



# PROPHETIC TIMES

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## Islamic State group in Nigeria kills 20 soldiers, displaces 1,000 people

*January 9, 2020* jpost.com reported: "About 20 soldiers were killed and nearly 1,000 people made homeless in a militant attack on a town in northeastern Nigeria, two residents and a military source said on Wednesday.

The militants entered Monguno in Borno state posing as a convoy of soldiers on Tuesday evening, the sources said. They then attacked troops inside the town, destroying at least 750 homes in the process.

Resident Gumati Sadu said people fled into the bush for safety during the fighting and that three civilians were killed by stray bullets. A military spokesman declined to comment.

Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) claimed responsibility for the attack on its *Amaq* news agency..."

## 'The Muslims will leave no spot anywhere safe for the Americans'

*January 9, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "IRGC Commander-in-Chief General Hossein Salami spoke at the funeral procession for Qods Force Commander Qasem Soleimani. He said that Iran will exact revenge and that it will be 'hard and severe' and 'the kind of revenge that causes remorse', reported the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

He added that 'the natural outcome of all of this is that the Muslims will leave no spot anywhere safe for the Americans.' General Salami said that the Americans have set all their investments on fire with this 'cowardly assassination'.

General Salami's remarks were met with chants of 'Allahu Akbar!' from the crowd.

General Salami warned Iran's enemies that if they take another step, Iran will set the 'place they love on fire' and in response, the crowd chanted: 'Death to Israel!'..."

## EU 'will spare no efforts' to save Iran deal

*January 9, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "The European Union said on Wednesday it 'will spare no efforts' in its attempts to keep the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers alive, *The Associated Press* reports.



EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said her foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell will continue to work 'in the midterm' to reach out to all participants in the global deal in the hopes that the 2015 agreement can still be saved despite a rollback on commitments from Tehran.

Von der Leyen also reiterated the need to de-escalate the tension in the region, after an Iranian missile attack on two American bases in response to a US strike that killed top Iranian general Qassem Soleimani.

'The use of weapons must stop now to give space for dialogue,' she said, according to *AP*. 'We are called upon to do everything possible to rekindle talks. There cannot be enough of that.'..."

## Iran supreme leader boasts of 'slap in the face' against US

*January 8, 2020* timesofisrael.com reported: "Iran's supreme leader said the US was 'slapped' in the face after the Islamic Republic fired missiles at US troop bases in Iraq overnight Tuesday-Wednesday.

'We slapped them in the face last night,' Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said in a speech broadcast live on state television, adding, 'Military operations do not suffice. It is important to end the US corrupting presence in the region,' an apparent allusion to additional expected attacks by Iran and Iran-backed proxies against US forces in the region.

His remarks to a gathering in Tehran on Wednesday came days after he vowed 'severe revenge' for a US drone strike that killed one of Iran's top military commanders, Quds Force chief Qassem Soleimani, near Baghdad international airport last week..."

## IRGC threatens to attack Israel if US responds to missile attack in Iraq

*January 8, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Iran's Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) on Tuesday night warned the US against 'more provocations' and threatened to attack its allies, including Israel, if Washington retaliates for an Iranian missile attack on bases in Iraq hosting US soldiers.

'We warn the Great Satan, the bloodthirsty and arrogant regime of the US, that any new wicked act or more moves and aggressions (against Iran) will bring about more painful and crushing responses,' the IRGC said in a statement quoted by the *Tasnim* news agency.

'We are warning all US allies who gave their bases to its terrorist army that any territory that in any way becomes the starting point of hostile and aggressive acts against the Islamic Republic of Iran will be targeted,' the statement added.

'We in no way consider the Zionist regime (of Israel) to be separated from the criminal US regime in these crimes,' it said.

The IRGC urged the American people to call for the return of US forces from the region in order to prevent further losses and not to allow the Washington government to put the lives of American troops at risk any more...”

