



PROPHETIC TIMES

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Weekly World News Briefs

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San Francisco to paint over historic George Washington mural

July 4, 2019 apnews.com reported: "San Francisco will spend up to \$600,000 to paint over historical artwork at a public school depicting the life of George Washington, a mural once seen as educational and innovative but now criticized as racist and degrading for its depiction of black and Native American people.

The "Life of Washington" was painted by Victor Arnautoff, one of the foremost muralists in the San Francisco area during the Depression. The San Francisco School Board's decision to paint over the 83-year-old mural is prompting some to worry that other artwork from the so-called New Deal era could face a similar fate because of changing sensitivities.

In addition to depicting Washington as a soldier, surveyor and statesman, the 13-panel, 1,600-square foot mural at George Washington High School contains images of white pioneers standing over the body of a Native American and slaves working at Washington's Mount Vernon estate in Virginia.

The board's decision last week comes at a time when the legacies of Washington and other historical figures who owned slaves are being re-examined. Some cities have changed the names of streets and buildings named after slave owners." ..."

Strongest earthquake in 20 years rattles Southern California

July 4, 2019 apnews.com reported: "The strongest earthquake in 20 years shook a large swath of Southern California and parts of Nevada on Thursday, rattling nerves on the July 4th holiday and causing injuries and damage in a town near the epicenter, followed by a swarm of ongoing aftershocks.

The 6.4 magnitude quake struck at 10:33 a.m. in the Mojave Desert, about 150 miles (240 kilometers) northeast of Los Angeles, near the town of Ridgecrest, California.

Multiple injuries and two house fires were reported in the town of 28,000. Emergency crews were also dealing with small vegetation fires, gas leaks and reports of cracked roads, said Kern County Fire Chief David Witt." ..."

Iran trying to 'blackmail' world by violating nuclear deal: Netanyahu

July 3, 2019 spacewar.com reported: "Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday accused Iran of breaching the nuclear deal in order to "blackmail" the international community into relieving economic pressure on the Islamic republic.



"This week Iran openly violated the nuclear deal by increasing the stockpile of enriched uranium (to beyond that) allowed under the deal," Netanyahu said at an early reception in Jerusalem marking the United States' July 4 independence day.

Iran said Monday it had exceeded a limit on its enriched uranium reserves set under a 2015 nuclear deal that has edged towards collapse.

"They're hoping, that regime, that by violating the deal it will be able to blackmail the world into making concessions and reducing the economic pressure on it," Netanyahu said.

"We should do the exact opposite. Now is the time to increase the pressure. Now is the time to stand firm," he added.

Iran's move has been seen as a way of exerting pressure on Europe to try and salvage the deal which has hung by a thread since US President Donald Trump last year withdrew from the accord and reimposed biting sanctions on Tehran.

Repeating remarks, he made the day before, Netanyahu urged Europe on Tuesday to increase pressure on Iran.

"Now is the time for the European powers to follow America's lead and restore sanctions against Iran, just as they promised to do in the United Nations Security Council," he said." ..."

Pentagon: China Missile Test in South China Sea 'Disturbing'

July 3, 2019 voanews.com reported: "The Pentagon said on Tuesday a recent Chinese missile launch in the disputed South China Sea was 'disturbing' and contrary to Chinese pledges that it would not militarize the disputed waterway.

The South China Sea is one of a growing number of flashpoints in the U.S.-China relationship, which include a trade war, U.S. sanctions and Taiwan.

China and the United States have repeatedly traded barbs in the past over what Washington says is Beijing's militarization of the South China Sea by building military installations on artificial islands and reefs.

A U.S. official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said China tested multiple anti-ship ballistic missiles over the weekend..."

What a Space Vacation Deal

July 2, 2019 spacedaily.com reported: "Three weeks ago, NASA announced a new program to entice more commercial activities on the US side of the International Space Station (ISS). Starting in 2020, the station will be open to vacationers and others at a per-night-rate of \$35,000.

While this is the first time the American side of the ISS has been promoted as a high-flying hotel, there have been five tourists who have visited the Russian side of the station, starting with Dennis Tito in 2001. He spent eight days in the ISS.

