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"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh" - Luke 21:28

ISRAEL UNDER ATTACK

'No longer a shadow war': Iran says attack on Israel marks strategic shift

April 16, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "Iran's missile and drone barrage against Israel was the first act of a tough new strategy, Tehran says, warning arch foe Israel that any future attack will spark 'a direct and punishing response'.

This spells a dramatic shift from past years in which the Islamic republic and Israel have fought a shadow war of proxy fights and covert operations across the Middle East and sometimes further afield.

Iran from late Saturday launched hundreds of drones and missiles, including from its own territory, directly at Israel, to retaliate for a deadly April 1 strike on Iran's consulate in Damascus. Israel's military said it intercepted 99 percent of the aerial threats with the help of the United States and other allies, and that the overnight attack caused only minor damage.

Iran said it had dealt 'heavy blows' to Israel and hailed the operation as 'successful'.

'Iran's victorious... operation means that the era of strategic patience is over,' the Iranian president's political deputy, Mohammad Jamshidi wrote on X..." (Iran has a long history of calling for the destruction of Israel. It will never happen. Almighty God has stated: ...I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off – Isaiah

56:5. Everlasting means everlasting. God promised to Abraham in Genesis 22:17: ...in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the starts of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore... because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day. Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever - Deuteronomy 4:37-40.

Khamenei hails Iran's attack on Israel: We demonstrated our power

April 22, 2024 -- Israel National News reports: "Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, on Sunday thanked the country's armed forces for their attack this month on Israel, saying the country had demonstrated its power regardless of how many targets were hit, Reuters reported.

In its first ever direct attack on Israel, Iran sent a barrage of more than 300 missiles and drones on April 13. Most of the missiles and drones were shot down by Israel and its allies.

'How many missiles were launched and how many of them hit their target is not the primary question, what really matters is that Iran demonstrated its power during that operation,' Khamenei said on Sunday, according to Reuters..." (Iran will be blotted out when Russia, China, and Islamic nations fight Israel and her allies during Armageddon - Revelation 16:16. The battle is described in Ezekiel 39:1 - 5: ...thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured... Soon the war of wars will arrive from the North and East [Russia and China] - Daniel 11:44. The battle is described in Ezekiel 38:1 - 5: ...the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief [Russian] prince of Meshech and Tubal: [Moscow

and Tubal, or Tubalsk – Southwest of the Russian capital]: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: See the next report.)

Iran Claims Their 99% Failed Missile Attack Penetrated Israeli Air Defenses and 'Hit Their Targets'

April 16, 2024 -- Breitbart.com reports: "Iran's state-controlled PressTV on Monday quoted officials from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) who claimed they launched 'hypersonic missiles' at Israel on Saturday night and that the fast-moving weapons were able to evade Israel, the U.S., and all of their allies to strike their targets in Israel.

PressTV claimed Iran is 'among the few countries that possess the technology to produce hypersonic missiles, which can travel at stunning speeds and hit their targets with great precision.' Saturday night was supposedly the first time Iran has fired these advanced missiles at live targets.

The report quoted Iranian Armed Forces chief of staff Maj. Gen. Mohammad Baqeri's claim on Sunday that Iran 'hit a large intelligence base in the occupied lands and Israel's Nevatim Airbase, from where an F-35 jet took off to target Iran's diplomatic premises in Damascus.'

Baqeri said Iran's airstrikes 'reached their goals' as Israel's vaunted Iron Dome defense system 'failed to deal with the Iranian missiles and drones properly.'

The actual evidence from eyewitnesses and statements from military forces across the Middle East directly contradicts these claims. Iran's attack was almost completely intercepted by Israel, the United States, and allied ground and air units, including Jordan and possibly other Middle Eastern military powers..."

