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REPORT: U.S. SECRETLY AGREED TO WAIVE IRAN NUCLEAR RESTRICTIONS

September 1, 2016 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “The Obama administration may have secretly agreed to waive restrictions placed on the Iranian regime’s nuclear program as part of the landmark 2015 deal. According to a soon-to-be-published report by the Institute for Science and International Security, the US and fellow negotiating partners secretly agreed to permit the Islamic regime to ignore some restrictions on its nuclear program, thereby paving the way for the removal of economic sanctions against the rogue state.

The report, which was reviewed by Reuters, was co-authored by the institute’s president, David Albright, cites government officials who participated in the negotiation process prior to the signing of the deal last July.

Albright, himself a former United Nation’s weapons inspector, told Reuters the US and its allies had colluded to create ‘loopholes’ for the Iranian regime.

“The exemptions or loopholes are happening in secret, and it appears that they favor Iran,’ he said...”

NATIONAL DEBT HITS \$19.5 TRILLION

September 1, 2016 washingtonexaminer.com reported: “The national debt hit \$19.5 trillion for the first time ever this week, a little more than seven months after it hit the \$19 trillion mark. The debt clocked in at \$19.51 trillion at the end of Wednesday, the Treasury Department reported Thursday afternoon. Precise debt figures on any given day are released on the following business day.

The national debt hit \$19 trillion for the first time ever on Jan. 29. When President Obama took office in early 2009, the total debt was \$10.63 trillion, which means it has almost doubled under his watch.

The Congressional Budget Office reported in August that the debt-to-GDP ratio will match levels not seen since 1950 by the end of the current fiscal year. The debt is the sum total of annual budget deficits, plus interest, and those annual deficits are soon expected to rise again in the coming years.”...”

NORTH KOREA SOLDIERS 'GIVEN NUCLEAR BACKPACKS' AS TENSIONS RISE OVER MILITARY EXERCISES

August 31, 2016 independent.co.uk reported: “Elite North Korean soldiers are being armed with “nuclear backpacks”, a source has claimed as tensions increase over the authoritarian state’s attempts at military escalation.

An anonymous source told Radio Free Asia special units have been formed since March to carry the weapons and had been taking part in simulated training exercises with dummy bombs.

“Outstanding soldiers were selected from each reconnaissance platoon and light infantry brigade to form the nuclear backpack unit the size of a battalion,” the source from North Hamgyong province was quoted as saying.

The supposed weapons were said to weigh between 10 and 30 kilograms and be able to “spray radioactive material”, possibly uranium, on the enemy. It was impossible to verify the account given to Radio Free Asia, which is funded by the US government.



North Korean propaganda showed soldiers wearing rucksacks bearing a yellow and black radiation symbol during a parade celebrating the 70th anniversary of the national Workers' Party in October, while similar backpacks were seen at a procession in 2013.”...”

JAPAN WANTS BRITISH WEAPONRY FOR SOUTH CHINA SEA STANDOFF

August 31, 2016 rt.com/uk reported: “Tensions in the South China Sea have led Japan to splurge on British-made hardware to prepare for a confrontation with China. Recent saber-rattling by North Korea has also given Japan cause to restock its armory.

Antagonism between China and Japan over a contested island archipelago has the Japanese Defense Ministry chasing an injection of cash to buy a range of new weapons.

Reuters reported on Wednesday that, among other high-tech equipment, the Japanese are keen to purchase 11 AAV7 amphibious assault craft produced by British arms giant BAE Systems.

The move has been inspired by the ongoing confrontation between Japan and China over a set of small islands northeast of Taiwan – known in Japan as the Senkakus – over which both nations have staked a claim.

The Defense Ministry is also trying to convince the government to free up around 100 billion yen (about US\$965 million) to buy a fleet of F-35 jets like those Britain is bringing into service, as well as Osprey V-22 tilt-rotor aircraft and Chinook helicopters. Also on the agenda are new submarines and a version of the Global Hawk surveillance drone, which the British Royal Air Force (RAF) already has in service.”...”

MUSLIM PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS CALLED 'SYSTEMATIC'

August 31, 2016 World Net Daily reported: “While the Obama administration has been pursuing Islamist refugees from Syria to bring thousands to the safe haven of the United States, Christians have been under fire – often literally – and losing their property and lives in Iraq and Uganda. And Syria, Bangladesh and Congo. Also, Philippines, Egypt, Tanzania, Pakistan, Azerbaijan, Eritrea, Turkey, Iran and Nigeria. Even Germany.

A new report from Gatestone Institute finds that although the Muslims doing the persecution are minority, there’s no doubt, “persecution of Christians by Muslims is growing.”

