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Hezbollah has 10,000 fighters in Syria ready to confront Israel, commander says

September 21, 2017 timeofisrael.com reported: "Hezbollah has more than 10,000 fighters in southern Syria ready to confront Israel, a commander for the Iranian-backed Lebanese terror group has said.

'Hezbollah has over 10,000 fighters deployed in southern Syria. Hezbollah is an army of infantry, rockets, tanks, elite forces,' the Hezbollah official told the Middle East Eye website this week, amid tensions surrounding the shooting down by the Israeli Air Force on Tuesday of an Iranian-built drone launched by the group as it attempted to cross into airspace.

The commander said the fighters were based in areas surrounding the Golan Heights and that tunnels and military bases were being built for a possible confrontation with Israel

'We are operating as we do in south Lebanon, but of course in a veiled manner,' he said. Speaking of the truce in southern Syria, under the auspices of Russia and the United Nations, the commander said that the 'de-escalation plan is better for us. We are working with more freedom, there are no more bombings.'

The commander said that the next war with Israel may start from Syria but 'what really matters is where will it end, will it be in Netanya, Haifa or Kiryat Shmona?' ..."

Abbas: Israeli 'occupation' can't continue

September 21, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas on Wednesday used his speech at the UN General Assembly to attack Israel, as he has done in past speeches as well. In his remarks, Abbas claimed that Israel is evading its responsibility to end its 'occupation of Palestine'.

'While we call to end the occupation, Israel incites and pretends there's no Palestinian partner for peace,' Abbas charged, ignoring the fact that he has continuously rejected invitations from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to sit down for direct talks. The UN bears a legal, political, moral and humanitarian obligation to end Israeli 'occupation', he continued, adding that Israeli 'occupation' breeds incitement and violence.

'Draining the swamp' of Israeli occupation would greatly affect the fight on terror,' he said..."

'We're basically in World War Three'

September 20, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "In an interview with Arutz Sheva, philanthropist Kenneth Abramowitz spoke about Iran, terror organizations, and US President Donald Trump's first speech at the United Nations General Assembly. Abramowitz is the co-founder of NGN Capital and founder of a blog about the threats facing the West called SaveTheWest.com.

'Mr. Trump is the clearest it's been in a long time,' Abramowitz said, noting that the US President could still be 'a little more clear.'

'In the Middle East, we are fighting four terror organizations,' he explained. 'People think we're fighting ISIS, Al-Qaeda. They also know we're fighting Iran, which is the number one terror organization today. But we're also fighting the Muslim Brotherhood, financed by Turkey and Qatar, who are half friends, half enemies... And we're also fighting the Wahhabis financed by Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, who are half friends half enemies.'

'Trump is the best we can do, but he still does not have quite the clear enough picture to realize we're fighting four terror organizations at the same time.'

Regarding cohesion within the Trump administration, Abramowitz said, 'Trump has a good vision of what's going on. Not all his security advisers are on the same page, but knowing Trump, he'll just make sure the security advisers come onto the same page.'

According to Abramowitz, war is inevitable.

'We're basically in World War Three,' he said. 'Iran has promised to kill everyone in America: Death to America, genocide against America, [and] now genocide against Israel, too. But as President of the United States, he has a responsibility to protect us.' ..."

In first, US establishes permanent military base in Israel

September 20, 2017 timesofisrael.com reported: "For the first time in history, the United States on Monday established an official, permanent military base in Israel: an air defense base in the heart of the Negev desert. Dozens of US Air Force soldiers will call home the new base, located inside the Israeli Air Force's Mashabim Air Base, west of the towns of Dimona and Yerucham.

Brig. Gen. Tzvika Haimovitch, head of the IAF's Aerial Defense Command, announced the establishment of the installation on Monday evening.

'It's nothing short of historic,' he said. It demonstrates the 'years-old alliance between the United States and the State of Israel.'

The Israeli brigadier general also told reporters the establishment of a permanent US base in Israel 'allows us to improve our defense, in discovery and in interception and in preparedness.' ..."

North Korea: 'Vicious' sanctions will only speed up nuclear programme

September 19, 2017 SpaceDaily.com reported: "North Korea bitterly denounced new sanctions on its economy as 'vicious, unethical and inhumane' and warned the measures would only accelerate progress on its nuclear weapons programme, state media reported Monday.



The angry statement from Pyongyang's foreign ministry came as the crisis surrounding the reclusive state was set to dominate the annual UN gathering of world leaders.

