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## EYEWITNESSES: ISLAMIC STATE JIHADIS KILLING IN PHILIPPINES AS YOUNG AS 13 YEARS OLD

June 1, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "Civilians who have escaped the besieged city of Marawi in the southern Philippines say the Islamic State-affiliated jihadis fighting to establish a caliphate there are largely teenaged, with some as young as thirteen participating in the killing.

'They are just barely out of teenage life. And they take command from boys in their early to mid-20s,' a woman identified as Norma told the Philippine Inquirer, following her escape from the city. 'That is why I addressed most of them as orak (boy) when I conversed with them while me and my family walked out of Marawi the day after the siege started.'

Norma described the boys as 'playing,' apparently enjoying the fear of civilians at the sound of gunfire and taking the time to enjoy the loot they robbed from local groceries.

'The boldness and daring that are inherent in the youth are being exploited to advance aims that these boys do not understand,' another woman, Faridah, told the newspaper, asking, 'I really wonder if they ever realize the implications of what they are doing.'

The Inquirer says the witnesses estimated children as young as 13 were participating in the violence..."

## ISLAMISTS FROM ACROSS EUROPE MOVING TO UK FOR 'FREEDOM' TO PRACTICE RADICAL ISLAM

June 1, 2017 Breitbart.com reports: "A growing number of radical Muslims are flocking to move from France to Britain, where generous welfare payments, lack of scrutiny from the authorities, and the ease with which families can practice strict Islam have earned the UK a reputation as a halal paradise for Salafists who are unable to secure visas for Saudi Arabia.

French newspaper L'Obs reports that Small Heath, a neighbourhood of Birmingham where 95 per cent of residents practise Islam, is one of the most popular spots for French Muslims seeking a new home where women can wear the full face veil. The garment has been banned since 2010 in France.

'Daesh [ISIS] isn't here, and no one is looking at you,' explained Dounia, a woman of Moroccan origin who moved to Small Heath from France with her husband Karim and his four children a year ago..."

## PHILIPPINES WARNS ISLAMIST MILITANTS TO SURRENDER OR DIE

May 31, 2017 SpaceWar.com reported: "Philippine authorities on Tuesday warned Islamist militants occupying parts of a southern city to surrender or die, as attack helicopters pounded the gunmen's strongholds where up to 2,000 residents were feared trapped.

More than 100 people have been confirmed killed in the conflict, which began last week when gunmen waving black flags of the Islamic State (IS) group rampaged through the mostly Muslim-populated city of Marawi.

President Rodrigo Duterte declared martial law across the entire southern region of Mindanao, home to roughly 20 million people, in response to the crisis as he warned that local militant groups were uniting behind IS and becoming a major security threat.

But the militants, initially estimated by the nation's defence chief to number just 100, withstood eight days of intense air assaults and street-to-street combat, prompting the government's threats on Tuesday.

'We call on the remaining terrorists to surrender while there is an opportunity,' military spokesman Brigadier-General Restituto Padilla said.

'For the terrorists, not surrendering will mean their sure death.'..."

## PENTAGON SUCCESSFULLY TESTS ICBM DEFENSE SYSTEM FOR FIRST TIME

May 31, 2017 Reuters reports: "The U.S. military on Tuesday cheered a successful, first-ever missile defense test involving a simulated attack by an intercontinental ballistic missile, in a major milestone for a program meant to defend against a mounting North Korean threat. The U.S. military fired an ICBM-type missile from the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands toward the waters just south of Alaska. It then fired a missile to intercept it from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

Experts compare the job to hitting a bullet with another bullet and note the complexity is magnified by the enormous distances involved. The Missile Defense Agency said it was the first live-fire test against a simulated ICBM for the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD), managed by Boeing Co (BA.N), and hailed it as an 'incredible accomplishment.'

'This system is vitally important to the defense of our homeland, and this test demonstrates that we have a capable, credible deterrent against a very real threat,' Vice Admiral Jim Syring, director of the agency, said in a statement..."

## NEW TRUMP ATTACK ON GERMANY WIDENS TRANSATLANTIC RIFT

May 30, 2017 spacedaily.com reported: "The transatlantic diplomatic rift widened on Tuesday as US President Donald Trump responded to criticism from Chancellor Angela Merkel with a new attack on German trade tactics and defense spending.

Trump's spokesman Sean Spicer insisted that the leaders "get on very well" but -- as is often the case -- his warm words from the White House podium were overshadowed by the president's intemperate tweets.

When Trump returned over the weekend from the first foreign trip of his presidency, his aides hailed the tour as a success and a sign of renewed and bolder US leadership on the world stage. But, while Trump received a warm welcome in Saudi Arabia and Israel, he left behind a bitter taste in Europe after the NATO summit in Brussels and the G7 get-together of the world's richest powers in Sicily.