And it's not random, either, the report by Raymond Ibrahim, author of "Crucified Again: Exposing Islam's New War on Christians," found.

"Such Muslim persecution is not random but rather systematic, and takes place in all languages, ethnicities, and locations."

WND has had multiple reports on the horrific wave of death imposed by ISIS across the Middle East, the beheadings, the burnings, the drownings, the crucifixions and other attacks by Muslims on Christians and other religious minorities.

The AP reported just on Tuesday that it documented 72 mass graves in Iraqi territories recently freed from ISIS control. The agency estimated that up to 15,000 victims were slaughtered by the Islamists and buried there, often times with bulldozers."..."

US 'CONCERNED' OVER ADVANCED AIR DEFENSE BATTERY AT IRAN NUKE SITE

August 30, 2016 timesofisrael.com reported: "The US State Department has expressed concern at recent reports that Iran has deployed an advanced air defense system to guard a secretive nuclear site.

On Sunday, Iranian state television claimed Tehran had stationed a recently delivered a Russian-made long-range missile system to central Iran to protect its Fordo nuclear facility, suspected to have housed nuclear arms development work. A video showed an S-300 carrier truck in Fordo, raising its missile launchers toward the sky, next to other counter-strike weaponry.

State Department spokesman John Kirby told a press briefing Monday that the US was unhappy with the sale of the S-300 system as well as its placement at Fordo.

'We've seen the reports of this deployment. Obviously, that's of concern to us because we have long objected to the sale of Iran – of these kinds of capabilities,' Kirby said.

The Russian-made missile defense system is one of the most advanced of its kind in the world, offering long-range protection against both airplanes and missiles. The first shipment arrived in Iran in April..."

IDF COMMANDER: ISRAEL GEARING UP FOR ATTACKS FROM HUNDREDS OF SINAI-BASED ISLAMIC STATE TERRORISTS

August 29, 2016 Breitbart.com reported: "Israel is preparing for a scenario in which hundreds of terrorists armed with high trajectory fire as well as anti-tank missiles attack from Sinai, the outgoing commander of the IDF's Sagi Brigade said this week.

Col Yehuda HaCohen, in charge of the brigade stationed on the 105-mile stretch between the Sinai Peninsula and Israel, told Hebrew-language daily Maariv that his division has witnessed new threats coming from Sinai including the proliferation of terrorists associated with the Islamic State and an increase in cross-border smuggling.

HaCohen, who is about to begin his studies at the National Security College, said the lack of governance in the area has resulted in the Sinai becoming 'a breeding ground for terror.'

The presence of Islamic State elements in recent years has changed the Sinai, though HaCohen asserts that in the meantime the extremists have not set their sights on Israel but instead are working on purging out infidels from their midst.

'IS has set out first to purify themselves while expanding their territory. They act as if they are in the Middle Ages. They occupy territories and publicly behead those who don't join, the rest automatically join,' he said..."

PHILIPPINES' DUTERTE WARNS CHINA OF 'RECKONING'

August 28, 2016 SpaceDaily.com reported; "Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte warned Wednesday of a 'reckoning' with China if there was no resolution to a tense dispute over rival claims to the South China Sea.

An international tribunal ruled last month that China's claims to most of the strategically vital waters had no legal basis, in what was seen as a sweeping victory for the Philippines, which filed the case.

Duterte repeatedly had said he did not want to anger China with an aggressive response, and sent an envoy to ease tensions, but on Wednesday signalled he was prepared to adopt a more confrontational approach.

'We will not raise hell now because of the judgement but there will come a time that we will have to do some reckoning about this,' Duterte said in a speech to soldiers at a military camp.

China, which has in recent years undertaken giant land reclamation works in disputed parts of the sea, has vowed to ignore the ruling..."

KHAMENEI WARNS IRAN WILL 'HIT HARD' IN RESPONSE TO US AGGRESSION

August 28, 2016 timesofisrael.com reported: "Amid the recently escalating tensions between US and Iranian vessels in the Persian Gulf, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Sunday warned any military aggression against the Islamic Republic would be met with a harsh response.

In an apparent reference to the US, Khamenei told soldiers at a Tehran air base 'the enemy should understand that if it makes any aggression, it will be hit hard and our defense will also include response,' according to the state-run Fars news agency. Khamenei also called to bolster Iran's military capabilities 'to the extent that the enemy doesn't even allow itself to think about aggression.'

Referring to Iran's controversial purchase of the S-300 missile defense system from Russia, Khamenei charged the US 'doesn't respect our nation's right of defense and actually wants us to remain defenseless so that they can launch aggression against our country whenever they want.'..."



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