



# PROPHETIC TIMES

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## Turkey to buy additional S-400 missile defense system from Russia

*June 11, 2020* spacewar.com reported: "Turkey will purchase an additional Russian-made S-400 air defense system, the head of Turkey's Defense Industries Administration said.

'We have a basic agreement on the supply of the second batch of the Russian S-400 system, and there are some technical issues regarding transport operations,' Ismail Demir said in a television interview earlier this week. 'Ankara is also interested in proposals to purchase Patriot and Eurosam air defense systems.'

A Turkish official said the sale would go on despite production and delivery issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Turkey received a loan from Russia to partially finance the \$2.5 billion purchase of the S-400 system of ground-to-air armaments. An agreement was signed in December 2017 and the first 'Triumf' missiles and missile launchers arrived in Turkey in July 2019..."



*Russian SR-400 Missile Defense System*

## U.S. jets intercept Russian nuclear-capable bombers off Alaska, NORAD says

*June 10, 2020* cbsnews.com reported: "U.S. fighter jets intercepted Russian bombers twice on Wednesday off the coast of Alaska, the North American Aerospace Defense Command said Wednesday. The intercepts come less than two weeks after U.S. bombers were met by Russian jets over the Black Sea.

NORAD said US F-22 Raptors intercepted a Russian bomber formation early Wednesday that came within 20 nautical miles of the Alaskan coast. NORAD posted images of the incident on Twitter.

The formation consisted of two TU-95 bombers, two SU-35 fighter jets and an A-50 airborne early warning and control aircraft, NORAD said. The second formation consisted of two TU-95 bombers and an A-50 and came within 32 nautical miles of Alaskan shores.

The RIA news agency, citing the Russian defense ministry. Reported that the 11-hour flight, carried out by its nuclear capable bombers, complied with international law." ..."

## Iran preparing for confrontation with US?

*June 10, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: *Israel National News* reports: "As tensions remain high between Iran and the US, the Islamic Republic appears to have constructed a new mock-up of an aircraft carrier off its southern coast for potential live-fire drills, *The Associated Press* reported on Tuesday.

The faux foe, seen in satellite photographs obtained by AP, resembles the Nimitz-class carriers that the US Navy routinely sails into the Persian Gulf from the Strait of Hormuz, the passageway where 20% of all the world's oil passes through.

While not yet acknowledged by Iranian officials, the replica's appearance in the port city of Bandar Abbas suggests Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard is preparing an encore of a similar mock-sinking it conducted in 2015.

It also comes as Iran announced Tuesday it will execute a man it accused of sharing details on the movements of the Guard's Gen. Qassem Soleimani, whom the US eliminated in a January drone strike in Baghdad..."

## North Korea halts all communications with South in row over leafleting

*June 9, 2020* bbc.com reported: "North Korea has said it will cut off all inter-Korean communication lines with the South, including a hotline between the two nations' leaders.

The North said this was the first in a series of actions, describing South Korea as 'the enemy'. Daily calls, which have been made to a liaison office located in the North Korean border city of Kaesong, will cease from Tuesday.

The two states had set up the office to reduce tensions after talks in 2018. North and South Korea are technically still at war because no peace agreement was reached when the Korean War ended in 1953.

North Korea 'will completely cut off and shut down the liaison line between the authorities of the North and the South, which has been maintained through the North-South joint liaison office... from 12:00 on 9 June 2020,' the *Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)* report said. Military communication channels will also be cut, North Korea said..."

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## A Crash in the Dollar Is Coming

*June 8, 2020* yahoo.com reported: “The era of the U.S. dollar’s “exorbitant privilege” as the world’s primary reserve currency is coming to an end. Then French Finance Minister Valéry Giscard d’Estaing coined that phrase in the 1960s largely out of frustration, bemoaning a U.S. that drew freely on the rest of the world to support its over-extended standard of living. For almost 60 years, the world complained but did nothing about it. Those days are over.



Already stressed by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, U.S. living standards are about to be squeezed as never before. At the same time, the world is having serious doubts about the once widely accepted presumption of American exceptionalism. Currencies set the equilibrium between these two forces — domestic economic fundamentals and foreign perceptions of a nation’s strength or weakness. The balance is shifting, and a crash in the dollar could well be in the offing.

The seeds of this problem were sown by a profound shortfall in domestic U.S. savings that was glaringly apparent before the pandemic. In the first quarter of 2020, net national saving, which includes depreciation-adjusted saving of households, businesses and the government sector, fell to 1.4% of national income. This was the lowest reading since late 2011 and one-fifth the average of 7% from 1960 to 2005.

Lacking in domestic saving, and wanting to invest and grow, the U.S. has taken great advantage of the dollar’s role as the world’s primary reserve currency and drawn heavily on surplus savings from abroad to square the circle. But not without a price. In order to attract foreign capital, the U.S. has run a deficit in its current account — which is the broadest measure of trade because it includes investment — every year since 1982.”...

### Iran prepares to confront Israel in Syria via Hezbollah

*June 8, 2020* jpost.com reported: “Iran may be preparing for conflict with Israel in Syria and no longer will accept Israeli airstrikes on its warehouses without a response, a report over the weekend suggested. Veteran journalist Elijah Magnier wrote on the website Medium about whether the ‘great Middle Eastern war will begin in the Levant’ and cited Syria as a potential flashpoint.

Magnier’s report is interesting because he asserts that according to ‘private’ sources, Iran is evacuating ‘sites of the gatherings of its advisers, not for withdrawal or for redeployment, but to find bases within the Syrian Army barracks. Hezbollah has taken over the vacated Iranian buildings. Russia has been informed of the change so that the information would reach Israel.’

In mid-May, reports emerged that Iran might be withdrawing some of its forces from Syria, estimated at some 1,000 IRGC personnel. But analysts and US officials rejected this assessment at the time.

The June 6 piece by Magnier provides another view as to what may be happening: ‘Iran no longer wants to accept Israeli strikes on its warehouses without any response.’

An airstrike killed nine Iranian-backed forces in Syria, *Radio Farda* reported over the weekend. This report also said there were explosions near Masyaf, a Syrian-regime and Iranian facility that has been hit by airstrikes in the past. That airstrike may have taken place on June 4...”

### Despite Israeli strikes, Iranian forces massing on Syrian border

*June 8, 2020* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “Multiple drones reportedly belonging to the Israeli Air Force (IAF) carried out a new series of airstrikes against Iranian-backed militias in the area of Deir Ez-Zur in eastern Syria over the weekend.

The London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) reported that a total of 8 airstrikes targeted the Afghan Liwa Fatemiyoun militia which was transferred to Syria on orders of Qassem Soleimani, the assassinated commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps.

The attack, which killed 12 Afghan militia members took place just before midnight on Sunday evening and destroyed recent fortifications and Iranian weapon deliveries to the bases of Liwa Fatemiyoun in the Deir Ez-Zur Province.

Although the IAF kept mum on the strikes, Rami Abdul Rahman, the director of SOHR, said he was confident Israel was responsible for the bombardment.

The incident on Sunday evening came just three days after Israeli warplanes used missiles to destroy another Iranian facility in west Syria in the vicinity of the city of Masyaf...”

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