



PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

Weekly World News Briefs

June 16, 2018

North Korea Apparently Destroys Missile Test Facility

June 14, 2018 Breitbart.com reported: "After his summit with dictator Kim Jong-un on Tuesday, President Trump indicated the North Koreans are dismantling another facility important to their development of nuclear missiles following the purported shutdown of the Punggye-ri nuclear bomb testing site.

Analysts believe this was a reference to the missile engine testing site at Kusong, which appears to be undergoing demolition based on satellite imagery.

North Korean watchdog site 38 North reported last week that the Iha-ri Driver Training and Test Facility, as it is formally known, was the only known facility for testing the launch system for Pyongyang's latest generation of land-based long-range ballistic missiles..."

Assad: I wouldn't object to permanent Iranian base in Syria

June 14, 2018 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad said on Wednesday that relations with Iran and its presence in Syria were non-negotiable.

Speaking with the Iranian-based Al Alam television network, Assad added that he would not object to the establishment of a permanent Iranian military base within his country's borders if such a base is necessary.

The comments come as speculation has mounted in recent weeks regarding a possible Iranian pullout from Syria as Israel and Russia's rhetoric on the matter has increasingly converged..."

IQ Scores Are Declining and The Environment Is To Blame, New Study Finds

June 13, 2018 cbslocal.com reported: "IQ scores have been steadily falling for the past few decades, and environmental factors are to blame, a new study says. The research suggests that genes aren't what's driving the decline in IQ scores, according to the study, published Monday.

Norwegian researchers analyzed the IQ scores of Norwegian men born between 1962 and 1991 and found that scores increased by almost 3 percentage points each decade for those born between 1962 to 1975 — but then saw a steady decline among those born after 1975.

Similar studies in Denmark, Britain, France, the Netherlands, Finland and Estonia have demonstrated a similar downward trend in IQ scores, said Ole Rogeberg, a senior research fellow at the Ragnar Frisch Center for Economic Research in Norway and co-author of the new study.

"The causes in IQ increases over time and now the decline is due to environmental factors," said Rogeberg, who believes the change is not due to genetics.

"It's not that dumb people are having more kids than smart people, to put it crudely. It's something to do with the environment, because we're seeing the same differences within families," he said. These environmental factors could include changes in the education system and media environment, nutrition, reading less and being online more, Rogeberg said..."

EU set to shut UK, US out of defence fund

June 13, 2018 SpaceDaily.com reported: "The European Union will on Wednesday present its new 13-billion-euro defence fund, but conditions for taking part will shut out 'third countries' including post-Brexit Britain and the United States, officials have told AFP.

The European Defence Fund (EDF) is a major plank of the bloc's strategy to boost its ability to guarantee its own security, as it frets about the threat from Russia and the United States' apparent ambivalence under President Donald Trump.

The money it offers for research and development when it starts in 2021 will only be available to EU member states — not Britain, which will have left by then, and not the United States.

To qualify for EDF funding, "companies will have to be based in the European Union, have their infrastructure in the European Union and above all, decision-making cannot be controlled by an entity based outside the European Union," an EU official told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

This means a European subsidiary of a US defence manufacturer for example could not receive financing from the EDF..."

Muslim cleric in Toronto: Zionists should be eradicated

June 13, 2018 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "The annual Al-Quds Day rally held in Toronto this past Saturday once again turned into a platform for incitement against Israel.



Sheikh Shafiq Hudda, director of the Islamic Humanitarian Service in Kitchener, Ontario, said during the rally that a day will come when we will see 'the eradication of the unjust powers, such as the American empire, such as the Israeli Zionists.'

He challenged the IDF to enter Gaza and 'fight like men, not cowards,' saying, 'You will leave in body bags.'

Hudda's comments were documented by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

'More than any other nation on the face of this earth, the Zionist entity of Israel has been condemned by the United Nations, by human rights organizations, by any believer of justice and love of humanity,' he said..."

Arab states launch biggest assault of Yemen war with attack on main port

June 13, 2018 Reuters reported: "A Saudi-led alliance of Arab states launched the largest assault of Yemen's war on Wednesday with an attack on the main port city, aiming to drive the ruling Houthi movement to its knees at the risk of worsening the world's biggest humanitarian crisis.

Arab warplanes and warships pounded Houthi fortifications to support ground operations by foreign and Yemeni troops massed south of the port of Hodeidah in operation 'Golden Victory'...

