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## **Netanyahu issues stark WARNING after Iran says Red Sea 'NOT SAFE' for US troops**

*August 2, 2018* express.co.uk reported: "Mr Netanyahu said yesterday Iran would be met by an international coalition that would include Israel if they attempted a blockade.

Speaking at a graduation ceremony for naval officers he said: "Earlier this week, we witnessed a sharp clash with Iran's satellites who tried to sabotage international shipping in the Straits at the mouth of the Red Sea."

"If Iran tries to block the Straits of Bab al-Mandeb, it will find itself facing an international coalition determined to prevent it from doing so, and this coalition will also include the State of Israel and all its arms."

Last week, Iranian-backed Houthi rebels allegedly attacked two Saudi oil tankers in the strategic Bab al-Mandeb Strait off Yemen's coast.

Saudi Arabia shortly announced that it was "temporarily halting" all oil shipments through the Bab al-Mandeb shipping route as a result of the events.

The Saudi Energy Minister, Khalid al-Falih, said: "Saudi Arabia is temporarily halting all oil shipments through Bab al-Mandeb Strait immediately until the situation becomes clearer and the maritime transit through Bab al-Mandeb is safe."

Following the attacks, which occurred as President Donald Trump and Iran trade blows on Twitter, Iran's senior military commander, Qassem Suleimani, warned that the Red Sea was not safe for US troops.

According to the Tasnim news agency, Mr Suleimani said: "The Red Sea which was secure is no longer secure for the presence of American [military] ... The Quds force and I are your match. We don't go to sleep at night before thinking about you."..."

## **Reports: Iran Preparing for Major Military Exercise**

*August 2, 2018* voanews.com reported: "Iran is preparing to soon begin a massive military exercise in the Persian Gulf that could demonstrate Tehran's ability to shut down the Strait of Hormuz. Iran recently threatened to block the strait, which is a key passageway for Middle East oil tankers going from the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea.

'We are aware of the increase in Iranian naval operations within the Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Gulf of Oman,' said Navy Captain Bill Urban, the chief spokesman at Central Command, which oversees U.S. forces in the Middle East.

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps could begin the drill within the next 48 hours, CNN reported. Unidentified U.S. officials told the Reuters news agency that Iran has so far assembled a fleet of more than 100 vessels for the exercises."..."

## **Election of Islamist Pakistani Leader Imran Khan Stokes Fears of Christian Persecution**

*August 1, 2018* Breitbart.com reported: "Christian watchdog groups have voiced concern over last week's election of former cricket star and Islamist Imran Khan as Pakistani Premier, noting Khan's public support for the nation's harsh blasphemy laws.

Shortly after the election, Khan—who attributed his victory to the will of Allah—told the nation that his preferred form of government is 'the Islamic State as established by the Prophet Mohammad in Medina.'

'Today in front of you, in front of the people of Pakistan, I pledge I will run Pakistan in such a way as it has never before been run,' he said..."



## **Growing U.S. unease with China's new deep space facility in Argentina**

*August 1, 2018* SpaceDaily.com reported: "China is expanding its presence in Latin America filling the gap left by the US, Argentinian foreign studies analyst Gustavo Cardozo told Sputnik. Besides solidifying its positions on the continent, China is seeking to become a major space power, according to the analyst.

China's space base in Argentina's Patagonia is making Washington feel unease amid Beijing's consistent expansion in Latin America, once considered the US' backyard.

'The isolated base is one of the most striking symbols of Beijing's long push to transform Latin America and shape its future for generations to come – often in ways that directly undermine the United States' political, economic and strategic power in the region,' remarked Ernesto Londono, an editorial writer for The New York Times..."

## **North Korea working on new missiles, U.S. officials say, despite thaw**

*July 31, 2018* BBC News reported: "North Korea appears to be building new ballistic missiles despite recent warming ties with the Trump administration and pledges to denuclearise, reports say.

Unnamed US officials told the Washington Post that spy satellites had spotted continuing activity at a site that has produced ballistic missiles. Reuters quotes an official as saying it is unclear how far the work has gone.

Donald Trump met North Korea's Kim Jong-un in Singapore in June. After the first meeting between sitting leaders from the two countries, the two men pledged to work towards denuclearisation. Mr Trump later said North Korea was 'no longer a nuclear threat'.