Col. Richard Kemp: 'Iranian attack wasn't symbolic, was meant to cause destruction'

April 14, 2024 -- Israel National News reports: "Colonel Richard Kemp, the

former commander of the British military forces in Afghanistan, spoke to *Israel National News – Arutz Sheva* on Sunday about the Iranian assault on Israel in which the Jewish State was attacked with hundreds of UAVs and missiles overnight.

Saturday night's attack included 170 UAVs, 30 cruise missiles, and 120 ballistic missiles. According to Col. Kemp, these weapons are deadlier than the majority of rockets that have been fired from Lebanon and Gaza by the Hezbollah and Hamas terrorist organizations.

'I witnessed many of the air defense intercepts over Jerusalem last night. The explosions they caused were far greater than any rockets I have seen intercepted from Gaza or Lebanon. There is no doubt that every projectile that hit its target would have caused immense destruction and potentially significant loss of human life,' he noted...

Col. Kemp stated that Iran was counting on more of its drones and missiles getting through Israel's defenses and striking their targets. 'Iran expected many more of its missiles to get through to their targets. They were probably calculating on the penetration rates the Russians have achieved in Ukraine, which have been far higher. Had even 10% of projectiles got to their targets there could have been severe devastation in Israel which is what Iran wanted in its 'severe punishment'.

'Do not make the mistake of thinking this was a symbolic attack designed to fail and send a message as some have suggested,' he cautioned. 'That would have been done with far fewer projectiles with less embarrassment to Iran if it failed which this one very clearly did.'..." (Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt

break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him. — Psalm 2:1-12. See the next report.)

IDF: 'Significant Strategic Achievement' as Israel Stopped 99% of Iran's Missiles, Drones

April 14, 2024 -- Breitbart.com reports: "The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said Sunday that it had scored a 'significant strategic achievement' after it prevented 99% of Iran's drones and missiles from reaching their targets.

As *Breitbart News* reported, Iran attacked Israel overnight Saturday into Sunday with a swarm of over 300 drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles. Israel's air defense systems intercepted most of them; the U.S., U.K., and Jordan also intercepted Iranian drones.

In a statement, IDF Spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said (via IDF translation):

Last night, Iran initiated an attack against Israel, launching over 300 threats of various types. The Iranian threat met the aerial and technological superiority of the IDF, along with a strong fighting coalition – which together intercepted the overwhelming majority of the threats. 99% of the threats launched towards Israeli territory were intercepted – a very significant strategic achievement.

Of approximately 170 unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) that Iran launched, zero crossed into Israeli territory. Dozens of them were intercepted by Israeli Air Force fighter jets, our Aerial Defense Array, and the aerial defense systems and aircraft of our partners.

From the more than 30 cruise missiles Iran launched, none crossed into Israeli territory. 25 of them were intercepted by IAF fighter jets outside the country's borders. Out of over 120 ballistic missiles, only a few crossed into Israeli territory, with the rest being intercepted. These fell at the Nevatim Air Force Base, causing only minor damage to infrastructure. As you can see, the base is operational and continues to carry out its missions. In the image, you can see the landing strip at the Nevatim base..."

TYING ISRAEL'S HANDS

China: Iran's 300 Missile and Drone Barrage on Israel 'Restrained,' Israel Should Not Respond

April 16, 2024 -- Breitbart.com reports: "The communist government of China demanded Israel 'exercise calm and restraint' on Sunday following an unprecedented attack featuring over 300 drones and missiles on the Israeli homeland on Iran.

Beijing, one of Iran's most prominent commercial partners and diplomatic allies, declared through its Foreign Ministry that 'the conflict must end now' in Gaza, where the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have been executing a self-defense operation against the Iranbacked jihadist terror organization Hamas since October.

