



PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

December 25, 2021

Russian state TV warns of turning America into 'radioactive ash'

December 23, 2021 wnd.com reported: "Joe Biden's foreign policy positions have been described by experts as 'weak' and 'feckless,' and at one point former director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe called it a 'surrender and retreat' agenda.

The results have been predictable: Radical elements around the globe, from China to North Korea and back, have turned more and more belligerent.

But a report from American Military News now has documented perhaps the most blatant threat to date.

'A Russian state television host threatened on Sunday that the U.S. could be 'reduced to radioactive ash' if it does not meet the demands laid out by Russia for deescalating tensions around Ukraine,' the report explained.

Russia has demanded that NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in which the U.S. plays a prominent role, must 'roll back military deployments in eastern Europe and bar Ukraine and other post-Soviet nations from joining the alliance,' the report said..."

Israel's incoming Air Force chief: In next war Hezbollah will suffer 'unimaginable blow'

December 22, 2021 ynetnews.com reported: "Israel's incoming Air Force commander said Wednesday that in the next war in Lebanon the Hezbollah terror group will suffer the kind of blow 'it can't even imagine'.

Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar will take over as head of the Israeli Air Force from Maj. Gen. Amikam Norkin in April 2022.

He said Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah will 'be all' for a no-holds-barred war with Israel.

'He has been waiting for 30 years for that order [from Tehran] and there is no chance he will be absent from such a conflict, with all the force at his disposal. Israel must be prepared.'



Israeli Major General Tomer Bar

Bar, who will be tasked with carrying out a strike against Iran's nuclear facilities should one be ordered, understands that he may be required to carry out one of the most complex operations in country's history..."

China sanctions US religious freedom commission officials over Xinjiang

December 22, 2021 spacewar.com reported: "China blacklisted four members of a US federal commission on religious freedom on Tuesday in the latest tit-for-tat response to Washington's own sanctions targeting alleged perpetrators of genocide in Xinjiang.

The plight of China's Muslim minority Uyghurs living in Xinjiang has contributed to worsening diplomatic relations between Western powers and Beijing, which denies any abuses.

Washington has slapped sanctions on a growing list of Chinese politicians and companies as well as a diplomatic boycott of the upcoming Winter Olympics, sparking fury in Beijing and reciprocal measures.

On Tuesday China announced the latest targets — four members of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)..."

Putin warns West of military measures over Ukraine threats

December 22, 2021 spacewar.com reported: "President Vladimir Putin warned Tuesday that Russia was prepared to take military steps in response to 'unfriendly' Western actions over the Ukraine conflict, in a sharp escalation of rhetoric.

The Russian president has for weeks accused the United States and the Washington-led NATO military alliance of stoking tensions near Moscow's borders, but these were his first comments hinting at potential conflict.

Putin told defense ministry officials that if the West continued its 'obviously aggressive stance' Russia would take 'appropriate retaliatory military-technical measures'.

Russia ‘will react toughly to unfriendly steps’, he said, adding that he wanted to underscore that, ‘we have every right to do so’.

The United States has been sounding the alarm since mid-November that Moscow could be planning a large-scale attack on its ex-Soviet neighbor Ukraine and has warned Putin of unprecedented sanctions...”

Iran showcases missile threats as part of ‘Great Prophet 17’ drill

December 21, 2021 jpost.com reported: “Iran practiced with missiles, drones and other weapons during the second day of what it has dubbed the ‘17th Great Prophet’ drills.

In this ‘stage of the exercise, surface-to-surface ballistic missiles hit predetermined targets,’ reports said at *Fars News* and *Tasnim News*. Iran said it also ‘simulated floating targets of the hypothetical enemy that were destroyed by firing surface-to-surface and coast-to-sea missiles.’

Iran practices with coastal defenses to shoot down drones as well. In June 2019, it shot down a US Global Hawk drone, destroying around \$200 million worth of American equipment in an incident that almost caused Washington to retaliate...”

The Number of Americans Who Identify as Christian Has Fallen

December 21, 2021 christianheadlines.com reported: “A new Pew Research study found that the number of American Christians has fallen to 63 percent. In 2007, about 78 percent of U.S. adults said they identified as Christian.

Those who identified as religiously unaffiliated jumped from 16 percent in 2007 to 29 percent in 2021.

While Christians once outnumbered religious ‘nones’ 5 to 1, ‘Christians now outnumber religious ‘nones’ by a ratio of a little more than 2-to-1,’ the report stated. The percentage of Americans who identify as Catholic has fallen from 24 percent in 2007 to 21 percent in 2021. The steepest fall, however, came from Protestantism, which fell from 52 percent to 40 percent...”

Iran pledges ‘crushing’ response against any Israeli attack

December 20, 2021 ynetnews.com reported: “Iran will retaliate with a ‘crushing’ response against any Israeli attack, a commander said according to an Iranian news agency linked to the country’s top security body.

‘If Israel carries out attacks against Iran, our armed forces will immediately attack all centers, bases, routes, and spaces used to carry out the aggression,’ Gholamali Rashid said during a military maneuver which started on Sunday, *nournews* added.

Last week, *The Tehran Times* newspaper published an article, revealing a map of dozens of Iranian targets in Israel, in an event the Islamic Republic opts to strike the Jewish state...”



Gholamali Rashid

EU threatens Russia sanctions as NATO backs Ukraine

December 17, 2021 spacewar.com reported: “Western allies on Thursday rejected Russia’s bid to thwart Kiev’s NATO ambitions and urged Moscow to halt its military build-up along Ukraine’s border and return to talks led by France and Germany.

European Union leaders, meeting in Brussels, insisted on ‘the urgent need for Russia to de-escalate tensions caused by the military build-up along its border with Ukraine and aggressive rhetoric’.

Separately, NATO’s members used similar language, rejecting ‘the false Russian claims of Ukrainian and NATO provocations’ and urged Moscow to ‘immediately de-escalate, pursue diplomatic channels, and abide by its international commitments.’

Both organizations, which share most of their member states, reiterated a threat to impose ‘massive consequences’ on Moscow through sanctions, coordinated between European powers and Washington...”