So far, the Arab states have not tried to capture such a heavily defended major city since joining the war three years ago against the Iran-aligned Houthis, who control the capital, Sanaa, and most of the populated areas..."

Trump, Kim hail historic summit; questions over way forward

June 12, 2018 spacedaily.com reported: "Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un hailed their historic summit Tuesday as a breakthrough in relations between Cold War foes, but the agreement they produced contained few details about the key issue of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons.

The extraordinary and unprecedented encounter in Singapore saw the leader of the world's most powerful democracy shake hands with the third generation scion of a dynastic dictatorship, standing as equals in front of their nations' flags.

Kim agreed to the "complete denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula", a stock phrase favoured by Pyongyang that stopped short of long-standing US demands for North Korea to give up its atomic arsenal in a "verifiable" and "irreversible" way.

And in a blockbusting press conference after the summit, Trump said the US would halt military exercises with Seoul -- something long sought by Pyongyang, which claims the drills are a rehearsal for invasion.

With Pyongyang having declared a moratorium on weapons testing on the grounds its development programmes were complete, the move looked like a tacit acceptance of the "freeze for freeze" proposal pushed by Beijing and previously decried by Washington.

The US stations around 30,000 troops in security ally South Korea to protect it from its neighbour, which invaded in 1950 in an attempt to reunify the peninsula by force."..."

Venezuela's hyperinflation at new dizzying high

June 11, 2018 AFP reported: "Venezuela's sky-high inflation soared to 24,571 percent in the past 12 months, lawmakers said Monday. President Nicolas Maduro's socialist government controls most of the country's economy and is in the midst of an ever-deepening crisis with food and medicine in short supply.



Analysts blame what they call mismanagement of a state-led economy. That includes its control over hard currency, as well as low oil prices. Venezuela depends on crude oil for its earnings. The government blames US sanctions and businessmen speculating on the problems."..."

Abbas Adviser: Jews Have No Claim to Jerusalem

June 11, 2018 Breitbart.com reported: "Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' senior adviser Mahmoud al-Habbash last week said that President Donald Trump's declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital is part of a plot to divide the Arab world and that any Jewish connection to the holy city is an imperialist myth and distortion of history.

Habbash, who is also the PA's supreme Sharia judge, made his comments at a conference jointly organized by the Muslim-Christian Council for the Salvation of Jerusalem and the Holy Places and the Organization for Muslim Cooperation (OIC).

Despite Jews having a historical connection to Jerusalem, Habbash claimed those ties are based on a 'false Jewish or Biblical pretext whose sole purpose is to take over the land.' The Western wall, he continued, has nothing to do with a Jewish temples, and the Jews have no right over its stones.

'This is an imperialist myth that exploited and distorted history and the holy sites in order to advance and justify imperialist projects,' Habbash said in his remarks, which were translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI)..."

Trump and North Korea's Kim in Singapore for historic Tuesday summit

June 10, 2018 Reuters reported: "U.S. President Donald Trump arrived in Singapore on Sunday for a historic summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un that could lay the groundwork for ending a nuclear stand-off between the old foes and the transformation of the isolated Asian nation.

Trump flew into Singapore's Paya Lebar Air Base aboard Air Force One, looking to strike a deal that will lead to the denuclearization of one of America's bitterest foes. He came from a divisive G7 meeting in Canada with some of Washington's closest allies that further strained global trade ties...Kim arrived at Singapore's Changi Airport after his longest trip overseas as head of state, wearing his trademark dark 'Mao suit' and distinctive high-cut hairstyle. He has not left his country since taking office in 2011 other than to visit China and the South Korean side of the border Demilitarised Zone..."

Erdogan Predicts 'War Between the Cross and Crescent' over Austria Mosque Closures

June 10, 2018 Breitbart.com reported: "Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan attacked Austria's impending closure of mosques and consequent expulsion of Turkish-funded imams, saying the move is anti-Islamic while promising a response.

'These measures taken by the Austrian prime minister are, I fear, leading the world towards a war between the cross and the crescent,' Erdogan said in a speech in Istanbul covered by AFP.

Austria's populist government made the announcement on Friday morning at a press conference as part of the governing coalition's campaign against radical Islamic ideology and the influence of countries like Turkey in the Austrian Islamic community, Kronen Zeitung reports..."

*Compiled by L. Jim Tuck, Pastor
UCGIA Phoenix, Northern AZ, Show Low & Hawaii
ljt5053@sbcglobal.net*