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WHY RUSSIA'S STRATEGIC MISSILE FORCES ARE PREPPING TO STAGE MASSIVE DRILLS

June 15, 2017 SputnikNews.com reported: "Later this month, Russia's Strategic Missile Troops, the branch of the armed forces which operates the country's mobile land-based nuclear-armed ICBMS, will roll out ten mobile missile regiments for drills. Military analyst Andrei Kotz explains what message the obvious show of force is meant to send.

Earlier this week, the Russian Ministry of Defense announced that ten Strategic Missile Forces regiments (i.e. up to 90 mobile Topol-M and RS-24 Yars ground-based intercontinental ballistic missile launchers) would begin drilling later this month. The elite units will practice everything from movement, to prepping launch positions, to 'maskirovka', a term describing the use of camouflage, denial and deception to thwart the prospective adversary's attempts at aerial reconnaissance and sabotage.



'In the second half of June, missile regiments will begin exercises in field positions in the Tver, Novosibirsk, Sverdlovsk, Kirov, Irkutsk and Ivanovo regions,' the MoD's press service confirmed.

And while the MoD says that the drills are routine, and part of summer training involving all branches of the service, military analyst and RIA Novosti contributor Andrei Kotz suggested that the maneuvers could also be interpreted as a show of strength, particularly given the present international situation..."

RUSSIAN LAUNCHES SPACE FREIGHTER TO ISS

July 15, 2017 spacedaily.com reported: "Russia on Wednesday launched an unmanned Progress cargo ship carrying supplies to the International Space Station (ISS) from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

"The Soyuz-2.1A booster rocket with the Progress MS-06 cargo ship launched successfully from Baikonur cosmodrome at 12:20 Moscow time (0920 GMT)," Russian space agency Roscosmos said in a statement on its website.

The cargo ship, carrying more than two tonnes of essential supplies including fuel, air and equipment and parcels for astronauts, is due to dock with the ISS on Friday at 1142 GMT..."

ISIS DRONES ARE ATTACKING U.S. TROOPS AND DISRUPTING AIRSTRIKES IN RAQQA, OFFICIALS SAY

June 14, 2017 The Washington Post reported: "Islamic State drones are attacking U.S. Special Operations forces located around the group's de-facto capital of Raqqa in Syria, U.S. officials and Syrian fighters said, sometimes disrupting the ability of American troops to call in airstrikes.

The Pentagon, in response, is looking to send additional anti-drone equipment and troops into Syria, according to one official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss planning.

Unlike in Mosul, where U.S. forces have deployed an array of drone-stopping systems, U.S. troops on the ground in Raqqa are operating with fewer resources and have a limited ability to defend against the small, hard-to-spot aircraft, the official said. The off-the-shelf drones, sometimes used in swarms by the extremist group, are often rigged to drop small 40mm grenade-sized munitions with a relatively high degree of accuracy.

In Raqqa, the Islamic State has been attacking U.S. targeting teams working alongside the coalition of Kurdish and Arab fighters, known as the Syrian Democratic Forces or SDF, the official said. The teams — usually operating from a vehicle with radios and a computer synced to communicate with the aircraft overhead — often have a spotter looking for incoming drones. In recent days, according to one SDF fighter, the Americans were preparing for a set of strikes after receiving coordinates from their Syrian counterparts when they had to move position because of a drone.

"There have been no casualties, yet," the official said.

The attacks, according to the fighter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to talk to the media, have also hindered SDF advances. He said that the Islamic State will wait for the SDF to send up its own drone before deploying an aircraft loaded with explosives so that those on the ground think a friendly drone is overhead..."

DUTCH-MUSLIM POLITICIAN CALLS VISITING ISRAELI STUDENTS 'FUTURE ZIONIST TERRORISTS, MURDERERS OF CHILDREN'

June 14, 2017 Breitbart.com reports: "A Muslim city councilman in the Hague recently called Israeli high school students visiting the Dutch parliament 'future Zionist terrorists, occupiers and those who murder children.'

Abdoe Khouliani, a member of the Islamist Party of Unity, posted his anti-Semitic vitriol on Facebook last week, the Center for Information and Documentation of Israel (CIDI) reported.

Around 30 teenagers from the Hen School for Young Ambassadors visited the Netherlands on a trip organized by the Israeli Center for Young Leaders (ICYL) in order to forge ties with their Dutch peers.

One of the students on the trip told the Ynet news site, 'It is disappointing to discover that when we, Israel's youth, come as a delegation without political interests to promote friendly relations with Dutch youth, we encounter a sad barrier of antisemitism and hatred of Israel.'

Israel's Ambassador to the Netherlands Aviv Shir-On reportedly sent a damning letter to the mayor of The Hague, Pauline Krikke, calling the incident 'not just a scandal' but 'absolutely unacceptable.'

'These words [Khouliani's] are nothing but anti-Israel incitement that can lead to violence that we have unfortunately seen in Paris, Brussels, Berlin, Manchester and London,' Shir-On wrote..."