### **US slams Russia, China at UN for failure to condemn Embassy attack**

*January 7, 2020* spacedaily.com reported: “The United States on Monday slammed Russia and China for their failure to condemn an attack last week on its Baghdad embassy by pro-Iranian demonstrators.

While congratulating the 27 of the 193 member nations that did issue statements condemning the December 31 attempt to storm the compound, the US mission to the UN said Russian and Chinese silence undermined the Security Council.

‘Not allowing the United Nations Security Council to issue the most basic of statements underscoring the inviolability of diplomatic and consular premises once again calls the council’s credibility into question,’ the US statement said.

Washington said that voicing support for the 1961 Vienna convention that protects diplomatic missions ‘should not be controversial or warrant courage.’

‘As we have demonstrated, we will not tolerate attacks on US personnel and facilities and will respond decisively to protect our interests, citizens and allies,’ it added...”

### **Iranian official: We’ll turn Tel Aviv and Haifa to dust**

*January 6, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “A former head of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards on Sunday threatened his country would turn the Israeli cities of Haifa and Tel Aviv ‘to dust’ if the US attacks targets in Iran.

‘If America takes any measures after our military response, we will turn Tel Aviv and Haifa to dust,’ Mohsen Rezai, who currently heads the Expediency Council, a top state body, said in a Tweet, according to *AFP*.

His warning came after President Donald Trump warned on Saturday that the US would target 52 sites ‘important to Iran & Iranian culture’ and hit them ‘very fast and very hard’ if the Islamic Republic attacked American personnel or assets.

‘Mr. Trump, you tweeted that you will attack 52 targets in Iran?’ Rezai fired back on Sunday.

‘You have said that you will attack again if Iran gets revenge? Be sure that Iran will turn Haifa and Israel’s centers to dust in a way that Israel would be erased from the face of the earth,’ he warned...”

### **Iraqi parliament passes resolution to end foreign troop presence**

*January 5, 2020* Reuters reported: “The Iraqi parliament called on the government on Sunday to work to end all foreign troop presence as a backlash grew after the killing of a top Iranian military commander and an Iraqi militia leader in a U.S. strike in Baghdad.

A resolution passed by a special session of parliament said the government should cancel its request for assistance from a U.S.-led coalition. Parliament resolutions, unlike laws, are non-binding to the government. But this one is likely to be heeded: Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi had earlier called on parliament to end foreign troop presence as soon as possible.

"Despite the internal and external difficulties that we might face, it remains best for Iraq on principle and practically," Abdul Mahdi said.

The special session was called after a U.S. drone strike on Friday on a convoy at Baghdad airport that killed Iranian military commander Qassem Soleimani and Iraqi militia leader Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis.

Since the killings, rival Shi’ite political leaders have called for U.S. troops to be expelled from Iraq in an unusual show of unity among factions that have squabbled for months.” ...

Many Iraqis, including opponents of Soleimani, have expressed anger at Washington for killing him and Muhandis on Iraqi soil and potentially.”...”

### **Nasrallah vows to avenge Soleimani, Hamas hails his support for ‘resistance’**

*January 3, 2020* timesofisrael.com reported: “Hassan Nasrallah, head of Iran-backed Lebanese terror group Hezbollah on Friday morning mourned Iran’s Quds Force leader Qassem Soleimani as a ‘master of resistance’ after he was killed in a US airstrike in Iraq.

‘To continue on General Soleimani’s path, we’ll raise his flag in all battlefields,’ the Hezbollah-linked Al-Manar website quoted Nasrallah as saying.

‘Meting out the appropriate punishment to these criminal assassins... will be the responsibility and task of all resistance fighters worldwide,’ he said.

Soleimani had close ties with Hezbollah and was heavily involved in its operations. In a rare interview late last year, Soleimani claimed he and Nasrallah escaped an Israeli assassination attempt when Israeli aircraft targeted them in Beirut during the Second Lebanon War in 2006...”



*General Soleimani*