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US military chief Dunford: China is main threat to security

September 28, 2017 atimes.com reported: “China was identified this week as posing the most significant long-term military challenge to the United States by America’s senior-most military leader, as he set out new US military strategies and policies toward China and Asia more generally in a congressional hearing.

Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also revealed in the hearing, before senate, that he had informed China last summer of US plans to use military force against North Korea.

Dunford was asked to rank various military threats and identified nuclear missile-armed North Korea as presenting an ‘immediate’ threat, with Russia and China posing potential dangers based on their growing nuclear arsenals.

‘We don’t actually have the luxury of identifying a single threat today, unfortunately, nor, necessarily, to look at it in a linear fashion,’ Dunford said.

The four-star Marine Corps general then went on to say that, over the longer term, China represents the most significant danger, overshadowing the nuclear and cyber power of Moscow...”



Russia’s New Electromagnetic Missile to Turn Enemy Weapons Into ‘Scrap Metal’

September 28, 2017 SputnikNews.com reported: “Russia is developing radio-electronic weapons, which use a powerful UHF impulse capable of destroying all electronic equipment miles away, a senior advisor to the deputy head of Radio-Electronic Technologies Concern (KRET) told Sputnik.

Earlier, media reports said that Russia’s defense industry had come up with the Alabuga, a new electro-magnetic missile, which uses a powerful UHF emitter to disable all enemy electronics within a radius of 3.5 kilometers (2.3 miles), turning it into ‘a heap of scrap metal.’

In an interview with Sputnik, Vladimir Mikheev, a senior adviser to KRET’s chief, said that the Alabuga stands for a whole series of scientific research in the development of the radio-electronic weapons of the future.

‘The effect of such weapons may vary from ordinary interference that temporarily knocks out the enemy’s weapons systems, all the way to a complete radio-electronic destruction of electronic elements, motherboards, microchips and systems,’ Mikheev explained.

He added that all the research results were classified and the subject of UHF weapons was assigned a top secret classification...”

As North Korea threatens electromagnetic pulse attack, questions over lapses in US grid security rise

September 25, 2017 FoxNews.com reported: “For more than 15 years, security and intelligence officials — including former CIA Director James Woolsey — have been raising the alarm bells about the vulnerability of the U.S. power grid to an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack.

Only now as tensions with North Korea quickly escalate — with the rogue nation refusing to back down from its nuclear testing and threats of such an onslaught — is the matter really generating attention.

But according to U.S. defense and security officials, while there are players purporting to protect the nation’s critical infrastructure given millions of American lives on the line, the reality is that no one really knows what will happen and what can be done.

“We recognize that an EMP event would have extremely dire consequences for the entire country, but where the challenge comes is in attempting to quantify those impacts,” one high-ranking Department of Homeland Security official, who requested anonymity, told Fox News. “This is not something we have had a lot of real world experience with.”

Earlier this month, state news agencies in the Kim Jong Un-dictated country explicitly cautioned that it could hit the U.S. with an EMP offensive. A hydrogen bomb detonated at a high altitude would create an EMP that potentially could abolish prominent parts of the electrical grid. The higher the bomb’s detonation, the wider the scope of destruction. And given that high-altitude nuclear tests were prohibited as per a 1963 treaty, from the U.S. side, there is little scientific data to understand the devastation of a detonation on modern infrastructure.”

But the potential fallout from such an event is monstrous. In 2001, Congress enacted the since-disbanded Commission to Assess the Threat to the U.S. with regards to an EMP event, with commissioners testifying that up to 90 percent of Americans could die within a year of such an attack. All the functions communities rely upon — hospitals, water, waste, transport, telecommunications, air control, medical care — could potentially be decimated for not days or weeks, but months or years.”...”

North Korea says rockets to U.S. ‘inevitable’ as U.S. bombers fly off coast

September 25, 2017 atimes.com reported: “North Korea said on Saturday targeting the US mainland with its rockets was inevitable after ‘Mr. Evil President’ Donald Trump called Pyongyang’s leader ‘rocket man’, further escalating rhetoric over the North’s nuclear weapons and missile program.

North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho’s remarks to the United Nations General Assembly came hours after US Air Force B-1B Lancer bombers escorted by fighters flew in international airspace over waters east of North Korea in a show of force the Pentagon said showed the range of military options available to Trump.

Ri’s speech capped a week of rising tensions between Washington and Pyongyang, with Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un trading insults. Trump called Kim a ‘madman’ on Friday, a day after Kim dubbed him a ‘mentally deranged US dotard.’

