

PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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AHMADINEJAD TELLS WEST: ACCEPT ISRAEL'S 'IMMINENT COLLAPSE'

January 30, 2008 Haaretz.com reported: "Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called on the West Wednesday to acknowledge Israel's "imminent collapse."

Speaking to a crowd on a visit to the southern port of Bushehr, where Iran's first light-water nuclear power plant is being built by Russia, Ahmadinejad further incited his listeners to "stop supporting the Zionists, as [their] regime reached its final stage."

"Accept that the life of Zionists will sooner or later come to an end," the Iranian president said in a televised speech.

He added, "What we have right now is the last chapter [of Israeli atrocities] which the Palestinians and regional nations will confront and eventually turn in Palestine's favor."

Iran does not acknowledge Israel and Ahmadinejad has in the past sparked international outcry by referring to the systematic murder of six million Jews in World War II as a "myth" and calling for Israel to be "wiped off the map."

Iran is currently also mediating in the crisis over the Gaza Strip, where Israel has imposed a blockade on border crossings into the coastal territory, barring the entry of supplies into the already impoverished area. Last week, Palestinian militants blew holes in the barrier separating the Gaza Strip from Egypt, prompting hundreds of thousands of Gazans to pour into Egypt in search of supplies.

Ahmadinejad also urged the Western powers to help build nuclear power plants in his country saying it will be too late if they do not decide to do so immediately...

"I am addressing leaders of two or three powers; do you remember I sent you message and told you to stop be stubborn? If you think that you can block the movement of Iranian nation, you are wrong," the Iranian president continued."..."

AIR FORCE CHIEF WARNS OF POSSIBLE ATTACK ON SATELLITES

January 30, 2008 YnetNews.com reported: "If Israel didn't have enough threats to its security already, what with the ongoing confrontation with Hamas in the south, Hizbullah in the north and Syria close by, on Wednesday Israeli Air Force Chief, Major-General Eliezer Shkedi, spoke about possible threats to Israeli spy satellites in space at the Ilan Ramon International Space Conference in Herzliya.

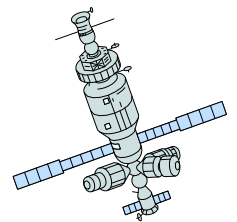
Shkedi noted that there had not been any specific warnings, but suggested "not to keep our eyes closed to the possibility and treat it with full seriousness.

"Everybody who is familiar with this field and looks at it from an operational perspective, understands that there will be those that will try to carry out attacks on assets such as these," the Air Force chief said.

"I suggest that we understand this and think about methods of defense even in the case of a physical strike, obstructing or blinding (the satellites)."

In his speech, Shkedi elaborated on the advantages of using space-based satellites including intelligence, planning and execution and post-operation analysis. He added that one of the big questions for countries that posses these capabilities is how to deal with them if a problem arises in space.

The Air Force commander used the term "nightmare" to refer to the possibility of an attack on Israeli satellites. "It could be done by a state or a terrorist organization and I suggest that we don't close our eyes because we're talking about a real battlefield and this could potentially occur."..."



PHONES TAPPED AT THE RATE OF 1,000 A DAY

January 31, 2008 The London Daily Telegraph reported: "Britain is in danger of becoming a "surveillance state" as authorities including councils launch bugging operations against 1,000 people a day. Councils, police and intelligence services are tapping and intercepting the phone calls, emails and letters of hundreds of thousands of people every year, an official report said.

Those being bugged include people suspected of illegal fly-tipping as councils use little known powers to carry out increasingly sophisticated surveillance to catch offenders.

The report, by Sir Paul Kennedy, the Interception of Communications Commissioner, has fuelled fears that Britain is becoming a state where private communications are routinely monitored. It also found that more than 1,000 of the bugging operations were flawed. In some cases, the phones of innocent people were tapped simply because of administrative errors.

David Winnick, a Labour member of the Commons home affairs committee, said greater legal protection was needed to prevent abuse of surveillance powers. Britain already has more CCTV cameras per person than any other country in the world.

