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Israel arms up for a possible strike in Iran

December 2, 2021 ynetnews.com reported: "Israel is very pessimistic regarding the nuclear talks between Iran and world powers in Vienna which were renewed this week, and an official document shows the country is preparing to spend some five billion shekels on weaponry.

Jerusalem, as well as the IDF, are seriously preparing for the possibility that Israel will be left alone in the face of the Iranian nuclear threat. The possible strike in Iran seems closer than ever, although there is still time, and military and diplomatic limitations to overcome.

Nevertheless, the Israel Defense Force prepares for the possible strike, mostly by training the Israeli Air Force (IAF) and intelligence gathering. However, it turns out that the ministerial committee in charge of military equipment, convened Sunday, and confirmed, along with Defense Minister Benny Gantz, the acquisition of 12 new CH-53K King Stallion helicopters, and additional stock of missiles for the Iron Dome.

The Americans also approved Israel's request for purchasing classified bombs and precision weapons for the IAF a few months ago at an estimated cost of one billion dollars. And according to an official document, classified as 'top secret', the total cost of these purchases is estimated at around five billion shekels.

Other military means will be provided by Israel's security industries in two additional deals, and these deals stress the seriousness of the Iranian issue for Israel..."

Iran threatens US: 'Days US could do as it pleased are over'

December 2, 2021 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "The Islamic Revolutionary Guard's Quds Force Commander has directly threatened the US, *Kan News* reported. According to the report, the Iranian warned the US that, 'Iran has developed power and capability. The days when the US could do as it wished ended a long time ago.'

Iran International quoted Commander Esmail Ghaani as warning the US not to move even slightly, or 'your teeth will be crushed in your mouth.'

'We are telling the Americans you have still time to leave the region in humiliation, or you will be expelled in a manner worse than Afghanistan,' he added. 'The time when you did whatever you wished, and no one could say anything is over. The time of hit and run is over. Now if you hit you will be hit back all the way to the end.'..."

US-China hypersonic weapons 'arms race' is underway, Air Force chief says

December 1, 2021 foxnews.com reported: "The U.S. Air Force affirmed Tuesday that a hypersonic weapons 'arms race' is well underway between the United States and China. Secretary Frank Kendall told *Reuters*, 'There is an arms race, not necessarily for increased numbers, but for increased quality.'

'It's an arms race that has been going on for quite some time,' he said. 'The Chinese have been at it very aggressively.'

Kendall's comments came weeks after Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley confirmed that China had conducted tests of its hypersonic weapons systems over the summer, likening it to the 'Sputnik moment' of the late 1950s when the Soviet Union and the United States were competing in the space race..."

China, Russia furious over Biden democracy summit snubs

November 29, 2021 spacewar.com reported: "China and Russia reacted furiously Wednesday to US President Joe Biden's planned democracy summit, which will exclude them, with Beijing angered over an invitation for Taiwan and the Kremlin branding it divisive.

The global conference was a campaign pledge by the US president, who has placed the struggle between democracies and 'autocratic governments' at the heart of his foreign policy.

The inclusion of Taiwan, and not China, led to an angry rebuke from Beijing, which said it 'firmly opposes' the invitation to 'the so-called Summit for Democracy.'



Beijing claims self-ruled Taiwan as part of its territory to be retaken one day, by force if necessary. Around 110 countries have been invited to the virtual summit, including the United States' major Western allies but also Iraq, India and Pakistan..."

Iranian Brig.-Gen. urges destruction of Israel prior to nuke talks

November 29, 2021 jpost.com reported: "The spokesman for the Islamic Republic of Iran's armed forces, Brig.-Gen. Abolfazl Shekarchi, on Saturday urged the total elimination of the Jewish state during an interview with an Iranian regime-controlled media outlet.

'We will not back off from the annihilation of Israel, even one millimeter. We want to destroy Zionism in the world,' Shekarchi told the *Iranian Students News Agency*. Shekarchi's genocidal anti-Semitic remarks come just days before the nuclear talks are set to restart in Vienna Monday on curbing the Islamic Republic of Iran's illicit nuclear program. The United States and other world powers are seeking to provide Tehran with economic sanctions relief in exchange for temporary restrictions on its atomic program. Israel and other countries believe Iran's regime seeks to build a nuclear weapons device..."

Former Mossad chief: Attack on Iran must be on the table

November 26, 2021 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Former Mossad chief Yossi Cohen has warned that Israel must be prepared for all scenarios, and that a military strike on Iran must remain on the table.

Cohen's warning comes just ahead of the resumption of talks on the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) in Vienna on Monday.

'An independent attack on nuclear sites, if Iran goes that route, endangering our existence, needs to be and must be on the table – unequivocally,' Cohen told *Ynet*.

Cohen explained to *Ynet* what Israel sees as the differences between a reasonable agreement and one which would be very dangerous.

'A good agreement will be able to prevent Iranian achievements towards the bomb, and a horrible agreement, like what was signed in the past, will not be able to do that perfectly,' Cohen stressed.

'The bottom line is that we must take these abilities from Iran, because we cannot take their motivations from them. The Iranian vision and motivation are still there, and so they are insisting, strongly insisting, on maintaining the abilities to develop nuclear abilities – and we must take that from them,' he emphasized..."

A Russia-backed coup against Ukraine planned for December – Zelensky

November 26, 2021 jpost.com reported: "Ukraine has uncovered a plot for an attempted coup with the involvement of Russians, due to have taken place next week, President Volodymyr Zelensky said on Friday at a press conference.

Zelensky did not give full details of the coup plot and did not accuse the Russian state of involvement, though he also spoke at length at the press conference of a threat of Russian military escalation, and said Ukraine would be ready for it.

The Kremlin swiftly denied any role in any coup plot, saying it had no plans to take part in such acts.

Russia has been building up forces near its border with Ukraine. Kyiv, the United States and NATO have voiced concerns in recent days about a possible Russian attack — a suggestion the Kremlin has dismissed as false and alarmist..."

Russia to boost military in face of 'increased NATO activity'

November 25, 2021 spacewar.com reported: "Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Wednesday that the country needed to further develop its armed forces in the face of 'increased NATO activity' on its borders.

'The difficult military and political situation in the world and the increased activity of NATO countries near the Russian borders require further quality development of the armed forces,' Shoigu told officials in televised remarks.

Among the Russian armed forces' priorities are 'increasing their effectiveness, maintaining the combat readiness of nuclear forces and strengthening the potential of non-nuclear deterrent forces,' the defence minister added.

Western countries have this month raised the alarm over reported Russian military activity near Ukraine, with the US saying it has 'real concerns' over a new troop build-up on the border..."



**Defense Minister
Sergei Shoigu**