Using its state media arms, the Chinese government also cited Chinese regimeapproved 'experts' who claimed that the barrage was 'restrained' on Iran's part and suggesting Israel was responsible for the attack on itself, and thus implied Israel has no legitimate reason to respond to the attack in an attempt to prevent further escalation..." (Israel seems to be the only nation that is told to temper their response to brutal attacks. Before the smoke cleared and the cries of the dying faded out on October 7, 2023, they were told not to overreact. The same holds true after this attack by Iran – the U.S. even went so far as to tell them to "take the win" because they were able to intercept 99% of the drones and missiles that were launched at them [see the next report]. In the book of Psalms, there are several imprecatory psalms where the author calls down calamity, destruction, and God's anger and judgment on his enemies. One of these is Psalms 69:

Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away...

Deliver me out of the mire, and let me not

sink: let me be delivered from them that hate me, and out of the deep waters. Let not the waterflood overflow me, neither let the deep swallow me up, and let not the pit shut her mouth upon me. Hear me, O Lord; for thy lovingkindness is good: turn unto me according to the multitude of thy tender mercies. And hide not thy face from thy servant; for I am in trouble: hear me speedily. Draw nigh unto my soul, and redeem it: deliver me because of mine enemies...

Let their table become a snare before them: and that which should have been for their welfare, let it become a trap. Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake. Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them. Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents

Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous... Psalm 69:1-4; 14-18; 22-25; 27-28. See the next 4 reports.)

Report: U.S. told Israel 'take the win' rather than retaliate against Iran

April 14, 2024 -- Israel National News reports: "A senior official in the Biden administration told the NBC network that U.S. President Joe Biden told Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in their telephone conversation that while the American commitment to defend Israel is an ironclad commitment, the United States will not participate in offensive actions against Iran.

According to the official, Israel should 'take the win' of its successful interception of 99% of the drones and missiles launched by Iran rather than retaliate..."

UN chief calls for maximum restraint after Iran's attack on Israel

April 15, 2024 -- The Jerusalem Post reports: "United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Sunday issued a reminder that acts of reprisal involving the use of force are barred under international law after Iran's attack on Israel, while the U.S. warned the Security Council it would work to

hold Tehran accountable at the UN.

Guterres, speaking to a meeting of the UN Security Council, told member states that the UN charter bars the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state as he condemned Iran's attack on Israel and warned against further escalation.

Iran launched a swarm of explosive drones and fired missiles on Saturday in its first-ever direct attack on Israeli territory, risking a major escalation..."

European allies urge Israel against military response to Iran as war cabinet convenes

April 15, 2024 -- The Times of Israel reports: "The United Kingdom, France and Germany urged Israel on Monday not to retaliate against Iran after its unprecedented attack on Saturday night, warning that a military response could send the Middle East spiraling into an all-out war, as Israel's war cabinet prepared to meet to discuss its options against Tehran.

Speaking to the *BBC* ahead of an expected statement by British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Monday afternoon, British Foreign Secretary David Cameron said that while the inclination to respond to the roughly 350 attack drones and missiles launched by Tehran was justified, Israel needs to 'think with its head as well as its heart, to be smart as well as tough.'

The UK has advised Israel that it would be better off not retaliating, Cameron said, declaring that the attack was a 'double defeat' for Iran in that it failed to cause major damage to Israel while at the same revealing 'to the world that [Iran is] the malign influence in the region prepared to do this.'

Although the UK is pushing Israel to show restraint and de-escalate, he noted that Israel will ultimately make its own decisions regarding how it protects its citizens..."

Iran warns Israel against 'slightest' response to attack as Israel pledges action

April 17, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "President Ebrahim Raisi has warned Israel it will face a 'painful response' if it takes the 'slightest action' in response to Iran's unprecedented drone and

missile barrage at the weekend.

Iran's first-ever direct attack on Israel, which began on Saturday, was in response to an April 1 air strike on Tehran's consulate in Damascus which has been widely blamed on Israel.

The strike levelled the five-storey

consular annexe of the Iranian embassy and killed seven Revolutionary Guards, two of them generals.

'We firmly declare that the slightest action against Iran's interests will definitely be met with a severe, extensive and painful response,' Raisi said in a call late Monday with Qatar's emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

Raisi reiterated that Iran was acting in 'self-defence', saying the operation targeted Israeli bases used to carry out the consulate strike, a statement from his office said..."