The hotel room was part of a complete travel package negotiated with the Russians. The total cost was \$20,000,000 including round-trip accommodations on a Soyuz spacecraft. Dennis probably thought this was an expensive trip, but he could afford it.

As it turns out, he had a great deal on the hotel accommodations and the transportation. Today, Dennis would have to pay \$245,000 per week for an "American room" and probably close to \$60,000,000 for the round-trip transport to and from the station.

NASA has specified certain limitations on private sector station visitors. The agency will allow only two short private astronaut missions per year, with a limit on each visit of 30 days. Such visitors must also use US transportation providers such as SpaceX and Boeing." ..."

'If U.S. attacks, Israel will be destroyed in half an hour'

July 2, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A senior Iranian parliamentarian threatened on Monday that Israel will be destroyed in half an hour if the United States attacks Iran, the semi-official Iranian Mehr news agency reported.

Mojtaba Zonnour, Chairman of Iranian Parliament's National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, made the remarks in an interview with the Al-Alam TV network.

'If the US attacks us, only half an hour will remain of Israel's lifespan,' he declared.

Zonnour said that US President Donald Trump's claim that he stopped a retaliatory military strike on Iran 10 minutes before it was set to start was a 'political bluff'.

'If they (the Americans) had predicted their attack would be successful, they would not have cancelled it and it would definitely have happened,' said the Iranian lawmaker, who added that the US president's advisors could see the failure of the attack.

Zonnour further claimed that Iran's power has created deterrence, adding that all 36 US military bases in the region are under Iran's surveillance..."

Trump Meets Kim at DMZ, Crosses Into North Korea

July 1, 2019 voanews.com reported: "U.S. President Donald Trump called his latest meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un 'very productive' and said both countries 'want to get this thing solved.'

'I outlined the incredible prosperity that awaits North Korea when this whole thing gets settled,' Trump told U.S. military personnel at Osan Air Base in South Korea. Trump has repeatedly pointed to potential economic benefits North Korea could experience if it agrees to a deal on its nuclear program. The latest comments came after Trump became the first sitting U.S. president to visit North Korea when he stepped across the border at the demilitarized zone.

After shaking hands with Kim at the Panmunjom border village, Trump walked across the military demarcation line separating the two Koreas. Kim and Trump then crossed the border back into South Korea.

'Good to see you again,' Kim told Trump. 'I never expected to see you in this place.'

'Stepping across that line was a great honor,' said Trump, who invited Kim to the United States for another meeting..."

Jordan criticizes Israel for opening road to the Temple

July 1, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Jordan's Foreign Ministry on Sunday slammed Israel for opening the 2,000-year-old Pilgrims' Road which linked the historic City of David to the Temple Mount.

In a statement quoted by Jordan's official news agency Petra, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sufian Qudah warned that such 'illegal and irresponsible' actions escalate tension.

Qudah underscored Jordan's utter rejection of what he called 'Israeli attempts that seek to alter the identity of the occupied city of Jerusalem, especially the al-Aqsa Mosque and its surroundings.'

Such Israeli actions are 'vile violations' of the international and human law, he said, calling on the international community to assume its moral and political responsibilities in promptly halting these practices and to emphasize the importance of respecting eastern Jerusalem's status as an integral part of the Palestinian territories, which have been under occupation since 1967, in accordance with the international law and resolutions of the international legitimacy..."

Abbas: Eastern Jerusalem is the capital of 'Palestine'

June 28, 2019 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas said on Thursday, in the wake of the economic conference in Bahrain aimed at promoting economic peace, that national rights are not real estate assets that can be bought and sold with money.

Speaking at a press conference in his Ramallah headquarters with the President of Chile, Sebastian Pinera, Abbas said that before achieving a political solution that would guarantee freedom, dignity, independence and justice, 'the Palestinian people' need to implement economic projects that can create stability and security for all, and that is why 'Palestine' did not participate in the economic conference in Bahrain.

Abbas attacked the US administration over its decisions on Jerusalem, the 'settlements', the 'refugees' and security, which, he claimed, proved that the US is incapable of sponsoring the peace process. These decisions, said the PA chairman, encouraged Israel to declare its intention to annex parts of Area C in Judea and Samaria..."



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