He said: "Most of these operations are needed and done for good reasons, but the numbers do raise concerns about the safeguards we have put in place to protect people from constant intrusion."

Referring to George Orwell's vision of a surveillance state, Mr Winnick added: "To walk blindfolded into 1984 is not anything that anybody in their right mind would want."

Michael Parker of NO2ID, which campaigns against ID cards, said the figures showed the state's desire to gather more information about people. "We are living in a surveillance state."

The report shows that in the last nine months of 2006, there were 253,557 applications to intercept private communications under surveillance laws. It is understood that most were approved."..."

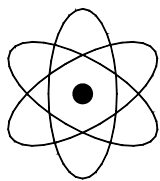
NORTH KOREA CALLS FOR FORMAL END TO KOREAN WAR

January 27, 2008 The Voice of America News reported: "North Korea has called for a peace treaty formally ending the Korean War to be signed as soon as possible, to ease military tensions with the United States. The call was made in a commentary published by the Rodong daily, the newspaper of the North's ruling Workers' Party. It said now is the right time for a peace treaty to replace the armistice that has been in place since 1953. The Korean peninsula is technically still at war since the fighting ended.

North and South Korean leaders held a summit in October that resulted in a call for a meeting of three or four parties to lay groundwork for a formal peace treaty and normalized U.S.-North Korean relations. But South Korean opponents to the idea argue that any treaty should wait until North Korea completes the full abandonment of its nuclear programs."

BARAK: IRAN NUKE PROGRAM 'QUITE ADVANCED'

January 27, 2008 YnetNews.com reported: "Israel suspects that Iran is pursuing a clandestine nuclear enrichment operation and is "probably already working on warheads for ground-to-ground missiles," Defense Minister Ehud Barak told the Washington Post in an interview published Saturday.



"Our interpretation is that clearly the Iranians are aiming at nuclear capability. It's probably true that...we think that they are quite advanced, much beyond the level of the Manhattan Project," Barak said. The defense minister questioned the American intelligence estimate that concluded Iran halted its nuclear program back in 2003.

"The dots that we see...cannot be easily connected in a way that does not lead to a nuclear program," Barak said. "The leading intelligence communities should concentrate on finding whether there is...a clandestine enrichment operation and a weapons group working on the weapons technology."

Barak conceded that the US estimate "reduced the enthusiasm" for a military strike on Iran or for tougher sanctions on Tehran. The defense minister stressed that in order to deal with the threat of radical Islamic terror, nuclear proliferation, and rogue states, global powers need to cooperate more closely, and particularly the US, EU, Russia and China. "..."

EUROZONE INFLATION AT NEW RECORD

January 31, 2008 The BBC News reported: "Eurozone inflation surged to a new record in January at 3.2%, official data showed. Consumer prices are now growing at their quickest rate in the 15-nations eurozone since records began in 1997. The rate is much higher than the European Central Bank's target of 2%.

The ECB faces the tough challenge of controlling inflation, which can be done by raising interest rates, at a time when the economy is slowing. The problem is similar in the UK.

The inflation numbers come as confidence in the euro bloc's economy among businesses and consumers slumps to a two-year low. A European Commission index of sentiment fell to 101.7 this month, the lowest since January 2006."..."

DNA DOES THE WORK: BUILDING NEW GOLD CRYSTALS

January 30, 2008 Breitbart.com reported: "Using DNA, the blueprint of life, U.S. researchers said they have made a three-dimensional structure from particles of gold in a development that could lead to a host of custom-designed materials. The technique helps solve a basic problem in nanoscience: getting impossibly small particles to assemble themselves according to a predetermined design.

"We're using inspiration from life to create new forms of matter," said Chad Mirkin, director of Northwestern University's International Institute for Nanotechnology in Evanston, Illinois. "It's a real example of man over nature."

The idea takes advantage of the molecular biology of DNA, in which one strand of DNA forms a bond with a complementary strand to make what is called a base pair.

Mirkin and colleagues simply design the specific genetic code using the four building blocks of DNA -- adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine or A, G, C and T -- and attach the gold particles to those strands."..."

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