IRELAND'S FIRST GAY PRIME MINISTER ENTERS OFFICE

June 14, 2017 AFP reported: "Leo Varadkar promised a "republic of opportunity" Wednesday after he became Ireland's youngest prime minister and the first who is openly gay. The Dublin-born politician's Indian immigrant father and Irish mother were in parliament to watch as the 38-year-old was formally confirmed as taoiseach.

Varadkar, who won the leadership of the ruling centre-right Fine Gael party earlier this month, was confirmed by 57 votes to 50, with 47 abstentions. In his acceptance speech, Varadkar emphasised youthful energy, arguing that the politics of the past were no longer fit for purpose.

"The government that I lead will not be one of left or right because those old divisions do not comprehend the political challenges of today," he said. Varadkar takes over a minority government from Enda Kenny, who said his successor reflected a changed Ireland.

"As our youngest taoiseach, he represents a modern, diverse and inclusive Ireland and speaks for them like no other," Kenny said.

He added Varadkar would meet "head on" the challenge of Brexit, an issue of particular concern to Ireland as it shares the only EU land border with Britain. Varadkar did not mention the government's Brexit strategy in his speech, but has previously warned against taking too tough a line with London in negotiations due to begin next week.

"It has always been the view of the party that we don't want to see Britain being punished" for voting to leave the European Union, he said on June 2.

"We regret that decision but we do respect it and a 'hard Brexit', whether it's a hard Brexit driven from London or forced on London, is one in which Ireland could be a big loser," he said.

Varadkar confirmed he would meet this week with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and Arlene Foster, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in Northern Ireland to discuss Brexit. Although regarded as relatively liberal on social issues such as gender equality and abortion rights, Varadkar has been criticised by opposition parties for his right-wing economic views."..."

THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS IN 20 CITIES 'MARCH AGAINST SHARIAH'

June 13, 2017 World Net Daily reported: "Act for America's 'March Against Shariah' unfolded in more than 20 American cities Saturday, with the group's chairman declaring great momentum from the events and blasting the groups behind the counter-protests in several locations.

"The growth out of this movement has been phenomenal. We have added 250,000 followers to Act for America," Act for America Founder and Chairman Brigitte Gabriel told WND and Radio America. "A quarter-of-a-million patriotic Americans stepped up and said, 'We are joining you.' We are excited. This is the movement we have been waiting for."

She said many Americans are realizing that if they don't stand up to Shariah law now, they may not have the chance years from now.

"We need to come together to save America because it's the last man standing," Gabriel said. "Europe is gone. Nobody else in the world can stand up to Islamofacism the way we can. We need every American who loves this country involved."..."

PAKISTAN SENTENCES MAN TO DEATH FOR 'BLASPHEMOUS' FACEBOOK POST



June 12, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "Taimoor Reza, a 30-year old Pakistani man from the Punjab region, has been sentenced to death by a Pakistani court for 'blasphemous' posts on social media. Reza, part of the country's Shiite Muslim minority, was arrested in 2016 for posting 'derogatory content about Sunni Muslim religious leaders and the wives of the Prophet Mohammed on Facebook,' according to the Associated Press.

Pakistan, despite being a parliamentary democracy, is governed by Islamic Sharia law. Anyone found guilty of insulting religious leaders or Islam can receive the death sentence, although no-one has ever been executed under the law.

However, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who leads a party made up of conservative and Islamist politicians, recently announced a nationwide crackdown on internet 'blasphemy.'

Sharif has ordered his country's authorities to seek to scrub social media of 'blasphemous' content by Pakistanis, as well as track down and arrest those responsible for posting the content..."

PAMELA GELLER: SHARIA LAW IS 'MISOGYNISTIC, ANTI-SEMITIC, ANTI-INFIDEL, ANTI-GAY, ANTI-FREE SPEECH'

June 12, 2017 Breitbart.com reported: "On Monday's Breitbart News Daily, Pamela Geller, president of the American Freedom Defense Initiative, discussed the weekend's anti-sharia law marches with SiriusXM host Raheem Kassam.

"It's great to see Americans are waking up," Geller said. "Sharia is the most brutal and extreme system of governance ideology on the face of the Earth. It is misogynistic. It is anti-Semitic. It is anti-infidel. It is anti-gay. It is anti-free speech."

She said 'amputations, stonings, and sex slavery' could be found in Muslim countries living under sharia law.

"It is, as Sam Harris said, the motherlode of bad ideas," she said. "And, of course, it's been slow in educating the American people because you have this enormous machine, this leftist-Islamic machine that controls much of the information battlespace – if it's media or culture, movies, entertainment, and even in the coverage of these marches, it was enormously and wildly slanted, which, of course, we're used to."

"But the American people are waking up. Clearly, they're waking up in Europe as well, although, of course, I was disappointed, unquestionably, in the U.K. elections because I just think Labor and Corbyn are so to the left of bad," said Geller..."