WHO IS ON ISRAEL'S SIDE?

Jewish organization leader says Israel will be protected by God, despite attacks by Iran or its proxies

April 17, 2024 -- FoxNews.com reports: "Days after hundreds of missiles and drones were launched at Israel, members of the Jewish community are speaking out, saying Iranian leaders are cowards who hide behind proxies, adding that 'almighty God' will protect those who live in the Holy Land.

Iran's brazen and unprecedented attack on Israel late Saturday involved drones, ballistic missiles, and cruise missiles launched from Iran, Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Only seven ballistic missiles reached Israeli territory, causing minor damage to an air base. Israeli and U.S. forces shot down the rest with help from British, French and Jordanian forces.

Aish CEO Rabbi Steven Burg spoke with Fox News Digital about Iran's attack.

'Iran attacked. Iran has been attacking the Western world and Israel for so long, from so many places,' the former New York native said. 'They just use proxies, because frankly, they're cowards. And I think for them to kind of come out from behind the rock and throw all those missiles at Israel, I think people were a little surprised...but I think it's a paper tiger. I think what turned out is they don't quite have the ability that everyone thought they had.'...

Ultimately, the message Burg sent was that countries can continue to attack Jews, no matter where they are, God will protect them..." (He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for

the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation – Psalm 91:1-16.)

ANTISEMITISM ABOUNDS

Qatari official: Jews are murderers of prophets; October 7 is only a 'prelude'

April 24, 2024 -- The Jerusalem Post reports: "Essa Al-Nassr, a member of the Qatari legislative Shura council, spoke on Monday at an Arab League session, expressing antisemitic remarks and inciting to violence and terrorism.

'There will be no peace nor negotiations with the Zionist entity for one reason: because their mentality does not recognize negotiations, but rather only... breaking promises and lying... They only recognize one thing, which is killings; since they are killers of prophets.'

The accusation of Jews as 'killers of prophets' is a well-known antisemitic trope made in several Islamic texts, which is understood by many, including Al-Nassr himself, as a charge against the entire Jewish people valid for eternity..." (The Jewish people have long been blamed for all of the world's All throughout history they have been the universal scapegoat. Incredibly, even the awful plague of the Black Death that swept Europe was blamed on the Jews. They were accused of having poisoned wells with a powder made of spiders, frog legs, Christian entrails, and consecrated hosts (Communion bread). The public wrath that resulted from that fantastic tale brought about the slaughter of thousands of Jews and the complete extermination of two hundred Jewish communities. This can be traced back to the father of anti-Semitism – Satan who ...stood up against Israel – I Chronicles 21:1. God loves His Chosen People – ...I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee – Jeremiah 31:3. See the next three reports.)

Michigan: Anti-Israel Protesters Chant 'Death to America,' 'Death to Israel' on International Al-Quds Day

April 8, 2024 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Anti-Israel protesters in Dearborn, Michigan, closed out Ramadan by

chanting, 'Death to America' and 'Death to Israel,' during an International Al-Quds Day rally.

Video of the protest went viral on social media Sunday, showing activists condemning both Israel and America in the harshest of terms. Activist Tarek Bazzi of the Hadi Institute said chants of 'Death to America' and 'Death to Israel' were only logical.

'Why are our protests on the International Day of Al-Quds, why are they so anti-America?' he asked. 'Why don't we just focus more on Israel and not talk so much about America? Gaza has shown the entire world why these protests are so anti-America. Because it's the United States government that provides the funds for all the atrocities that we just heard about.'

'Imam Khomeini, who declared the International Al-Quds Day, this is why he would say to pour all of your chants and all of your shouts upon the head of America,' he later added..."

