



PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

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OCEAN FISH COULD DISAPPEAR IN 40 YEARS: UN

May 17, 2010 AFP reported: "The world faces the nightmare possibility of fishless oceans by 2050 unless fishing fleets are slashed and stocks allowed to recover, UN experts warned.



"If the various estimates we have received... come true, then we are in the situation where 40 years down the line we, effectively, are out of fish," Pavan Sukhdev, head of the UN Environment Program's green economy initiative, told journalists in New York.

A Green Economy report due later this year by UNEP and outside experts argues this disaster can be avoided if subsidies to fishing fleets are slashed and fish are given protected zones -- ultimately resulting in a thriving industry.

The report, which was opened to preview Monday, also assesses how surging global demand in other key areas including energy and fresh water can be met while preventing ecological destruction around the planet.

UNEP director Achim Steiner said the world was "drawing down to the very capital" on which it relies. However, "our institutions, our governments are perfectly capable of changing course, as we have seen with the extraordinary uptake of interest. Around, I think it is almost 30 countries now have engaged with us directly, and there are many others revising the policies on the green economy," he said.

Environmental experts are mindful of the failure this March to push through a worldwide ban on trade in bluefin tuna, one of the many species said to be headed for extinction.

Powerful lobbying from Japan and other tuna-consuming countries defeated the proposal at the CITES conference on endangered species in Doha.

But UNEP's warning Monday was that tuna only symbolizes a much vaster catastrophe, threatening economic, as well as environmental upheaval. One billion people, mostly from poorer countries, rely on fish as their main animal protein source, according to the UN.

The Green Economy report estimates there are 35 million people fishing around the world on 20 million boats. About 170 million jobs depend directly or indirectly on the sector, bringing the total web of people financially linked to 520 million.

According to the UN, 30 percent of fish stocks have already collapsed, meaning they yield less than 10 percent of their former potential, while virtually all fisheries risk running out of commercially viable catches by 2050."..."



IRAN PREPARED TO BLOCK GULF OIL AND WRECK WESTERN ECONOMIES

May 17, 2010 Arutz Sheva reported: "Iran's recently-concluded war games concentrated on preparations to block the Persian Gulf and wreck Western economies in the event that the United Nations Security Council tries to place harsh sanctions against it.

Forty percent of the world's oil and gas sails through the Persian Gulf, and an Iranian blockade would cause an inflationary spike in energy prices and a fuel shortage that could cause catastrophe for the West, which is dependent on Iranian crude to fuel their gas-hungry economies.

Public affairs consultant Lenny Ben-David, a former senior Israeli diplomat in Israel's embassy in Washington, pointed out on CuttingEdge.com Monday that the Islamic Republic stopped, searched or photographed several Western ships during the eight-day war games.

The Revolutionary Navy searched a French and an Italian vessel for "environmental" checks, buzzed the U.S. Eisenhower in what American officials called a "close encounter," and patrolled the Gulf, also known as the Straits of Hormuz, stopping and checking destroyers and cargo ships.

The Iranian Air Force also drove away a U.S. reconnaissance drone that was monitoring Iran's massive Gulf military exercises that concluded last Thursday.

During and after the war games, Tehran issued daily press releases boasting of new and advanced speed boats, an anti-submarine torpedo and advanced arms for attacking ships.

Ben-David noted, "While the press focuses on the Iranian military exercises, uranium enrichment, and long-range missile development, the navies of dozens of countries have been relatively quietly gravitating toward the Persian Gulf. "

The war games exercises in the Gulf sent a clear signal to the West regarding what may be in store if it succeeds in placing tough sanctions against Iran as a way to try to force it to comply with international rules on the development of its nuclear program."..."

BRAZIL, TURKEY TRY TO STYMIE UN SANCTIONS ON IRAN

May 19, 2010 SpaceDaily.com reported: "Brazil and Turkey on Wednesday urged their fellow UN Security Council members to heed a deal they struck with Iran over its nuclear program, in a last-minute bid to block a sanctions vote against Tehran.

"Brazil and Turkey are convinced that it is time to give a chance for negotiations and to avoid measures that are detrimental to a peaceful solution of this matter," the foreign ministers from the two countries said in a letter to the 15-seat world body.