On Saturday, the mudslinging continued with Ri calling Trump 'a mentally deranged person full of megalomania and complacency' who is trying to turn the United Nations into a 'gangsters' nest'. Ri said Trump himself was on a 'suicide mission' after the US president had said Kim was on such a mission.

'President Evil' is holding the seat of the US President,' Ri said, warning that Pyongyang was ready to defend itself if the United States showed any sign of conducting a 'decapitating operation on our headquarters or military attack against our country' ..."

Iran tests missile despite Trump pressure

September 24, 2017 BBC News reported: "Iran says it has successfully tested a new-medium range missile, in defiance of US President Donald Trump.

The launch of the Khoramshahr missile, which has a range of 2,000 km (1,242 miles), was shown on state TV. It is unclear when the test took place. On Friday, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said Iran would increase its military power 'as a deterrent'.

US President Donald Trump criticised the launch, saying the missile was capable of hitting its ally Israel.

The Khoramshahr missile was first displayed at a military parade on Friday in Tehran. It is capable of carrying multiple warheads, Iranian media report..."

Alarm as 'super malaria' spreads in South East Asia

September 22, 2017 BBC.com reported: The rapid spread of "super malaria" in South East Asia is an alarming global threat, scientists are warning. This dangerous form of the malaria parasite cannot be killed with the main anti-malaria drugs. It emerged in Cambodia but has since spread through parts of Thailand, Laos and has arrived in southern Vietnam.



The team at the Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit in Bangkok said there was a real danger of malaria becoming untreatable. Prof Arjen Dondorp, the head of the unit, told the BBC News website: "We think it is a serious threat.

"It is alarming that this strain is spreading so quickly through the whole region and we fear it can spread further [and eventually] jump to Africa."

In a letter, published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*, the researchers detail the "recent sinister development" that has seen resistance to the drug artemisinin emerge. About 212 million people are infected with malaria each year. It is caused by a parasite that is spread by blood-sucking mosquitoes and is a major killer of children.

The first choice treatment for malaria is artemisinin in combination with piperazine. But as artemisinin has become less effective, the parasite has now evolved to resist piperazine too. There have now been "alarming rates of failure", the letter says.

Prof Dondorp said the treatment was failing around a third of the time in Vietnam while in some regions of Cambodia the failure rate was closer to 60%. Resistance to the drugs would be catastrophic in Africa, where 92% of all malaria cases happen..."

Trump 'Deranged', Says Kim as Pyongyang Hints at Pacific H-bomb

September 22, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "US President Donald Trump is 'mentally deranged' and will 'pay dearly' for his threat to destroy North Korea, Kim Jong-Un said Friday, as his foreign minister hinted the regime may explode a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean.

In a rare personal attack published hours after Washington announced tougher sanctions, the North Korean leader took aim at Trump over his maiden speech to the UN General Assembly in which he branded Kim 'Rocket Man' and threatened to 'totally destroy North Korea'.

Trump 'insulted me and my country in front of the eyes of the world and made the most ferocious declaration of a war in history', Kim said, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

'I will make the man holding the prerogative of the supreme command in the US pay dearly for his speech,' which he called 'unprecedented rude nonsense'.

The dispatch was accompanied by a photo of the North Korean leader sitting behind a desk holding a piece of paper.

'I will surely and definitely tame the mentally deranged US dotard with fire,' he said.

On the fringes of the UN General Assembly in New York, North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho told reporters Pyongyang might now consider detonating a hydrogen bomb outside its territory.

'I think that it could be an H-bomb test at an unprecedented level perhaps over the Pacific,' he said..."

Hawaii reportedly prepares for nuclear attack amid North Korea rhetoric

September 22, 2017 Fox News reported: "Hawaii officials have reportedly been urging residents to prepare for a nuclear attack, the stunning plea coming amid increasingly unnerving rhetoric — and actions — from North Korea.

The Washington Post reported that Hawaii officials were working to educate and prepare residents amid the growing tension between Washington and Pyongyang. The public was being told to consider preparing for a nuclear attack in a similar way that it prepares for tsunamis.

'Now it's time to take it seriously,' Hawaii State Rep. Gene Ward, a Republican, said, 'not to be an alarmist, but to be informing people.'

North Korea's foreign minister has said the Communist nation may test a hydrogen bomb in the Pacific Ocean after dictator Kim Jong Un vowed he would take the 'highest-level' action against the United States, South Korean media reported Thursday..."