Hezbollah flag flies, U.S. flag burns as calls for death to U.S. sound at NYC protest

April 16, 2024 -- The Jerusalem Post reports: "The U.S. flag was set on fire to calls of 'Death to America' during the pro-Palestinian worldwide protest in New York City on Monday, according to footage released by journalists, activists, and pro-Palestinian organizations.

The American flag of a counter-protester was set on fire and had to be put out by nearby police officers, according to footage published by the Independent journalist going by the handle Luis Documents.

Moments after the fire was extinguished, a masked man emerged from the crowd to scream 'Death to America.' The same man has also been seen in a Frontlines Turning Point USA video shouting 'Death to America, death to Israel.'

A protester burned another American flag in front of Borough Hall as demonstrators chanted 'Shut it down,' according to a video published by journalist Katie Smith..."

Toronto: Anti-Israel protesters express support for 'intifada'

April 8, 2024 -- Israel National News reports: "Thousands participated on Saturday in the Iranian Al-Quds Day march in Toronto, which is held in the last week of the month of Ramadan and expresses the Islamic commitment to the liberation of 'Palestine'.

The speakers on Al-Quds Day expressed unqualified support for the 'resistance forces' in the Middle East, including Hamas, Hezbollah, Iran, the militias in Iraq, Yemen and Syria.

One of the speakers affiliated with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine expressed full sympathy with the military commander of the Al-Qassam Brigades by quoting the call in Arabic, 'Put the sword against the sword, we are all the people of Mohammed Deif.'

Another speaker demanded that the Canadian government remove Hamas and Hezbollah from the list of terrorist organizations on the grounds that they are freedom fighters and not terrorists..."

Nolte: Elite Universities Breed the New Hitler Youth

April 24, 2024 -- Breitbart.com reports: "What we're seeing across America's 'elite' academic institutions is something the Western world has not seen since 1930s Germany: an open, naked, toxic, violent, seething, and uncompromising hatred of the Jews. Worse, we are seeing a mainstream acceptance of that hatred. Through compulsory Youth Camps, Adolf Hitler did in the 1930s what elite universities are doing today: creating Jew-hating totalitarians.

Jews were excluded from the Hitler Youth camps. Today, as we see everywhere, disgraced universities like MIT, Columbia, NYU, Harvard, etc., might not openly reject Jews on campus. Still, the student bodies, much of the faculty, the anti-Jewish curricula, and the administrations tolerating venomous anti-Jewish hate protests have all sent a clear message: Jews Not Welcome..." (Hitler's persecution of the Jews began in 1933; shortly after he took office. On April 7 of that year he stripped all Jews of offices in the German civil service. Government officials, doctors, lawyers, and workers in educational and cultural fields were all required to sign the following statement:

I declare officially herewith I do not know of any circumstance — despite careful scrutiny — that may justify the presumption that I am not of Aryan descent; in particular, none of my paternal or maternal parents or grandparents was at any time of the Jewish faith. I am fully aware of the fact that I expose myself to prosecution and dismissal if this declaration proves untrue.

Within three months, thirty thousand heads of Jewish families had been deprived of income.

The future sufferings of the Jews were also announced in two lines of a song called "The Horst Wessel Song," which became the theme of every major parade in Germany. Translated, two lines of the song were: "When Jewish blood flows from the knife, Things will go much better."

Under Hitler's direction there was a steady rise in outrageous demands and unlawful acts against all Jews. By 1938 every synagogue in the nation had been burned, the windows of every Jewish establishment had been shattered, and twenty-five thousand innocent Jews were in concentration camps.)

THE KINGS OF THE EAST

NASA chief warns of Chinese military presence in space

April 18, 2024 -- Voice of America News reports: "China is bolstering its space capabilities and is using its civilian program to mask its military objectives, the head of the U.S. space agency said Wednesday, warning that Washington

must remain vigilant.

'China has made extraordinary strides especially in the last 10 years, but they are very, very secretive,' NASA administrator Bill Nelson told lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

'We believe that a lot of their so-called civilian space program is a military program. And I think, in effect, we are in a race,' Nelson said.

