians.”

Wrona was joined by military history academic Dr Rafal Brzeski who blasted Angela Merkel in the wake of a spate of terror attacks in Germany. He said: “The Germans have had enough of this, which does not mean the government has had enough. These are two different approaches”.

Wrona condemned the European Union’s free movement, claiming it had allowed for the free movement of illegal ex-Soviet weapons from Eastern to Western Europe. He said: “The whole Balkans are flooded with weapons, and from the Balkans have come two million people.

“Together with them came arms dealers, gangsters, drug dealers. Buying a Kalashnikov in Bosnia and Herzegovina is as it was with us after the war. You can buy one for peanuts”.

The scathing attack comes as thousands of people took to the streets of Berlin to protests against the German Chancellor’s open door policy.”...”

### **OLYMPICS 'DIRTY BOMB' FEARS**

*July 31, 2016* The Sun reported: “Experts from the United Nations have sent state-of-the art detection equipment to Brazil over fears suicidal terror nuts will target the Olympics with a devastating ‘dirty bomb’.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has loaned hi-tech radiation monitors – including personal detectors and portable scanners – for use on the ground throughout the Games. Brazil’s anti-terror chief has already admitted there is a ‘credible threat’ ISIS will target Rio next month and said ‘numerous measures’ are being taken to prevent any attack.

Counter terrorism director Luiz Alberto Sallaberry said the threat had increased dramatically in recent months due to attacks across Europe. He also pointed to a rise in what he described as the number of Brazilian nationals suspected of sympathising with ISIS militants.

The ‘dirty bomb’ fears increased following the attacks in Brussels amid claims the brothers at the heart of the plot had tried to obtain nuclear materials so they could build their own bomb.

A dirty bomb or radiological dispersal device (RDD) is a weapon that combines radioactive material with conventional explosives. It can be easily assembled and prove extremely devastating. The purpose of the weapon is to contaminate the area around the explosion with radioactive material.

Experts say although stealing and detonating a nuclear weapon is highly unlikely, a small amount of radioactive material could be combined with explosives to make a dirty bomb capable of contaminating a vast area.

There are also fears sufficient material could be fashioned into a crude vehicle-borne driveable atomic weapon. Earlier this year, Ben Rhodes, Barack Obama’s deputy national security adviser, said a nightmare radioactive attack is a big fear.”...”

### **MERKEL ON THE ROPES: THOUSANDS OF GERMAN PROTESTERS TAKE TO THE STREETS**

*July 30, 2016* dailymail.co.uk reported: “Merkel’s premiership is hanging by a thread today as thousands gathered to call for her resignation while a key political ally dramatically withdrew his support over immigration policy. More than 5,000 protested in Berlin and thousands more throughout Germany over the ‘open-door’ policy that many have blamed for four brutal terrorist attacks that left 13 dead over the last month.

The Chancellor faced a fresh wave of fury after it emerged that two recent terror attacks and a third killing were carried out by men who entered the country as refugees. Despite the massive waves of criticism, Merkel defended her policy this week, dramatically proclaiming ‘we can do it’ as she pledged not to let the violent acts guide political decisions.

But now her key ally in Bavaria - which bore the brunt of the attacks - has launched a fresh attack on her leadership, distancing his party from Merkel and straining the coalition that keeps her in power.

Horst Seehofer, the conservative premier of Bavaria, said he did not share Merkel’s ‘we can do it’ credo on accommodating the almost 1.1 million migrants and refugees who arrived in 2015. Seehofer, who leads the Christian Social Union, the sister party to Merkel’s conservative Christian Democrats, said today “‘We can do this’ - I cannot, with the best will, adopt this phrase as my own.’...”



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