But Mr Trump was criticised at home for making concessions without securing any firm commitment from Mr Kim to end the nuclear and missile programmes..."

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## Iran Rejects Talks with 'Untrustworthy' United States

**July 31, 2018** Breitbart.com reported: "Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi rejected what he called 'media speculation' that Iran may hold talks with the United States on Monday and said that the Islamic Republic will emerge victorious in the face of America's hostile policies.

'With current America and these policies, there will definitely not be the possibility of dialogue and engagement, and the United States has shown that it is totally unreliable,' Qassemi said at a weekly press conference in Iran, according to Press TV.

'The U.S. has proved to be untrustworthy and a non-reliable partner for any job,' Qassemi said, according to the nation's state-run Tasnim News agency..."

## Copenhagen Imam: 'Jihad Necessitates the Muslim Invasion and Conquest of Europe'

**July 30, 2018** Breitbart.com reported: "Abdallah was speaking on a video first released in 2017. It has now been made public and translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) just a week after he was charged with hate speech over a separate incident where repeated a call to kill Jews.

In the latest video, Abdallah lays out a plan whereby Muslims can conquer all of Europe and deliver a final blow to the "vileness" of the Jewish people.

"Europe must be invaded again," he said, calling for a new Islamic conquest of Al-Andalus, the Balkans, and Rome, in order to fulfill the promise of the Prophet Muhammad.

In the address, Imam Abdallah said that the Jews "are hastening their own annihilation by their rampaging, their filth, and their vileness, which reflect the immutable nature of the Jews." He added he was "not a racist" but that this "has to do with the Jewish character and psyche, with that sick Jewish mentality."

Last week, charges were brought against Imam Abdallah for hate speech, following MEMRI translation of a Friday sermon in which he recited the anti-Semitic hadith about the Prophecy of the Rock and the Tree. This is the first time charges have been brought in Denmark under a new criminal code."..."

## U.S. said weighing military action amid Iranian threats to Middle East waterways

**July 29, 2018** timesofisrael reported: "'The United States is reportedly weighing possible military action to keep open key oil shipping routes in the Middle East amid Iranian threats against the waterways.

However, a CNN report Friday citing Trump administration officials said that any military action would be taken by US regional allies such as Saudi Arabia, and not American troops.

The officials said that though the US maintains a naval presence in the Middle East, any military operation would need a long-term commitment from other countries.

The report came just days after Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen attacked a pair of Saudi oil tankers traveling through the Bab al-Mandab Strait leading to the Red Sea. The waterway is one of the world's busiest shipping routes.

Iranian leaders have also recently threatened to shutter the Strait of Hormuz, through which one-third of the world's oil supply passes as it travels from the Persian Gulf."..."

## Gen. Soleimani: War on Iran means US annihilation

**July 27, 2018** The Islamic Republic News Agency reported: "Commander of the IRGC Quds Force General Qasem Soleimani says war with Iran is synonymous to the US annihilation.



Addressing the US President Donald Trump on Thursday, Soleimani said in a ceremony, held in memory of a group of martyrs, 'We wait for you and we are men of the battlefield. You do know that war is a sign of removal of all your facilities.'

He said, 'Therefore, you should not insult Iranian nation and the president of the country; you should know what you say; ask your ancestors and use their experience.'

He went on announcing, 'Inside the US, there are many think tanks that study and investigate issues to notify their president.'

'Do not threaten us of killing because we are thirsty of martyrdom. Today, you gather the hypocrites and the anti-revolutionaries, that are trashes thrown out by Iranian nation, and you are attached to them.'

'You are committing a big blunder because you do know Iran's potential and power in the region and in many wars.'

Also referring to the US President's recent tweet message that threatened Iran of taking tough reaction, Soleimani said it will not be worthy of the president of the great Islamic country of Iran to give response to Trump whose literature is street talks.

'So, as soldier of this nation, I do respond to him (Trump): Do you threaten us of taking an unprecedented action, whereas the military commanders, policy makers and heads of the CIA and security organizations should be asked what they have done in the past several decades?'

He said when speaking to China, Europe, Russia and the world, one feels a 'gambler' is busy speaking and this means acting against dignity of a nation..."