He said he hoped Beijing would 'come to its senses and understand that civilian space is for peaceful uses,' but added: 'We have not seen that demonstrated by China.'

Nelson's comment came as he testified before the House Appropriations Committee on NASA's budget for fiscal 2025..." (Jesus said: And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh— Luke 21:25 – 28.

Everyone in the world is dependent on satellites, especially for communication and navigation. You can well imagine the chaos if this system were disrupted. One post shall run to meet another, and one messenger to meet another, to shew the king of Babylon that his city is taken at one end, And that the passages are stopped, and the reeds they have burned with fire, and the men of war are affrighted—Jeremiah 51:21,32—lines of communication were disrupted in this passage—with frightening results. See the next report.)

U.S. commander sees 'breathtaking' development of China's space power

April 24, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "China's military capabilities in space are developing at a 'breathtaking' pace that only looks set to intensify after recent defence reforms, the head of the U.S. Space Command said Wednesday.

General Stephen Whiting told journalists that Beijing had 'tripled the number of intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance satellites on orbit' in just six years, with repercussions across military domains.

'Frankly, the People's Republic of China is moving at breathtaking speed in space and they are rapidly developing a range of counter-space weapons to hold at risk our space capabilities,' Whiting said.

Describing China as the United States' top 'pacing challenge', Whiting said Beijing had used 'space capabilities to improve the lethality, the precision and the range of their terrestrial forces'.

China's leaders had underscored future space ambitions with recent military reforms, he added..."

China's Xi tells ex-Taiwan leader 'external interference' cannot block unification

April 11, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "Chinese President Xi Jinping said Wednesday that 'external interference' would not stop Beijing from unifying with Taiwan, as he met the self-ruled island's former leader in a rare display of cross-strait dialogue.

Taiwan's ex-president Ma Ying-jeou is in China as part of what he has called a 'journey of peace' to calm tensions with Beijing, which claims the island as its own territory and has never renounced the use of force to bring it under its control.

Xi welcomed a delegation headed by Ma to Beijing on Wednesday afternoon, Chinese and Taiwanese media reported, in a rare meeting between current or former leaders in Beijing and Taipei, and the first since a landmark summit between the two men in 2015 when Ma was still in office.

'The Chinese nation has written the indivisible history of both sides of the Taiwan Strait and engraved the fact that our compatriots... are connected by blood,' Xi said in footage of the meeting broadcast by Taiwan's *TVBS News*.

'There is no force that can separate us... Differences in systems cannot change the objective fact that we belong to one nation and one people,' Xi was shown telling Ma across a glossy table in an ornate reception room in the capital.

'External interference cannot stop

the historic cause of our reunion,' Xi said..." (A March 19, 2021 article in The New York Times – Tense Talks With China Left U.S. 'Cleareved' About Beijing's Intentions, Officials Say https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/19/ world/asia/china-us-alaska.html states: "Just as Washington's views on China have shifted after years of encouraging the country's economic integration, so have Beijing's perceptions of the United States and the privileged place in the world that it has long held. The Americans, in their view, no longer have an overwhelming reservoir of global influence, nor the power to wield it against China.

That has made China more confident in pursuing its aims openly and unabashedly — from human rights issues in Hong Kong and Xinjiang to territorial disputes with India and Japan and others in the South China Sea to, most contentiously of all, the fate of Taiwan, the self-governing democracy that China claims as its own.

While China still faces enormous challenges at home and around the world, its leaders now act as if history is on their side." See the next report.)

China warns U.S. military support for Taiwan increases 'risk of conflict'

April 25, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "China warned on Wednesday that U.S. military support for Taiwan only increased the 'risk of conflict' along the strait, after the U.S. Congress allocated \$8 billion in military support for the island.

'I'd like to emphasise that the United States and Taiwan strengthening military ties will not bring about security for Taiwan,' foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said.

