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Clashes break out as nearly 1,000 Jews visit Temple Mount on Independence Day

May 5, 2022 jpost.com reported: "Clashes broke out between Arab visitors and Israeli security forces at the Temple Mount on Thursday, as 950 Jews visited the site on Independence Day after a nearly two-week closure.

Arab rioters threw stones and other objects at police, lightly injuring two officers, as security forces secured the Jewish visitors. Arab visitors at the site shouted and cursed at the Jewish visitors.

The Jerusalem Post joined the Jewish visits on Thursday morning, as hundreds of Jewish visitors entered the site. Police rushed the groups of visitors through the complex quickly, not allowing them to stop at points where they are usually allowed to stop to give short sermons and sometimes pray silently.

According to the Temple Mount Administration, the number of Jewish visitors was nearly four times larger than the number recorded on the Independence Day before the coronavirus outbreak..."

Russia practices nuclear-capable missile strikes

May 5, 2022 spacewar.com reported: "Russia on Wednesday said its forces had practiced simulated nuclear-capable missile strikes in the western enclave of Kaliningrad, amid Moscow's military campaign in Ukraine.

The announcement came on the 70th day of Moscow's military action in the pro-Western country, with thousands killed and more than 13 million displaced in the worst refugee crisis in Europe since World War II.

After sending troops to Ukraine in late February, Russian President Vladimir Putin has made thinly veiled threats hinting at a willingness to deploy Russia's tactical nuclear weapons.



Iskander Mobile Ballistic Missile

During Wednesday's war games in the enclave on the Baltic Sea located between EU members Poland and Lithuania, Russia practiced simulated 'electronic launches' of nuclear-capable Iskander mobile ballistic missile systems, the defense ministry said in a statement.

The Russian forces practiced single and multiple strikes at targets imitating launchers of missile systems, airfields, protected infrastructure, military equipment and command posts of a mock enemy, the statement said..."

France on brink of war with Russia as Putin ready to 'tip' Macron into Ukraine conflict

May 3, 2022 express.co.uk reported: "Tensions have been rising in France since Emmanuel Macron's Government announced weapon deliveries to Ukraine – a first for the country since Russia's invasion of Ukraine started – over the risk of war escalation with Russia. Until late April, France had refused to support Ukraine out of fear of moving closer to war. France has since provided €100 million worth of weaponry and artillery to Ukraine to defend itself against Russian forces. Defense consultant Jérôme Pellistrandi argued the move could "tip" France on the precipice of war with Russia.

Speaking to French broadcaster BFM TV, Mr. Pellistrandi said: "If Putin considers that helping Ukraine with military means is co-belligerence, he could indeed say so."

But the legal meaning of co-belligerence – an informal military alliance with a foreign country to wage war against a common enemy – is non-existent in international law, making it more manipulable. Mr. Pellistrandi said added: "Co-belligerence is not a legal concept in international law.

"A state is free to help, to provide support in any form whatsoever to another state, all the more so because the latter has been attacked." ..."

Politico on Heightened Alert After Publishing Leaked SCOTUS Draft

May 3, 2022 thedaileybeast.com reported: "*Politico* is on heightened alert after publishing a bombshell leaked Supreme Court draft opinion overturning *Roe v Wade*.

In a memo emailed to all staff on Tuesday, the influential D.C. news outlet outlined additional security precautions now in place as a result of the story, which was based on an unprecedented leak out of the high court and suggested a conservative majority intends to strike down the landmark 1973 decision establishing a legal right to an abortion." ...

The leak of a draft SCOTUS opinion from within the confines of the court led to condemnation on Tuesday from Chief Justice John Roberts, who wrote in a statement: "To the extent that this betrayal of the confidences of the Court was intended to undermine the integrity of our operations, it will not succeed. The work of the Court will not be affected in any way." Roberts also wrote that he directed the court's marshal to hunt down the leaker, calling it a "singular and egregious breach." ..."

Russia accuses Israel of 'supporting neo-Nazis in Ukraine'

May 3, 2022 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "Russia fired back at Israel Tuesday, doubling down on comments made by Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov earlier this week and accusing Israel of backing neo-Nazism in the Ukraine.

In a statement released Tuesday morning, the Russian Foreign Ministry blasted Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid (Yesh Atid), following Lapid's condemnations Monday and Tuesday of Lavrov's comments on Sunday comparing Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to Adolf Hitler and claiming Hitler had 'Jewish blood'. Moscow doubled down on Lavrov's Nazi comparison, and accused Kyiv of 'nurturing' anti-Semitism.

'Antisemitism in everyday life and in politics is not stopped and is on the contrary nurtured' in Ukraine.

The Russian Foreign Ministry called Lapid's criticism of Lavrov 'anti-historical', and said they explained 'to a large extent why the current Israeli government supports the neo-Nazi regime in Kyiv.'

Shortly after the statement was issued, Israeli Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz (Meretz) fired back at Moscow, tweeting that 'There is no neo-Nazi regime in Ukraine' Zelensky is not a neo-Nazi, and his Judaism has nothing to do with this. The Russian rhetoric which links the invasion of Ukraine with the Soviet struggle against Nazi Germany, with comparisons to Hitler, is a terrible lie. Shameless propaganda which also dishonors the legacy of the Holocaust. Therefore, Israel backs the integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine against the cruel Russian invasion.'

On Sunday, Lavrov compared Ukraine's Jewish president to Adolf Hitler, and suggested that Hitler had Jewish ancestry..."

North Korea leader warns of 'preemptive' use of nuclear force

May 2, 2022 spacewar.com reported: "North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has repeated his warning that Pyongyang could 'preemptively' use its nuclear weaponry to counter hostile forces, state media reported Saturday.

Kim told top military officers that to 'maintain the absolute superiority' of North Korea's armed forces, the country should be able to 'preemptively and thoroughly contain and frustrate all dangerous attempts and threatening moves... if necessary,' the official KCNA news agency reported.

Pyongyang should continue to build up its arsenal so that it can have the 'overwhelming military muscle that no force in the world can provoke,' Kim said, calling it the 'lifeline guaranteeing the security of our country'.

The leader's comments followed similar remarks at a military parade on Monday, when he said he could use his atomic arsenal if North Korea's 'fundamental interests' were threatened..."

Iranian commander: The US has no place in the Gulf

May 2, 2022 Arutz Sheva 7 reported: "A top Iranian commander said on Sunday that the United States has no place in the Gulf and that regional countries can ensure their own security, the Xinhua news agency reported.

Alireza Tangsiri, naval commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), also warned that any country seeking to jeopardize Iran's interests in the Gulf will receive 'a crushing and regretting response.'

Iran has repeatedly conveyed its message of peace and friendship to its southern neighbors that the region is 'capable of guaranteeing its security,' said Tangsiri, according to *Xinhua*.

The IRGC Navy forces are constantly, actively and effectively present in the Strait of Hormuz and northern part of the Gulf and, in view of their full intelligence dominance, are monitoring all movements in the region, the Iranian commander noted..."