

PROPHETIC TIMES

January, 1998

The Weekly Reader of World News

February 12, 2022

Ukraine tensions: Russia begins military drills with Belarus

February 10, 2022 bbc.com reported: "Russia and Belarus have started 10 days of joint military drills amid ongoing fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine. Belarus is a close ally of Russia and has a long border with Ukraine.

France called the drills – believed to be Russia's biggest deployment to Belarus since the Cold War – a 'violent gesture'. Ukraine says they amount to 'psychological pressure'. UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Thursday that Europe faces its biggest security crisis in decades.

Russia has repeatedly denied any plans to invade Ukraine despite massing more than 100,000 troops at the border..."



First bird flu infection in US commercial flock detected in Indiana

February 10, 2022 **jpost.com** reported: "The first confirmed case of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in a US commercial flock since 2020 was detected in a turkey flock in Indiana on Wednesday, according to the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The flock was tested after about 100 birds died. The farm is under quarantine and birds on the property were euthanized.

The flock was infected with the H5N1 subtype, the same strain detected in mid-January in wild birds in North Carolina when the first cases of HPAI this season were detected in the States.

The first case of H5N1 in North America this season was detected in Newfoundland and Labrador in late December. Since then, the virus has spread to other locations in Canada and the US..."

Russian forces around Ukraine now 'north of 100,000': Pentagon

February 10, 2022 spacewar.com reported: "Russia continues to build up its forces along the border with Ukraine and has now deployed 'north of 100,000' troops, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

'We have continued to see even over the last 24 hours additional capabilities flow from elsewhere in Russia to that border with Ukraine and Belarus,' Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said.

'We're not going to get into providing specific numbers but the numbers continue to grow,' he said.

Referring to Russian leader Vladimir Putin, Kirby said 'we maintain that he's north of 100,000 for sure.'

'And he continues to add to that capability,' he said. 'We also see indications that additional battalion tactical groups are on their way..."

Taiwan Receives Patriot Missiles as China's Threats Build

February 9, 2022 breitbart.com reported: "Under siege Taiwan has received military support in the form of the approval of U.S. weapons contracts on Monday – in face of growing threats from Communist China.

The United States has agreed a \$100 million 'military sales' deal with Taiwan, allowing them access to gain 'PATRIOT air and missile defense systems' to help provide their airspace with the necessary security in light of growing Chinese threats. The need for the contract was demonstrated on the 23rd of January when China flew '39 warplanes' into Taiwan's air defense zone, the second-largest number of incursions from China that have been recorded..."

Anti-aircraft missile fired from Syria towards Israel, IDF attacks targets in Syria

February 9, 2022 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Sirens were sounded in the Wadi Ara and Samaria areas overnight Tuesday, shortly after 1:00 a.m. Israel time. The IDF Spokesperson's Unit said an anti-aircraft missile had been fired from Syria towards Israeli territory. The missile exploded in the air and no actual interception was carried out.

In response to the missile, the IDF attacked targets in Syria, among them a Syrian radar, and anti-aircraft batteries that fired missiles at Israel Air Force aircraft.

'The IDF will continue to protect the skies of the State of Israel,' the IDF Spokesperson's Unit said.

Syrian television reported that a soldier was killed and five were wounded in the Israeli attack. It was further reported that property was damaged as a result of the strike..."

Iran unveils new missile said to put Israel, US regional bases within range

February 9, 2022 timesofisrael.com reported: "Iran unveiled a new missile on Wednesday with a reported range that would allow it to reach both US bases in the region as well as targets inside its archfoe Israel. State TV reported that the missile uses solid fuel and has a range of 1,450 kilometers (900 miles).

It is called the Khaibar-buster, a reference to a Jewish castle overrun by Muslim warriors in the early days of Islam. The report said the missile has high accuracy, is manufactured completely domestically, and can defeat missile shield systems. The information has not been independently verified. Israel's closest point to Iran is some 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) away.

The report comes as negotiations continue in Vienna to revive Tehran's tattered nuclear deal with world powers. Iran, which has long said it does not seek nuclear weapons, insists its missile program is only a deterrent.

Iran has missiles that can travel up to 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles)." ..."

Israel gets new earthquake warning system, sends alert within seconds of 1st tremor

February 8, 2022 timesofisrael.com reported: "Earthquake experts at the Geological Survey of Israel on Monday unveiled cutting-edge technology capable of sensing the first sign of an earthquake and having the Home Front Command send out an alert within ten seconds.

Called TRUAA, and based on a system developed at Berkley University in California, which went live in 2019, the new NIS 45 million (\$14 million) national earthquake early warning system puts Israel on a par with a small number of other nations such as the US, Taiwan, and Japan.

Israel is located on the seismically active Syrian-African Rift Valley and being so small, most of its residents are exposed to the risk of earthquake damage. Historically, the country has experienced severe earthquakes once a century, on average. The last one occurred in 1927..."

At UN, Russia, China call out 'unilateral' sanctions

February 8, 2022 spacewar.com reported: "Russia, facing the threat of Western penalties over Ukraine, and China on Monday spoke out against what they called 'unilateral' sanctions imposed by countries without the backing of the United Nations Security Council.

'Only Security Council sanctions are legal,' said Russia's Deputy Ambassador to the UN Dmitry Polyanskiy. He added that such sanctions are 'an important tool for reacting to global challenges.'

Without mentioning Ukraine, which the West fears Russia may be planning to invade, Polyanskiy denounced 'unilateral' measures that hurt peace efforts and interfere with the sovereignty of nations, such as in Syria, Belarus, Cuba, Venezuela, Iran, Afghanistan, Burma and Mali..."

US warns Russian invasion could see Kyiv fall in days, leave 50,000 civilians dead

February 7, 2022 timesofisrael.com reported: "Russia has assembled at least 70 percent of the military firepower it likely intends to have in place by mid-month to give President Vladimir Putin the option of launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, US officials say.

The officials, who discussed internal assessments of the Russian buildup on condition they not be identified, sketched out a series of indicators suggesting Putin intends an invasion in coming weeks, although the size and scale are unclear. They stressed that a diplomatic solution appears to remain possible...



Ukraine Pres. Zelensky

US officials have said in recent weeks that a Russian invasion could overwhelm Ukraine's military relatively quickly, although Moscow might find it difficult to sustain an occupation and cope with a potential insurgency. If Russia does opt for a full-scale attack, the invading force could take the capital Kyiv and topple President Volodymyr Zelensky in a matter of 48 hours, US officials said.

Such an attack would leave 25,000 to 50,000 civilians dead, along with 5,000 to 25,000 Ukrainian soldiers and 3,000 to 10,000 Russian ones. It could also trigger a refugee flood of one to five million people, mainly into Poland, the officials said..."