



PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

August 14, 2021

'Be Prepared for Persecution,' American Evangelist Warns Following Arrest for Preaching Against Homosexuality in London
August 12, 2021 christianheadlines.com reports: "An American evangelist who was recently arrested in London for preaching against homosexuality is warning the church of growing religious persecution, including the suppression of free speech."

Ryan Schiavo, who leads Last Days Pulpit Ministry, was arrested in London on July 22 for preaching that homosexuality is a sin. Schiavo is an American pastor who often travels to London to minister to the British youth in the public square. At the time of the arrest, Schiavo was preaching the Gospel while also addressing additional topics such as homosexuality and transgenderism..."

Pro-interfaith Norwegian imam said Jews should be killed

August 11, 2021 jpost.com reported: "A Muslim imam in Norway who has led interfaith dialogue projects has made antisemitic statements on Facebook, including on how Jews are dangerous and 'should be killed,' for years."

The Norway branch of Minhaj-ul-Quran, an international Muslim organization that is considered moderate and geared toward outreach, suspended Noor Ahmad Noor indefinitely on Monday following an expose published last week by the *Vartland* newspaper on his antisemitic statements. Noor had served for years as the branch's director.

Police have launched an investigation into his remarks. In one post from 2019, Noor wrote that Jews 'put the world in danger' and it is 'necessary to kill them.'..."

France, Italy Impose Strict Covid-19 Vaccine Mandate

August 10, 2021 wsj.com reported: "Julien Zerbos turned away some would-be diners on Monday from the brasserie on Paris's Champs-Élysées where he works because they didn't have the European Union's new digital health certificate."

France began requiring the passes, which certify that somebody has been vaccinated against Covid-19, on Monday for people seeking to dine at a restaurant, whether indoors or outdoors. The pass is now also necessary to take domestic flights and long-distance busses and trains. France already made the pass mandatory last month for a host of other activities such as entrance to museums, pools, gyms and large sports events.

"Some customers say they got the vaccine but didn't come with the health pass, and we have to say sorry, we cannot accept you," said Mr. Zerbos, who works as a host at Fouquet's in Paris. "We can get in serious trouble if we accept someone without the health pass."

Italy also made the digital health pass mandatory for a range of activities last Friday, although the unvaccinated can still dine at restaurants if they sit outdoors. The certificates, known as the green pass in Italy and health pass in France, display a personal QR code that shows if a person is vaccinated, has recovered from Covid-19..."

France and Italy are at the forefront of a European trend toward rules that effectively separate populations into the vaccinated and the unvaccinated, and that make the resumption of normal daily life easier for the former. Governments are hoping that the new rules will push more people to get vaccinated and tamp down the spread of the highly contagious Delta variant, preventing a return to lockdowns later this year.

In the U.S., some cities and states have begun imposing similar restrictions as they try to coexist with the virus. New York City will require proof of vaccination for customers and workers at restaurants and gyms next week, although inspections and enforcement won't begin until September.

The EU's digital certificates have existed since July 1, but most governments have only begun making them mandatory recently for activities other than cross-border travel. The rules differ across the continent and sometimes within countries.

In Germany, health-pass requirements vary from region to region based on local infection rates. In Berlin, for example, proof of vaccination, immunity or a recent negative test is needed to dine indoors or go to the gym."..."

Russia, China hold large-scale joint military drills

August 10, 2021 Reuters reported: "Russia and China are holding a large-scale joint military exercise in north-central China involving more than 10,000 troops, Russia's defence ministry said on Tuesday."

The Sibiu/Cooperation-2021 drills in China's Ningxia region are being watched for signs that China and Russia are expanding military cooperation as they spar with the West.

Russia's Kommersant newspaper said the drills taking place until Friday marked the first time Russian soldiers would use Chinese weapons. Russia and China have conducted drills since 2005.

Moscow sent Sukhoi Su-30SM fighter aircraft, motorised rifle units and air defence systems to the exercise that was focused on counter-terrorism, the defence ministry said in a statement.

The drills come as the Taliban has gained ground in Afghanistan where security has deteriorated as the United States withdraws its troops after two decades of war, creating a security headache for Moscow.” ...”

EU: Iran clearly behind attack on tanker

August 9, 2021 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “The European Union on Sunday blamed Iran for the recent attack on an Israeli-managed tanker off the coast of Oman, in which two people were killed.

EU foreign minister Josep Borrell said in a statement that the EU ‘condemns in the strongest terms the unlawful attack committed on the merchant vessel Mercer Street, off Masirah Island in Oman, on 29 July.’

‘There is no justification for this attack which killed a Romanian as well as a British citizen. We offer our condolences to their families and friends and express our full solidarity with the affected member state,’ he said...”

Nasrallah: Clashes with Israel ‘very dangerous’

August 9, 2021 jpost.com reported: “Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah warned on Saturday night that recent clashes with Israel are a ‘very dangerous development’ which has not happened since the Second Lebanon War, a day after Hezbollah fired about 20 rockets towards Israel and the IDF responded with 40 artillery shells towards open areas in southern Lebanon.

Nasrallah delivered the speech, announced days before the rocket fire, on the 15th anniversary of the Second Lebanon War. The Hezbollah leader stated that the rockets fired by the terrorist group were in response to what he called the first direct Israeli raids on southern Lebanon in the past 15 years, adding that Hezbollah targeted open areas because Israel targeted open areas in its strikes in Lebanon...”

‘Don’t test us’: Iran warns Israel against military action

August 6, 2021 ynetnews.com reported: “Iran’s foreign ministry on Thursday warned arch-foe Israel not to take military action against the Islamic republic after it threatened Tehran over a deadly tanker attack.

‘In another brazen violation of Int’l law, Israeli regime now blatantly threatens Iran with military action,’ ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh said on Twitter.

The MT Mercer Street, managed by prominent Israeli billionaire Eyal Ofer, was attacked off Oman last week.

A British security guard and a Romanian crew member were killed in what the United States, Britain and the vessel’s operator Zodiac Maritime said appeared to be a drone strike.

Khatibzadeh’s comments came after Defense Minister Benny Gantz earlier on Thursday called Iran a threat to the country, the Middle East and the entire world and warned that Israel was prepared to take action to counter it...”

Gantz: Iran is a global problem, Israel prepared to act

August 6, 2021 ynetnews.com reported: “Defense Minister Benny Gantz on Thursday called Iran a threat to the country, the Middle East and the entire world and warned that Israel was prepared to take action to counter it.

‘Iran seeks to pose a multi-front challenge to Israel, as such is building up its forces in Lebanon and Gaza, deploying militias in Syria and Iraq and maintaining its supporters in Yemen. Iran is a global and regional problem and an Israeli challenge,’ Gantz told Ynet.

‘We need to continue to develop our abilities to cope with multiple fronts, for this is the future,’ he said.

‘We know that when the Islamic Jihad faction in Gaza launches attacks against Israel, they do so with the support and urging of the Islamic Republic,’ the defense minister said...”



Saeed Khatibzadeh

Compiled by L. Jim Tuck

UCG Minister

<ljt5053@sbcglobal.net>