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Rouhani: The U.S. will be defeated

November 15, 2018 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Wednesday predicted that the United States 'will be defeated' as it has chosen the wrong path in re-imposing sanctions on his country.

'The Americans will definitely be defeated in this path. The path they have chosen is wrong and incorrect,' Rouhani said, according to Reuters. 'If they are being honest and they are looking for regional security, this is not the path. If they are being honest and respect the Iranian people, this is not the path.'

He added, 'They have made themselves more infamous in the world and in front of our people. It's clear for everyone that the incorrect and cruel sanctions of America will harm the dear and honorable people of our country.'

Washington reinstated sanctions targeting Iran's oil industry on November 5. These mark the second round of measures the US has imposed on the Islamic Republic since President Donald Trump withdrew in May from the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers, which he has said is "the worst deal ever negotiated". US National Security Adviser John Bolton has reiterated that more sanctions on Iran could be on the way..."

US could lose in war with China or Russia, panel warns

November 14, 2018 spacedaily.com reported: "The United States is facing a national security and military crisis and could lose in a war against Russia or China, a bipartisan congressional panel warned in a report Wednesday.

Congress had tasked the National Defense Strategy Commission to look at President Donald Trump's sweeping National Defense Strategy (NDS), which highlights a new era of "Great Power competition" with Moscow and Beijing.

The panel, run by a dozen former top Democratic and Republican officials, found that just as the US military faced budget cuts and diminishing military advantages, authoritarian nations like China and Russia are pursuing buildups aimed "at neutralizing US strengths."

"America's military superiority – the hard-power backbone of its global influence and national security – has eroded to a dangerous degree," the commission said.

In their report, the panel found America's focus on counter-insurgency operations this century resulted in it slipping in other warfighting areas such as missile defense, cyber and space operations, and anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare.

"Many of the skills necessary to plan for and conduct military operations against capable adversaries – especially China and Russia – have atrophied," the report states. It lambasts "political dysfunction and decisions made by both major political parties," especially budget control measures implemented in 2011."..."

Islamic State Foreign Fighters Galvanizing Local Jihadis in Philippines

November 14, 2018 Breitbart.com reported: "The growing number of Islamic State (ISIS) jihadis in the Philippines is galvanizing local terrorist groups in the Muslim-majority island of Mindanao into renewing efforts to establish a caliphate in the region, the Guardian reported on Sunday, echoing other assessments.

The Guardian noted, 'The presence of foreign fighters is known to energize and embolden local pro-ISIS groups and there are increasing concerns of a renewed bid to declare a caliphate in Mindanao.'

In October, the Washington Times, citing the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), reported that there are more Islamic State (ISIS/ISIL)-linked foreign fighters in Southeast Asia now, namely in the Mindanao region, than there ever were during the peak of the U.S.-led wars in Afghanistan and Iraq..."

U.S. tells China to remove missile systems in South China Sea

November 13, 2018 atimes.com reported: "China has been warned by the United States to dismantle its missile systems shield deployed in the disputed Spratly Islands chain in the South China Sea.

The move, believed to be the first time Washington has directly addressed the issue, came in a statement following high-level talks at last week's second annual US-China Diplomatic and Security Dialogue. Trade war tensions were expected to dominate the meetings in Washington.

But it was the military buildup in the South China Sea which was brought into sharp focus during discussions between US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis and their opposite numbers, Beijing's leading diplomat Yang Jiechi and Defense Minister General Wei Fenghe.

'The United States called on China to withdraw its missile systems from disputed features in the Spratly Islands, and reaffirmed that all countries should avoid addressing disputes through coercion or intimidation,' the US statement said..."

North Korea 'hiding missile bases', US researchers say

November 13, 2018 spacedaily.com reported: "North Korea is operating at least 13 undeclared bases to hide mobile, nuclear-capable missiles, a new study asserted Monday, as progress stalls on US President Donald Trump's signature foreign policy initiative. Trump has hailed his June summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un as having opened the way to the North's denuclearization, defusing tensions that less than a year ago brought the two countries to the brink of conflict.



Since the summit in Singapore, North Korea has forgone nuclear and missile tests, dismantled a missile test site and promised to also break up the country's main nuclear complex if the US makes concessions. But researchers at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington said they had located 13 missile operating bases that had not been declared by the government, and that there may be as many as 20.

