



PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

Weekly Reader of World News

August 29, 2020

China: U.S. 'walking on thin ice' with spy plane flight

August 27, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "Chinese experts warned that the United States military is 'walking on thin ice' by allowing one of its U-2 spy planes to trespass into a no-fly zone over Chinese live-fire military drills, calling the move extremely provocative and prone to misjudgement.



On Tuesday, a Lockheed U-2 high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft trespassed into the no-fly zone that is hosting a live fire drill by the People's Liberation Army Northern Theater Command, Senior Colonel Wu Qian, spokesman of the Ministry of National Defense, said in a statement on Tuesday.

Wu said the trespass had 'seriously disrupted China's regular training activities' and violated China-US maritime and flight safety codes and international norms.

'The incident could very easily lead to misunderstanding and misjudgment, and may even lead to an accident,' he said. 'It is also a blatant provocation that China resolutely opposes.'

Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said in a news briefing on Wednesday that China resolutely opposes the US trespass and urged the US to immediately stop such provocative acts..."

Indian troops armed with Russian portable SAMs deployed near China border

August 26, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "Relations between the Asian powers worsened dramatically in June, after Indian and Chinese troops engaged in deadly melee combat in a disputed area in the Galwan River Valley situated between Ladakh, India and China's Tibet Autonomous Region.

Indian troops armed with Russian-made Igla portable shoulder-launched air defence systems have been deployed near the Line of Actual Control in Eastern Ladakh amid alleged Chinese helicopter flights along the disputed border area, Asia News International has reported, citing unnamed sources.

'Indian troops armed with Russian-origin Igla air defence system have been deployed on the crucial heights along the border to take care of any enemy aircraft trying to violate Indian air space here,' one of the sources said.

In addition to the portable surface to air missile systems, India is also said to have deployed radar and other air defences amid claims that a number of Chinese military helicopters had attempted to enter Indian territory near areas including Galwan Valley and Patrolling Point 14..."

UN Security Council rejects US request to restore Iran sanctions

August 26, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "The president of the UN Security Council on Tuesday rejected the Trump administration's demand to restore all UN sanctions on Iran, *The Associated Press* reports.

Indonesia's ambassador to the UN, Dian Triansyah Djani, whose country currently holds the rotating council presidency, made the announcement in response to requests from Russia and China to disclose results of his polling of the views of all 15 council members on the US action.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced on Thursday that Washington started the process to restore all pre-2015 UN sanctions against Iran. The move to activate the 'snapback' came after the UN Security Council rejected the US resolution to extend the arms embargo on Iran, which is due to expire in October.

All the council members, except the Dominican Republic, had informed the council president that the US administration's action was illegal because President Donald Trump withdrew from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA, in 2018..."

US Japan to build network of missile-intercepting satellites

August 24, 2020 spacewar.com reported: "The United States and Japan are to jointly build a network of small satellites capable of detecting new missiles, as Tokyo warns of increasing threats from North Korea.

The purpose of the satellites would be to complement the currently existing system of missile defense, which includes Japan's PAC-3 missile interceptors, the Nikkei reported Wednesday.

Tokyo is growing increasingly wary of North Korean weapons development. In July Japan's defense ministry said North Korea could have perfected the capability to miniaturize nuclear warheads.

China's rising military expenditure and weapons development could be posing new threats. For 2020, China's defense expenditures were up 6.6% from 2019. A total of 2,000 Chinese intermediate-range missiles, capable of reaching Japanese territory, are expected to be in deployment. China could also double the number of nuclear warheads in its arsenal within a decade, the report says.

North Korea is also estimated to have hundreds of medium-range missiles. North Korea, China and Russia are believed to be developing missiles that can break through the current U.S.-Japan system of missile defense, according to the Nikkei.

The U.S. and Japanese militaries are keeping a close watch on the development of hypersonic weapons under way in China and Russia. These missiles are difficult to intercept with conventional satellites and can change course unpredictably and quickly.

The Japanese report on satellite networks comes after the U.S. Space Development Agency released a draft request for proposals, seeking a contractor to build eight satellites with infrared sensors to track hypersonic weapons, according to C4ISRNET, a U.S. online military tech publication in May.” ...”

U.S. says France, Britain ‘abdicating duty’ on Iran

August 24, 2020 spacewar.com reported: “The US accused China and allies Britain and France Friday of ‘abdicating their duty’ as it held firm on its solitary push to maintain an arms embargo and restore broader UN sanctions on Iran.



‘We don’t need anybody’s permission to initiate snapback,’ Brian Hook, the State Department’s Special Representative for Iran, told reporters, referring to the mechanism activated by Washington on Thursday to restore sanctions.

‘Iran is in violation of its voluntary nuclear commitments. The conditions have been met to initiate snapback.’

Hook said the lack of support from any other members of the UN Security Council for the move was moot, and that they had ‘failed’ a week ago by not extending a soon-to-expire arms embargo on Iran as urged by the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council.

‘China and Russia and France and the United Kingdom decided to ignore the views of the Gulf Cooperation Council,’ Hook said...”

IDF prepares for escalation as Hamas threatens Israel

August 21, 2020 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “The IDF is increasing its presence in southern Israel Friday and preparing for a new round of fighting with terrorists operating out of the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip, after Hamas warned Israel it is prepared for an expanded conflict.

Israeli aircraft struck multiple Hamas targets in the Gaza Strip Friday morning, after seven rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip towards Israeli territory Thursday night.

In addition, dozens of fires broke out in Israeli territory near the border with Gaza Thursday, after terrorists operating in the Gaza Strip launched a number of incendiary devices attached to balloons.

Following the latest round of fighting, Fawzi Barhoum, a spokesman for the Hamas terror group said Friday morning that Hamas ‘would not hesitate to battle the Zionist enemy if the escalation continues’. Israel, Barhoum continued, needs to understand that if the attacks continue to destroy our positions, [Israel] will bear the cost and will pay a heavy price.’

Channel 13 cited Palestinian Arab sources which claimed that the rockets fired Thursday night were launched after Egypt warned Hamas against further escalations, and were intended to signal Hamas’ willingness to expand the conflict...”

Government demands \$20,000 fine against church that held worship

August 21, 2020 wnd.com reported: “Los Angeles County is moving to hold John MacArthur’s Grace Community Church in contempt of court and be fined a total of \$20,000 for holding a worship service Sunday in defiance of a court order.

The church, like many across the nation, argues government officials are violating the First Amendment by restricting religious meetings while allowing similar gatherings, such as protests of the death of George Floyd.

L.A. County officials contend the church’s actions last Sunday constitute four separate violations of a temporary restraining order and a Court of Appeal order. The court, therefore, they say, should issue \$1,000 fines for each of eight acts of alleged contempt and an additional \$1,500 fine for each of eight alleged violations of court orders.”...”

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck

UCG Minister

<ljt5053@sbcglobal.net>