'It will only increase tensions and the risk of conflict across the Taiwan Strait, and will ultimately be an act of shooting oneself in the foot,' Wang warned...

Closer military aid cannot 'save the doomed fate of Taiwan independence', Wang warned.

'The United States should... stop arming Taiwan, stop creating new tensions in the Taiwan Strait, and stop jeopardising peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait,' he said..."

Biden, Japan PM boost defense ties with eye on China

April 12, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "U.S. President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida unveiled their countries' biggest ever upgrade in defense ties Wednesday during a White House state visit focused on countering a resurgent China.

Biden rolled out the red carpet for Kishida with a lavish dinner, plus music by U.S. singer Paul Simon, as he underscored Japan's importance as a key ally against Beijing in the Asia-Pacific region.

The two leaders even agreed that a Japanese astronaut will be the first non-American to walk on the Moon, as they sought to take the alliance to new heights.

'This is the most significant upgrade in our alliance since it was first established,' Biden, 81, told a press conference with Kishida in the White House Rose Garden.

The two leaders unveiled plans to restructure the U.S. military command in Japan, the biggest such change since the 1960s. The move is aimed at making U.S. and Japanese forces more nimble in the event of threats, such as a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

The United States, Japan and Australia would also launch a joint air defense network, while Britain would take part in military exercises with Washington and Tokyo..." (China is prophesied to be a top contender and bloody warrior during the battle of Armageddon -Revelation 16:16. Revelation 16:12 pictures Kings coming to the Middle East, primarily China, to slay a thirdpart of mankind in atomic warfare. Revelation 9:14 – 18 the Oriental nations from the East join with Russia - the leader from the North - Daniel 11:44 – for the most horrendous war in history.)

North Korea says it has tested 'super-large warhead' during cruise missile drill

April 22, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "North Korea said Saturday it has conducted a cruise missile test with what its state-run media called a 'superlarge warhead.'

The surface-to-air missile test took place Friday afternoon over the Sea of Japan, according to the official *Korean Central News Agency*.

The drills were meant to test the 'power of super-large warhead of the strategic cruise missile Hwasal-1Ra-3 and test-fired the new-type anti-aircraft missile

Pyoltsi-1-2 on the West Sea of Korea,' according to *KCNA*, which quoted the General Missile Bureau of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The tests 'achieved purposes concerned,' North Korea said.

South Korea's Yonhap News Agency published a photo reportedly of the missile launches, using a mobile launching vehicle on what appears to be a runway..." (North Korea marches with Russia and China for the war of the latter years and latter days – Ezekiel 38:8, 16. Atomic bombs will produce global incineration – Psalms 97:3; Isaiah 66:15; Joel 2:3, 30; Zephaniah 1:18; Malachi 4:1; Revelation 8:7 and 9:18.)

Kim oversees North Korea's first 'nuclear trigger' drills

April 23, 2024 -- SpaceWar.com reports: "North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has overseen the country's first ever 'nuclear trigger' drills, staterun KCNA news agency said Tuesday, which involved simulating a nuclear counterattack as a warning to enemies.

The drills showcased North Korea's 'nuclear trigger' management system for the first time, the official *Korean Central News Agency* reported, adding this was the country's combined control system for its nuclear weapons.

The drill took place on Monday, according to the report. Seoul's military had earlier announced that the North had fired several short-range ballistic missiles that day, with Tokyo also confirming the launch.

Kim 'guided a combined tactical drill simulating a nuclear counterattack involving super-large multiple rocket artillerymen,' the report said.

The rockets 'hit their island target' some 352 kilometres (219 miles) away, it continued, saying Kim had expressed 'great satisfaction' over the result, which boosted 'the Korean-style tactical nuclear strike'.

