



PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

October 23, 2021

Drone attack targeting US forces reported in Syria

October 21, 2021 jpost.com reported: “An attack aimed at Tanf, a lonely outpost in Syria near the Jordanian and Iraqi border, was reported on Wednesday night. There were no casualties, according to a statement by US officials.

According to *BBC* correspondent Nafiseh Kohnavard, there was a ‘drone attack on US troops in Al Tanf, Syria.’ She noted that local forces said the drone came from the Iraq-Syria border area. Other reports online said the attack may have been done with rockets, not drones, though US officials confirmed it was a drone attack.

Pro-Iranian groups have increasingly used drones to target US forces in Iraq— including at the airport in Erbil— as well as Al-Asad base and US forces based in Syria. The drones were likely manufactured in Iran and trafficked to Iraq, though some of them may also be constructed in Iraq. Iran has exported drone blueprints and technology to Yemen, Gaza and Lebanon, and to pro-Iranian groups in Syria and Iraq...”

PA warns against continued construction in ‘settlements’

October 20, 2021 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: “Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas on Tuesday convened the Executive Committee of the Fatah movement at Abbas’ headquarters in Ramallah.

Speaking at the meeting, Abbas said that the Palestinians would not remain silent forever in light of the ‘stubbornness of the Israeli occupation’ and its opposition to adhering to the written agreements.

Abbas added that the options for action will remain open to the Palestinian people and its leadership, which will not allow the infringement of Palestinian rights and fundamental principles...”



PA Chairman Mahmoud Abbas

Russia closes NATO missions as ties plunge to new low

October 20, 2021 spacewar.com reported: “Russia said Monday it was suspending its mission to NATO and closing the alliance’s offices in Moscow, as relations with the Western military bloc plunged to new depths.

Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov announced the moves after NATO expelled several members of Moscow’s delegation to the alliance for alleged spying.

‘Following certain measures taken by NATO, the basic conditions for common work no longer exist,’ Lavrov told reporters in Moscow.

Moscow was suspending the work of its official mission to NATO in Brussels, including its military representative, from around November 1, he added.

Russia was also shutting down the alliance’s liaison mission in the Belgian embassy in Moscow, set up in 2002, and the NATO information office set up in 2001 to improve understanding between NATO and Russia...”

Germany ‘vehemently condemns’ North Korea missile test

October 20, 2021 spacewar.com reported: “Germany said Wednesday it ‘vehemently condemns’ the test of a new type of submarine-launched ballistic missile by North Korea.

‘With this test, North Korea has once again violated its obligations under relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and endangered international and regional security and stability,’ a spokesman for the foreign ministry said in a statement.

The test, carried out on Tuesday near Sinpo, the site of a major naval dockyard, came as both Koreas build up their weapons technology in what could become an arms race on the peninsula, and with Washington-Pyongyang dialogue at a standstill.

Recent missile tests by North Korea had ‘raised political tensions in an irresponsible manner’, the spokesman said...”

Bangladesh: Muslim Mobs Kill Six over Alleged Quran Desecration

October 20, 2021 breitbart.com reported: “Muslim mob attacks across Bangladesh have killed at least six people, including four Hindus, after sparking last Friday in response to an image posted to social media allegedly depicting the

desecration of Islam's holy book, the Quran, during a recent Hindu festival, the *Press Trust of India (PTI)* reported Tuesday.

Hundreds of Muslims in Bangladesh participated in violent protests starting on October 15 after video footage began circulating online that allegedly showed a copy of the Quran being placed at the feet of a Hindu statue. The unverified footage was allegedly filmed during celebrations for an annual Hindu festival known as Durga Puja in Bangladesh's eastern district of Cumilla sometime last week, as the holiday's main days lasted from October 11 through October 15 this year.

The allegedly blasphemous video footage outraged hundreds of Muslims in Bangladesh, who took to the streets — first in Cumilla and then across a dozen other districts — seeking revenge on the country's minority Hindus. Islam is the state religion of Bangladesh, where 90 percent of the country's population of over 170 million are Muslim. Less than nine percent of people in Bangladesh are Hindu..."

Israel said to approve \$1.5 billion budget for potential strike on Iran

October 19, 2021 timesofisrael.com reported: "Israel has approved a budget of some 5 billion shekels (\$1.5 billion) to be used to prepare the military for a potential strike against Iran's nuclear program, *Channel 12* reported Monday.

The NIS 5 billion budget is made up of NIS 3 billion from the previous budget and an additional NIS 2 billion from the next budget slated to be approved by the government in November,

It includes funds for various types of aircraft, intelligence-gathering drones and unique armaments needed for such an attack, which would have to target heavily fortified underground sites, the unsourced report said.

The report comes days after the US Air Force announced that it had carried out a successful test of its new 'bunker buster,' the GBU-72 Advanced 5K Penetrator. The 5,000-pound bomb could be used as a tool to strike Iranian nuclear sites.

Crucially, the GBU-72 is designed to be carried by a fighter jet or a heavy bomber. Israel does not have bombers capable of carrying the massive bunker busters in the current US arsenal..."

China Stuns U.S. Intelligence with Hypersonic Missile Test

October 18, 2021 breitbart.com reported: "U.S. intelligence agencies were caught by surprise when China secretly tested a nuclear-capable low-orbit hypersonic missile in August, the *Financial Times* reported Saturday. The weapon circled the globe before descending upon its target, missing by about two dozen miles.

The Pentagon is aware China has been working on hypersonic weapons technology and other advanced missile systems, unburdened by any of the arms control treaties that impede competing programs in the United States and Russia, but the August test — conducted without advance notice, warning, or publication — reportedly stunned analysts who thought the Chinese were much further behind in the orbital arms race.



'We have no idea how they did this,' said one of the *Financial Times*' U.S. intelligence sources. Others described China's progress as 'astounding' and 'far more advanced than U.S. officials realized.'..."

PA Mufti warns against harming Al-Aqsa

October 18, 2021 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Sheikh Muhammad Hussein, the Mufti of 'Palestine', is calling on the Arab and Islamic world to protect the Al-Aqsa Mosque and prevent Israel from equalizing the status quo.

In a Friday sermon at the Al-Aqsa Mosque attended by about 45,000 people, Sheikh Hussein, as quoted by the Hamas-affiliated newspaper *Felesteen*, said that the site of Muhammad's ascension to heaven (which according to Islamic tradition is the Western Wall) suffers from 'injustice' and 'violence' used against it by the 'occupation'.

He warned the 'occupation' of trying to undermine the Islamic nature of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, saying it would lead to a loss of security..."

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