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Putin Warns of Nuclear War if West Sends Troops to Ukraine

February 29, 2024 aljazeera.com reported: “Russian President Vladimir Putin has warned of a “real” risk of nuclear war if the Western countries sent troops to fight in Ukraine during an annual address to the nation two weeks ahead of the presidential election.

“There has been talk about the possibility of sending NATO military contingents to Ukraine. But we remember the fate of those who once sent their contingents to our country’s territory. But now the consequences for possible interventionists will be far more tragic,” Putin said addressing parliament and other senior elites.

Putin has previously spoken of the dangers of a direct confrontation between NATO and Russia, but his nuclear weapon warning on Thursday was one of his most explicit.

Putin’s warning comes in the wake of French President Emmanuel Macron’s proposal on Monday of European NATO members sending ground troops to Ukraine. The United States, Germany, the United Kingdom and some other members rejected the suggestion.

But Putin suggested that Western leaders remember the fate of those like Germany’s Adolf Hitler and France’s Napoleon Bonaparte, who unsuccessfully tried to invade his country in the past...”

U.S., South Korea will launch military exercise next week to counter North Korean threat

February 29, 2024 spacewar.com reported: “The United States and South Korea will kick off their annual springtime military exercise next week, both countries’ militaries announced Wednesday, with an emphasis on countering North Korea’s growing nuclear threat.

The Freedom Shield 2024 exercise consists of both computer-simulated and field-based training and will run from March 4-14, U.S. Forces Korea said in a press release.

This year’s exercise includes 48 joint field drills — almost twice as many as last year — including air assault and tactical live-fire and bombing drills, Col. Lee Sung-jun, spokesman for South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at a joint press briefing on Wednesday.

‘We will conduct training focused on neutralizing the North Korean nuclear threat,’ Lee said.

‘Our military is prepared to immediately and strongly punish North Korea’s provocations to the end, and through this exercise, we will further strengthen our readiness to respond firmly,’ he added...”

Gallant: Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas hope to turn Ramadan into ‘2nd stage of October 7’

February 28, 2024 timesofisrael.com reported: “Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Tuesday Israel has identified that Iran, Hezbollah and Hamas are aiming to take advantage of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and turn it into ‘the second stage of October 7, and ignite the ground.’

Speaking during an assessment at the IDF Central Command, Gallant said, ‘Hamas’s main goal is to take Ramadan, with an emphasis on the Temple Mount and Jerusalem, and turn it into the second phase of their plan that began on October 7. This is the main goal of Hamas; it is being amplified by Iran and Hezbollah.’

‘We must not give Hamas what it has not been able to achieve since the beginning of the war and converge the combat fronts,’ Gallant warned.

Hamas called its mass-murdering October 7 onslaught on southern Israel ‘Operation Al-Aqsa Flood,’ in an effort to claim religious legitimacy for its atrocities...”

Hezbollah rains 60 rockets down on Golan in retaliation for Israeli strikes

February 27, 2024 jpost.com reported: “Hezbollah on Monday fired dozens of rockets toward the Golan in a significant departure from its general focus on the northern Galilee.



Russia President Putin

The Lebanese terrorist group said it was aiming for an IDF Golan base in retaliation for Israeli strikes near the city of Baalbek, which were themselves unusually deep strikes into Lebanon's territory.

Baalbek is around 100 kilometers away from the Israeli border and is in Lebanon's northeast, whereas most IDF attacks to date have been focused only on southern Lebanon, or on Beirut, which is still much further south than Baalbek.

There were no reports of injuries from what Hezbollah said was a 60-rocket barrage.

The IDF did not say how many rockets were fired, but the Home Front Command only recorded 20 rocket sirens, appearing to ignore much of the Golan rocket fire as not dangerous during this round..."

Russia deepening ties with global axis of evil – Israel charges at UN

February 27, 2024 jpost.com reported: "Russia is deepening its ties with global forces of destabilization, chiefly Iran, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Gilad Erdan, told the General Assembly on Monday. Erdan's comments came ahead of the parley Moscow is holding this week with Palestinian factions, including Hamas.

'This week, Russia will be hosting a Hamas delegation in Moscow! And not for the first time!' Erdan told the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, which held a debate to mark two years to Russia's invasion of Ukraine. 'Russia is one of the only places outside of the Middle East where Hamas terrorists and Houthi Jihadists are given the red-carpet treatment, even after October 7,' Erdan said.

'Russia is hosting those who are responsible for intentionally murdering babies, raping women, and burning families alive,' Erdan stated. He also added that 'this meeting in Moscow is a result of something more dangerous. Russia is now deepening its ties with global forces of destabilization.'

His words underscored the shift in Israeli policy regarding Moscow since the start of the war, a conflict for which Jerusalem had initially attempted to hold a neutral line and maintain strong ties with both Russia and Ukraine..."

Iran: US-British Strikes on Yemen 'Escalate Tensions'

February 26, 2024 voanews.com reported: "Iran on Sunday condemned the latest strikes by the United States and Britain on Yemen, saying they were seeking to 'escalate tensions and crises' in the region.

On Saturday, American and British forces carried out fresh strikes against 18 Houthi targets in Yemen, in response to a wave of attacks by the Iran-backed group on Red Sea shipping.

'With such attacks, America and Britain seek to escalate tensions and crises in the region, and expand the scope of war and instability,' Iran's foreign ministry spokesperson Nasser Kanani said in a statement.

'Certainly, this kind of arbitrary and aggressive military operation, aside from aggravating insecurity and instability in the region, will not achieve anything for these aggressor countries,' Kanani added.

He further condemned the United States and Britain for failing to 'take immediate and effective action' to stop Israel's deadly campaign in Gaza..."

Philippines accuses China of attempting to block another vessel

February 26, 2024 spacewar.com reported: "The Philippines on Sunday accused the Chinese coast guard of attempting to block a Filipino government vessel delivering supplies to fishermen, the second such alleged incident near a disputed reef in two weeks.

The BRP Datu Sanday was supplying fuel to fishermen near the Scarborough Shoal when it was harassed by a China Coast Guard vessel and three other Chinese ships on February 22, the Philippine Coast Guard said.

Three of the four Chinese vessels came within 100 metres (328 feet) of Datu Sanday's bow, it said in an incident report that also listed shadowing, vessel transponder jamming and other 'dangerous maneuvers'.

'Despite these maneuvers, the skipper of BRP Datu Sanday exhibited excellent seamanship skills and managed to evade the blocking attempts,' said Commodore Jay Tarriela, the Filipino coast guard spokesman on South China Sea issues.

A week earlier, the Philippine Coast Guard said the BRP Datu Tamblot had a similar encounter in the area..."



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