The UN Security Council last week imposed a new raft of sanctions on North Korea, slapping an export ban on textiles, freezing work permits to North Korean guest workers and placing a cap on oil supplies.

The international community is scrambling to contain an increasingly belligerent Pyongyang, which has conducted its sixth and largest nuclear test and fired long-range missiles over Japan that it says could reach the US mainland.

Pyongyang says it needs nuclear weapons to protect itself from US forces. It says it is determined to build a weapons system capable of delivering a nuclear warhead capable of hitting the American mainland..."

Japan deploys missile defence to northern island

September 19, 2017 SpaceDaily.com reported: "Japan deployed Tuesday an additional missile defence system on its northern island of Hokkaido, days after North Korea launched a missile over the island, sparking emergency warnings to take cover.

'As part of measures to prepare for emergencies, we will today deploy a PAC-3 unit' to a base of the nation's Ground Self-Defense Force in the southern tip of Hokkaido, Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera told reporters.

The Patriot Advanced Capability-3 system arrived at the base later on Tuesday, a local defence official told AFP.

The move came with tensions on the Korean peninsula at fever-pitch after Pyongyang carried out its sixth nuclear test and fired two missiles over Japan in the space of less than a month.

North Korea 'may take further provocative actions including launching ballistic missiles that would fly over Japan again in the future', Onodera said, adding that his ministry 'would take appropriate measures to protect people's safety'...."

Iranian official: We have the 'father of all bombs'

September 18, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A senior official in Iran's Revolutionary Guards claimed over the weekend that Iran is in possession of what he described as the 'father of all bombs'. According to the official, Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, Iran has produced a domestically-made 10-ton bomb with a high destructive power.

'Following a proposal by the Aerospace Force of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), Iran's Defense Industries Organization manufactured a 10-ton bomb; these bombs are at our disposal and can be launched from Ilyushin aircraft and they are highly destructive,' Hajizadeh said, according to a report in the semiofficial Fars news agency.

The commander pointed to the ordnance as Iran's 'father of all bombs' as compared with the GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb (MOAB), also known as the 'mother of all bombs,' which the U.S. Air Force dropped on Islamic State (ISIS) targets in Afghanistan in April..."

California Wonders if North Korea Will Strike — and When

September 18, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "U.S. public health and first responders in California and throughout the West Coast have begun preparing for the impact of a potential nuclear war after North Korea fired a long-range intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) over Japan last week in the anniversary of America's triumphant Inchon Landing in the Korean War.



In 1950, with U.S. forces barely hanging on to Pusan Peninsula as 100,000 North Korean troops had overrun 90 percent of South Korea, General Douglas MacArthur audaciously used 261 vessels to land 75,000 American troops far behind enemy lines between September 15 and 23 to cut off the North Korean army.

Now, the West Coast is being forced to confront the risk of a nuclear attack after North Korea claimed to have detonated a hydrogen bomb. It has successfully launching 3 intercontinental ballistic missile that could fly half-way to the U.S. mainland..."

Mossad chief pushing to 'act now' to prevent Iranian nuclear bomb

September 17, 2017 timesofisrael.com reported: "Mossad chief Yossi Cohen is leading Israel's 'hawkish line' on Iran, calling for immediate action to ensure that Tehran cannot attain the bomb, an Israeli TV report said Sunday. The report comes as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to address the United Nations General Assembly with his focus to again be on confronting Iran.

Channel 2 on Sunday paraphrased Cohen as asserting that 'Today's Iran is the North Korea of yesterday, and so we need to act now so that we don't wake up to [an Iranian] bomb.'

Other Israeli security officials, the report said, however, are warning that Israel should not be pushing the US into another Middle Eastern adventure, given what happened when the US tackled Iraq and Saddam's ostensible weapons of mass destruction over a decade ago..."

Iran: 'Wrong move' by US will face Iranian 'reaction'

September 17, 2017 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iranian leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei issued a threat to the US on Sunday, asserting that the US would 'face the reaction' of Iran should it tamper with the Iran nuclear deal.

'The Iranian nation is standing firm and any wrong move by the domineering regime regarding the [nuclear deal] will face the reaction of the Islamic Republic,' Khamenei said, according to Iranian state television.

In the meantime, Iran's Press TV reported on Sunday that Iranian President Hassan Rouhani emphasized the deal's contribution to 'security, stability and development,' as he prepared to leave for New York to attend the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly..."