The missive was sent as the UN Security Council was examining a US-drafted resolution calling for Iran to be punished with a new round of sanctions for pursuing uranium-enrichment activities.

The resolution was submitted to the vexation of Brazil and Turkey, which believed they had achieved a breakthrough on Monday when Iran agreed with them to deposit a significant part of its uranium stockpile in Turkey in exchange for better-enriched nuclear fuel."..."

EURO IN DANGER: GERMANS TRIGGER PANIC OVER FUTURE OF SINGLE CURRENCY

May 20, 2010 TimesOnline.com reported: "Shocked European ministers are preparing for emergency talks to shore up the euro after markets fell in reaction to panic measures in Germany.

Angela Merkel stunned EU capitals by warning that the euro was in danger and triggered fears of a fresh financial meltdown by announcing a ban on risky trading practices by speculators. The German Chancellor's actions opened up new cracks in the single currency, drawing sharp criticism from France and prompting Brussels to issue an appeal for unity.

Shares in London plunged by nearly 3 per cent, with similar falls in Paris, Berlin and Madrid. The euro plummeted to a new low against the dollar before making a slight recovery.

European finance ministers, who have just hammered out a massive rescue plan for Greece, will hear controversial calls from Germany at a meeting tomorrow for changes to the Lisbon treaty to give Brussels powers to co-ordinate national budgets.

Ms Merkel believes that the EU should have stronger powers to organize the 'orderly insolvency' of countries such as Greece that set giveaway budgets with no means of paying for them. After announcing a ban on speculative share trading in Germany's top financial institutions and the bonds of eurozone countries until next March, she warned: '...The euro is in danger. If we don't deal with this danger, then the consequences for us in Europe are incalculable . . . If the euro fails, then Europe fails.'

Her apocalyptic warning came as David Cameron prepared for his first visit as Prime Minister to Paris and Berlin, where he is likely to come under pressure to commit more British funds to EU bailout programmes."..."

Ms Merkel may have intended her words to be a rallying cry to stop the crisis of confidence spreading from Greece to Portugal, Spain and Italy. But the markets were shaken because Germany is seen as the bedrock of the euro..."..."

US JOINS PRO-MUSLIM 'ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS'

May 20, 2010 Arutz Sheva reported: "The Obama administration has announced the United States will join the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, another openly anti-Israel organization. The group was created in 2006 to find ways to bridge the growing divide between Muslim and Western societies – a goal wholeheartedly embraced by President Barack Obama, who has redirected American foreign policy in pursuit of the same goal.

The White House announcement stated that the move is intended to realize Obama's "vision of active U.S. engagement with other nations and international organizations," a goal sometimes pursued, noted National Review Online columnist Brett D. Schaefer last Thursday, "even when there is little or no chance that doing so will advance U.S. interests."

The U.S. decision is also meant to support the Alliance goal of "improved understanding and cooperative relations among nations and peoples," the statement said. However, the Alliance has been anything but cooperative when it comes to improving understanding of issues relating to the security of Israel's and United States' civilians."..."

NEW CLUE TO ANTI-MATTER MYSTERY

May 19, 2010 BBCNews.com reported: "A US-based physics experiment has found a clue as to why the world around us is composed of normal matter and not its shadowy opposite: anti-matter. Anti-matter is rare today; it can be produced in 'atom smashers', in nuclear reactions or by cosmic rays. But physicists think the Big Bang should have produced equal amounts of matter and its opposite.

New results from the DZero experiment at Fermilab in Illinois provide a clue to what happened to all the anti-matter. This is regarded by many researchers as one of the biggest mysteries in cosmology. The data even offer hints of new physics beyond what can be explained by current theories.

For each basic particle of matter, there exists an anti-particle with the same mass but the opposite electric charge. For example, the negatively charged electron has a positively charged anti-particle called the positron. But when a particle and its anti-particle collide, they are 'annihilated' in a flash of energy, yielding new particles and anti-particles.

Similar processes occurring at the beginning of the Universe should have left us with equal amounts of matter and anti-matter. Yet, paradoxically, today we live in a Universe made up overwhelmingly of matter."..."



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