



# PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

July 24, 2021

## China's experimental space plane aces test flight

*July 22, 2021* spacedaily.com reported: "China's reusable aerospace plane, which was tested on Friday, offers great potential in a wide range of businesses, according to industry observers.

'It will be able to do many different things: space tourism, transporting astronauts, satellite deployment, cargo transportation and emergency rescues,' said Wang Yanan, editor-in-chief of Aerospace Knowledge magazine.

'Compared to rockets and space shuttles, this new vehicle is lower cost, requires less preparation and is more flexible. It will also permit ordinary people to take short trips into space or make ultrafast intercontinental journeys at an affordable price.'

Wang said that once the new craft enters service, it will greatly reduce the complexity and cost of space missions, likely making space tourism as easy and convenient as flying..."

## Erdogan Pushes for Turkish Role in Afghanistan after US Leaves

*July 22, 2021* voanews.com reported: "Turkey is going ahead with its plans to take over security at the Kabul international airport after the pullout of U.S. troops, despite opposition from the Taliban. Ankara is in negotiations with Washington to secure the airport, which analysts say is key to maintaining stability and an international presence..."

The Taliban has warned Turkey of severe consequences if its military remains in Afghanistan when other foreign forces pull out, but Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in remarks this week, appeared to play down those threats and indicated negotiations would continue. Erdogan says whether, at the level of the foreign ministry or at his level, Turkey is trying to see what kind of talks it can hold with the Taliban and where these talks can take them.

Ankara is banking on its historical ties with Afghanistan and its status as NATO's only predominantly Muslim member to help ease Taliban opposition..."

## Muslims arriving at Temple Mount to mark Eid al-Adha...promise to 'sacrifice their lives' for Al Aqsa Mosque

*July 20, 2021* Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Nearly 100,000 Muslims arrived...at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, to pray at Al Aqsa Mosque. Tuesday marks the first day of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha. Some of the worshipers chanted calls against Israel, adding, 'We will sacrifice our lives for the sake of Al Aqsa.'



In addition, signs were hung near the mosques, expressing support for the Hamas terror organization, with the words, 'We are the men of Mohammed Deif,' and 'The sword of Jerusalem will free the prisoners.'

Israel Police has increased its presence on the Temple Mount and in Jerusalem's Old City, due to concerns of violent riots..."

## UK warns China as dispatches carrier group to Japan

*July 21, 2021* spacewar.com reported: "Britain announced Tuesday its most powerful navy task force in a generation will visit five ports in Japan, warning China against any threats to freedom of navigation in the region's tense seas. A strike group of Royal Navy ships spearheaded by the giant new aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth is en route to the Asia-Pacific region.

After exercises with allied navies, it will pay visits to five Japanese ports in September, officials said during a visit by Defence Secretary Ben Wallace to Tokyo. In addition, the offshore patrol vessels HMS Spey and HMS Tamar will start a permanent deployment to the region next month, supported by ships from Australia, Japan and Singapore.

China claims sovereignty over most of the South China Sea, angering its regional neighbours and triggering protests further afield including from the US government..."

## China threatens to nuke Japan over Taiwan in video played on CCP-sanctioned channel

*July 20, 2021* foxnews.com reported: "The Chinese Communist Party aired a video in which it warned Japan of a nuclear response and 'full-scale war' if the island nation interferes in China's handling of Taiwan. The video, which appeared on

---

---

a channel approved by the CCP, singles out Japan as the one exception to China's policy to not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear powers.

'We will use nuclear bombs first,' the video said. 'We will use nuclear bombs continuously. We will do this until Japan declares unconditional surrender for the second time.'..."

### **Ra'am declares Temple Mount 'sole property of Muslims'**

*July 19, 2021* ynetnews.com reported: "The Islamic Movement and its political wing, the Ra'am Party, criticized Sunday the government's decision to allow Jewish worshippers to visit the Temple Mount and the Al-Asqa Mosque complex on Tisha B'Av.

'The Al-Aqsa Mosque, in its 144 dunams [35 acres], is solely the property of Muslims, and no one else has any right to it,' the Islamist party said in response to the ascent of hundreds of Jewish worshipers to the site where the Second Temple stood before its fall by the Roman Empire.

According to the status quo, the Waqf — the Jordanian Islamic religious authority — has responsibility for the site, which has been in force since Israel decided to not assert its rights over the compound after capturing it in the 1967 Six-Day War.

Any Jewish presence at what is Judaism's holiest site is usually considered a 'provocation' and a convenient reason to begin unrest..."

### **China is buying up American farms. Washington wants to crack down**

*July 19, 2021* politico.com reported: "The push to drain China's influence from the U.S. economy has reached America's farm country, as congressional lawmakers from both parties are looking at measures to crack down on foreign purchases of prime agricultural real estate.

House lawmakers recently advanced legislation to that effect, warning that China's presence in the American food system poses a national security risk. And key Senate lawmakers have already shown interest in efforts to keep American farms in American hands.

The debate over farm ownership comes amid broader efforts by Congress and the Biden administration to curb the nation's economic reliance on China, especially in key industries like food, semiconductors and minerals deemed crucial to the supply chain. The call for tighter limits on who owns America's farms has come from a wide range of political leaders, from former Vice President Mike Pence to Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), after gaining momentum seeded in farm states.

"America cannot allow China to control our food supply," Pence said... during a speech at the conservative Heritage Foundation, urging President Joe Biden and Congress to "end all farm subsidies for land owned by foreign nationals."

Chinese firms have expanded their presence in American agriculture over the last decade by snapping up farmland and purchasing major agribusinesses, like pork processing giant Smithfield Foods. By the start of 2020, Chinese owners controlled about 192,000 agricultural acres in the U.S., worth \$1.9 billion, including land used for farming, ranching and forestry, according to the Agriculture Department.

Still, that's less than farmland owned by people from other nations like Canada and European countries, which account for millions of acres each. It's also a small percentage of the nearly 900 million acres of total American farmland. But it's the trend of increasing purchases and the buyers' potential connections to the Chinese government that have lawmakers spooked." ..."

### **Video Shows Iranian Police Opening Fire During Water Protest**

*July 19, 2021* voanews.com: "Iranian police opened fire late Sunday night amid protests against water shortages in southwestern Iran, a video showed, the latest unrest after days of demonstrations that have seen at least one person killed. The video from the Human Rights Activists News Agency by Human Rights Activists in Iran showed the shooting in Susangerd, which has been an epicenter of demonstrations in Iran's restive Khuzestan province.

A police officer fires into the air with a pistol and at least one other shot can be heard in the footage. Riot police on motorcycles race around a corner, firing at the protesters.

The video corresponded to other *Associated Press* reporting of the demonstrations in Khuzestan, home to ethnic Arabs who complain of discrimination by Iran's Shiite theocracy. The video also matched known features of Susangerd and the protest depicted took place where other demonstrations occurred in recent days..."



**Compiled by L. Jim Tuck**

*UCG Minister*

[<ljt5053@sbcglobal.net>](mailto:ljt5053@sbcglobal.net)