The drill examined 'the reliability of the system of command, management, control and operation of the whole nuclear force' and ensured the superlarge multiple rocket units had 'mastered' the ability to switch into nuclear counterattack mode, KCNA (A huge nuclear war is said..." prophesied multiplied times in God's Word. Revelation 9:14 – 18 depicts Armageddon: Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. And Revelation 16:16 tells of the longest and final battle of the ages.)

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

FBI arrests Idaho 18-year-old for 'violent plot' to attack churches on behalf of ISIS, Justice Department says

April 10, 2024 -- FoxNews.com reports:

- "The FBI has arrested an 18-year-old in Idaho after uncovering his 'truly horrific' and 'violent plot' to attack churches in Coeur d'Alene this past weekend on behalf of ISIS, the Justice Department says.

Alexander Mercurio is now facing a federal charge of attempting to provide material support or resources to a designated foreign terrorist organization after the FBI says he devised a plan to 'incapacitate his father, restrain him using handcuffs, and steal his firearms to use for maximum casualties' in an attack he had been planning to carry out in the northern Idaho resort city on Sunday, April 7.

'The defendant allegedly pledged loyalty to ISIS and sought to attack people attending churches in Idaho, a truly horrific plan which was detected and thwarted by the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force,' FBI Director Christopher Wray said in a statement...

'His attack plan involved using flamecovered weapons, explosives, knives, a machete, a pipe and ultimately firearms,'

the investigator added. 'His plan grew more precise as he eventually identified the specific church and date on which he planned to attack.'..." persecution will soon overtake most Christians in a majority of the world. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. -Matthew 5:10 – 12; If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it

hated you. If ve were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ve are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not him that sent me. - John 15:18 – 21; ... When he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. — Revelation 6:9; ... I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. - Revelation 20:4; and Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. – Revelation 2:10. See the next report.)

ISIS calls for Ramadan massacre of Christians and Jews by 'lone wolves'

April 2, 2024 -- The Jerusalem Post reports: "ISIS called for 'lone wolves' to murder Christians and Jews around the world as part of the holiday of Ramadan, British news outlet *Mirror* reported on Friday.

Islamic State spokesperson Abu Hudhayfah al-Ansari praised the terror attack on Crocus Concert Hall near Moscow, where 140 were murdered, the British news media outlet reported.

Al-Ansari proceeded to reach out to 'lone wolves' on Telegram, urging them to 'target Christians and Jewish people, especially in the U.S., Europe, and Israel during the holy month of Ramadan.'

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the ISIS caliphate declaration in Iraq and Syria, al-Ansari stated that American troops in Iraq will 'lead to more attacks' from the terror organization.

In a 41-minute audio speech, the spokesperson 'highlighted and praised the global expansion of Islamic State' and sharply criticized the terror organization al-Qaeda, claiming that it

had strayed from its path..."

Why Americans are losing their religion

April 24, 2024 -- Voice of America News reports: "A decades long trend toward secularization, which has come more slowly to America than many other developed countries, appears to be picking up speed in the United States, according to polling and other evidence. In 1965, a Gallup poll found that 70% of respondents said religion is 'very important' in their lives. Today, fewer than half of Americans (45%) say religion is 'very important.'

'Younger generations probably weren't really brought up in a faith tradition, or maybe if they were, they didn't go to church that often ... so I think that's a big reason,' Jeff Jones, a senior editor at Gallup, says.

One-fourth of Americans (26%) said they were religiously unaffiliated in 2023, which is up from 21% in 2013, according to the Public Religion Research Institute.

The same study suggests that these religiously unaffiliated folks are not looking to get more religion. Only 9% say they are interested in finding a new religious or spiritual home..." (...when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? – Luke 18:8. The article makes one wonder what the answer to that question would be. Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall *not find it.* – Amos 8:11-12.

Thankfully, God always has a faithful remnant. In I Kings 19 following the victory over the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel, Elijah fled to the wilderness after hearing a threat from Jezebel. We read: ...he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse

of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. And the Lord said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him. - I Kings 19:4-18 [Emphasis mine]. Thank God for His faithful remnant.)