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US and Ukraine behind drone attack on Kremlin, Russia claims

May 4, 2023 jpost.com reported: "Russia accused the United States on Thursday of being behind what it says was a drone attack on the Kremlin intended to kill President Vladimir Putin.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov made the allegation in a briefing to reporters, saying Washington should be aware that Russia knew it was selecting the targets and Ukraine was merely implementing US plans.

'Attempts to disown this, both in Kyiv and in Washington, are, of course, absolutely ridiculous. We know very well that decisions about such actions, about such terrorist attacks, are made not in Kyiv but in Washington,' Peskov said.



Russia President Vladimir Putin

He alleged that the United States often selected both the targets for Ukraine to attack and the means to attack them. "This is also often dictated from across the ocean. We know this well and are aware of this...in Washington they must clearly understand that we know this..."

Gallant tells Greek counterpart: Iran has enough uranium for five nuclear bombs

May 4, 2023 timesofisrael.com reported: "Defense Minister Yoav Gallant tells his Greek counterpart that Iran has enriched enough uranium for five nuclear bombs.

'Make no mistake – Iran will not be satisfied by a single nuclear bomb. So far, Iran has gained material enriched to 20% and 60% for five nuclear bombs,' Gallant tells Greek Defense Minister Nikolaos Panagiotopoulos during a visit to Athens. 'Iranian progress, and enrichment to 90%, would be a grave mistake on Iran's part, and could ignite the region.'

Gallant adds that Israel will not allow Iran to continue its attempts to build a stronghold in Syria..."

Kremlin drone attack: Russia accuse Ukraine of trying to assassinate Putin

May 3, 2023 bbc.com reported: "Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has denied his country carried out an alleged drone attack on the Kremlin, which Russia says was an attempt on President Vladimir Putin's life.

"We don't attack Putin or Moscow. We fight on our territory. We are defending our villages and cities," he said, speaking on a visit to Finland.

The Russian president's office said defences downed two drones overnight. It threatened to retaliate when and where it considered necessary. Unverified footage circulating online shows smoke rising over the Kremlin - a large government complex in central Moscow - early on Wednesday.

A second video shows a small explosion above the site's Senate building, while two men appear to clamber up the dome.

The Russian presidency said Ukraine had attempted a strike on Mr. Putin's residence in the Kremlin and described it as "a planned terrorist act and an assassination attempt on the president".

Officials said two drones targeting the complex had been disabled using electronic radar assets, adding that President Putin had not been in the complex at the time of the alleged attack.

But Ukraine has said the Russian accusations are merely a pretext for massive attacks on its territory and the US says it is treating the Russian claims with a lot of caution..."

Dozens of rockets fired into southern Israel overnight from Gaza

May 3, 2023 jpost.com reported: "The IDF has released footage of overnight strikes carried out against Hamas targets inside the Gaza Strip early on Wednesday morning. The IDF strikes come after a night of rocket fire from Hamas and other Palestinian terror factions inside the strip.

Throughout Tuesday evening and into early Wednesday morning, at least 32 rockets and mortars were fired into Israel from Gaza, with two of them hitting the border town of Sderot and wounding at least 12 civilians..."

Bible beliefs 'much closer to extinction in America'

May 3, 2023 World Net Daily reported: "A new study by Christian pollster George Barna comparing Americans' religious beliefs and practices before and after the COVID pandemic finds some stunning departures from biblically faithful Christianity — including a 14-point drop, from 58%-44%, in the percentage of 'born-again' Christians who believe Jesus lived a sinless life on Earth.

The survey, released April 20 and conducted by the Cultural Research Center (CRC), based at Arizona Christian University, in Glendale, Arizona, finds a mere 4% of overall Americans polled who possess a 'biblical worldview,' down from 6%, while among born-again Christians, 'the incidence of biblical worldview among them fell from 19% in 2020 to 13% in 2023.'

In another finding of the report, which compares religious beliefs and practices in 2020, before the pandemic, to 2023, found a huge drop among born-again Christians — from 85% to just 50% — who say they are 'deeply committed to practicing [their] faith.'..."

Russia to stay on International Space Station through 2028

May 2, 2023 spacewar.com reported: "Russia has committed it will remain on the International Space Station until 2028, backing away from a plan to leave the low-Earth orbiting laboratory next year, according to NASA.

NASA on Wednesday announced Russia would 'support continued station operations' for another five years, while the United States, Japan, Canada and participating countries of the European Space Agency offered a longer commitment through 2030.



International Space Station

'The International Space Station partners have committed to extending the operations of this unique platform in low Earth orbit where, for more than 22 years, humans have lived and worked for the benefit of humanity, conducting cutting-edge science and resear

lived and worked for the benefit of humanity, conducting cutting-edge science and research in microgravity,' NASA said.

'NASA will continue to work with its partner agencies to ensure an uninterrupted presence in low Earth orbit, as well as a safe and orderly transition from the space station to commercial platforms in the future.'..."

Kim Jong Un's sister says US-South Korea plan risks 'serious danger'

May 1, 2023 spacewar.com reported: "North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's powerful sister warned Saturday that a US-South Korean agreement aimed at strengthening deterrence against Pyongyang will lead to 'more serious danger', state media reported.

The United States and South Korea vowed this week that North Korea would face a nuclear response and the 'end' of the leadership there should it use its own nukes against the allies, as the two countries' presidents met in Washington.

In Pyongyang's first response to the Washington summit, Kim Yo Jong said the North remained convinced that its nuclear deterrent 'should be brought to further perfection.'

'The more the enemies are dead set on staging nuclear war exercises, and the more nuclear assets they deploy in the vicinity of the Korean peninsula, the stronger the exercise of our right to self-defence will become,' she said, according to the official *Korean Central News Agency*.

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and US counterpart Joe Biden on Wednesday issued what was called the Washington Declaration, bolstering the US nuclear umbrella over South Korea, which is increasingly nervous about Pyongyang's aggression..."

Russia's Medvedev: World is probably on verge of a new world war

April 26, 2023 jpost.com reported: "An ally of Russian President Vladimir Putin warned on Tuesday that the world was probably on the verge of a new world war, cautioning that the risks of a nuclear confrontation were also rising, though neither scenario was inevitable.

'The world is sick and quite probably is on the verge of a new world war,' former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, who serves as deputy chairman of Putin's powerful security council, told a conference in Moscow. He said such a new world war was not inevitable but said the risks of a nuclear confrontation were growing – and more serious than concerns about climate change..."

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