European leaders were especially dismayed by Trump's refusal to reaffirm US support for last year's Paris climate change accord and his failure to publicly endorse NATO's mutual defense pledge.



Germany, until recently Washington's closest partner in Europe, was particularly discomfited, and Merkel wasted no time in warning German voters that the United States can no longer be relied upon as before. Trump's response came in the early hours of Tuesday when he took to Twitter to once again demand that Germany renegotiate the terms of transatlantic trade and boost its defense spending.

"We have a MASSIVE trade deficit with Germany, plus they pay FAR LESS than they should on NATO & military," Trump wrote, in his flamboyantly undiplomatic style. "Very bad for US. This will change."

German officials have repeatedly insisted that, as a member of the European Union, they cannot conduct bilateral trade talks with the US and that they are not ready to dramatically increase military spending."..."

### **NORTH KOREA PROMISES 'GIFTS' TO THE AMERICANS**

*May 30, 2017* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un is promising 'bigger gifts' to the U.S. following his country's latest ballistic missile test. Kim personally supervised the test of a ballistic missile controlled by a precision guidance system and ordered the development of more powerful strategic weapons, Reuters reported Monday, citing the North's official KCNA news agency.

He expressed conviction that the country 'would make a greater leap forward in this spirit to send a bigger 'gift package' to the Yankees,' in retaliation for American military provocation, KCNA said.

'The ballistic rocket flew toward the east sky where the day broke and correctly hit a planned target point... after flying over the middle shooting range,' the report said.

South Korea's military earlier said the Scud-type missile travelled eastward for 450 km, and is believed to have fallen into Japan's exclusive economic zone, extending 200 nautical miles from the coast..."

### **AFGHAN TALIBAN INCREASINGLY KILLING ISLAMIC SCHOLARS TO SILENCE CRITICISM**

*May 30, 2017* Breitbart.com reports: "Taliban jihadists in Afghanistan are increasingly targeting Islamic scholars, known as ulema, to silence dissent and criticism as the terrorist group continues to capture territory and expand its influence across the country.

'The reason the Taliban resort to such acts is that they want to make sure their legitimacy is not questioned by the sermons of these ulema,' Mohammad Moheq, a prominent Afghan scholar of religion who also serves as an adviser to Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, told the New York Times (NYT).

'The only thing that undermines their legitimacy is the ability and power of these ulema if they preach and argue against them,' added Moheq. 'Only they can challenge the Taliban's ideology, not the liberal scholars or others, and the Taliban understand that.'..."

### **23,000 JIHADISTS IN BRITAIN, NOT 3,000 AS PREVIOUSLY CLAIMED**

*May 28, 2017* Breitbart.com reported: "Government sources have confessed that there are at least 23,000 jihadists in Britain – more than seven times higher than previously revealed.

Until recently, the public had been led to believe there were around 3,000 known jihadists in Britain, with 500 being subject to active investigations led by MI5. Whitehall officials have now disclosed that a further 20,000 individuals have been identified as posing a "residual risk", according to The Times. Khalid Masood, who ran down a number of pedestrians and stabbed a police constable to death outside the Palace of Westminster in March 2017, was among the pool of individuals who had been reported to the authorities but was not under active surveillance."..."

### **RUSSIAN LAWMAKER: WE WOULD USE NUKES IF US OR NATO ENTERS CRIMEA**

*May 29 2017* DefenseOne.com reports: "Russia would be forced to use nuclear weapons in any conflict in which U.S. or NATO forces entered eastern Ukraine, a member of Russia's parliament told an international gathering of government security officials on Sunday.

"On the issue of NATO expansion on our borders, at some point I heard from the Russian military — and I think they are right — If U.S. forces, NATO forces, are, were, in the Crimea, in eastern Ukraine, Russia is undefendable militarily in case of conflict without using nuclear weapons in the early stage of the conflict," Russian parliamentarian Vyacheslav Alekseyevich Nikonov told attendees at the GLOBSEC 2017 forum in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Russian military leaders have discussed Moscow's willingness to use nuclear weapons in a conflict with military leaders in NATO, as part of broader and increasingly contentious conversations about the alliance's expansion, Nikonov later told Defense One..."

### **IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER: SAUDIS FACE 'CERTAIN DOWNFALL'**

*May 29, 2017* The Times of Israel reports: "Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei claimed Saturday that Saudi Arabia's monarchy faces "certain downfall" for aligning itself with the US and that its regime can be toppled sooner rather than later.

"They will be gone, they can be toppled and can perish [or be destroyed]... there is no doubt about it... it is certain that it will happen," Khamenei said during a religious gathering in comments translated from Persian.

"They will face certain downfall," he said at a Koran reading event marking the start of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan on Saturday, according to Reuters.

"They might stay for some time; it depends on how the believers of the community take action. If they act correctly, it will happen sooner. If they don't [react], it might take longer," he added according to a transcript carried on his English website..."