"It's not like these bases have been frozen," Victor Cha, who leads CSIS's North Korea program, told The New York Times, which first reported on the study and headlined its findings as suggesting a "great deception" by Pyongyang.

"Work is continuing," said Cha, who was once in line to be the US ambassador to Seoul. "What everybody is worried about is that Trump is going to accept a bad deal – they give us a single test site and dismantle a few other things, and in return they get a peace agreement."

But the South Korean government and analysts played down the report, saying that the facilities had been known about for years and Pyongyang had never offered to give them up.

The bases are scattered across the country in underground facilities tunneled in narrow mountain valleys, according to the CSIS researchers, and designed for mobile missile launchers to quickly exit and move to previously prepared launch sites."..."

'Iran using nuclear deal to build empire of aggression, terror'

November 12, 2018 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu hit supporters of the 2015 Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, better known as the Iran nuclear deal, during a press briefing in Paris Sunday afternoon, after arriving in the French capital for an event marking the 100th anniversary of the armistice which ended the fighting in the First World War.

In response to questions from reporters at the press briefing, Netanyahu said there could be no long-term solution with the Iranian-backed Hamas terror group, given the organization's explicit backing for the destruction of the State of Israel.

'Hamas is not about to accept the Jewish state. By the way, if it did, there is a solution, there is a vision, there are many possibilities that I think are available. But if your enemy wants to destroy you, then what can you talk about? The method of your annihilation? You can talk about bringing back prisoners, bringing back our fallen soldiers—that you can do. You can talk about humanitarian issues. But you can't have a political resolution with those who are committed to your dissolution, to your destruction. It's absurd.'

Netanyahu also criticized supporters of the Iran nuclear deal, saying the arrangement empowered the Tehran regime to pursue an 'empire of aggression and terror,' with the explicit goal of destroying the Jewish state..."

North and South Korea begin destroying border guard posts

November 12, 2018 spacedaily.com reported: "The two Koreas began destroying 20 guard posts along their heavily-fortified frontier Sunday under a plan to reduce tensions on the border.

Under an agreement made between their generals in late October, North and South Korea agreed to each remove 10 posts and preserve one on either side of the frontier. The militaries on Sunday began destroying the 20 border guard posts in the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Koreas after withdrawing troops and equipment from them, Yonhap news agency reported, citing Seoul's defence ministry.

South Korea has around 60 such posts along the rest of the border while the North has about 160, Yonhap said..."



'World First' – Scottish Schools to Have 'LGBT Equality' Embedded in Curriculum

November 12, 2018 Breitbart.com reported: "The Scottish education system is to become the first in the world where primary and secondary schools are required in the curriculum to promote LGBT identity and lifestyles.

Every state school will have to 'embed' lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex 'equality and inclusion' within 'all levels of the curriculum from early years to senior phase' after the Scottish Government accepted in full the recommendations of a working group headed by LGBT activists.

The move, which was backed by all parties, will see pupils taught about LGBT political history, movements, terminology, and identities as well as 'LGBTI literature and lives' and topics on 'addressing prejudice and homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic bullying'.

According to the report from the working group, which was led by Time for Inclusive Education (TIE), schools will also be required to include representations of sexual minorities 'in ways which seek to deliver understanding and equality' throughout all teaching content.

With the Scottish Qualifications Authority set to develop course materials reflecting the new course content for national qualifications, pupils could be questioned on LGBTI topics during final exams, Herald Scotland reports..."

U.S. and European nations warn Israel liable to attack Lebanon

November 9, 2018 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: A London-based Arab newspaper reports that American and European nations informed Lebanon that Israel will attack the country if the Hezbollah militia continues to develop their long-range missiles.

The Iranian-backed Lebanese Hezbollah has been building factories in the heart of Beirut to convert missiles into highly-accurate precision weapons capable of striking sensitive Israeli sites.

Upon deciding to convert its massive 150,000-strong rocket arsenal to missiles with pinpoint accuracy, Hezbollah chose to transfer its sites to the heart of Beirut in order to deter Israeli airstrikes. Israel has repeatedly reiterated that it will not allow Hezbollah to obtain highly accurate missiles that would threaten sensitive Israeli sites and has been escalating its threats vis a vis Lebanon..."

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