

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

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WARS & RUMORS OF WARS

Iranian turned U.S. spy: Tehran will attack Israel

YnetNews.com reports: "A former fighter in Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) turned U.S. spy offered a rare glance into one of the most complex countries in the Middle East.

During a conference held at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Reza Kahlili (pseudonym) estimated that Iran will eventually attack Israel, Europe and the Persian Gulf states. He called for a preemptive strike on the regime in Tehran, but not on the Iranian people or the country's infrastructure.

Kahlili accused the Obama Administration of being naïve. According to him, the American overtures are viewed by the Iranian regime as a sign of weakness, while the Iranian people consider the efforts to engage the regime an act of betrayal against their struggle for freedom.

'This is a messianic regime. There should be no doubt — they are going to commit the most horrendous suicide bombing in human history. They will attack Israel, European capitals, and (the) Persian Gulf region at the same time,' said Kahlili in one of his first public appearances to promote his new book ['A Time To Betray: The Astonishing Double Life of a CIA Agent inside the Revolutionary Guards of Iran'](#).

Kahlili said he joined the Revolutionary Guard following the Islamic revolution of 1979, but volunteered to work for the CIA when he became disillusioned with the Khomeini regime after witnessing acts of rape, torture and murder..." **(This devastating information is predicted to occur in Matthew 24: 6, 7; Mark 13: 7, 8; and specifically in Revelation 9: 14-18 and Revelation 16:16.)**

G-8 'fully believes' Israel will attack Iran, says Italy PM

Haaretz reports: "World leaders 'believe absolutely' that Israel may decide to take military action against Iran to prevent the latter from acquiring nuclear weapons, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said.

'Iran is not guaranteeing a peaceful production of nuclear power [so] the members of the G-8 are worried and believe absolutely that Israel will probably react preemptively,' Berlusconi told reporters following talks with other Group of Eight leaders north of Toronto.

The leaders of the G-8, which comprises Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, Canada and the United States, devoted much of their two-day session to discussion of the contentious nuclear programs unfolding in North Korea and Iran.

The leaders issued a statement calling on Iran to 'respect the rule of law' and

to 'hold a 'transparent dialogue' over its nuclear ambitions.

In their communiqué, the leaders of the world's richest countries said they respected Iran's right to a civilian nuclear program, but noted that such a right must be accompanied by commitment to international law..." **(Israel is the only salvation for millions in European capitals and the Persian Gulf Region according to the preceding report. While Iran prepares to obliterate Israel according to Psalm 83:4, Yahweh God will come to Israel's defense — Ezekiel 39:6 and Iran will pay a horrendous price for her wicked ways — Zechariah 14:4, 12.)**

Sending Hezbollah a message: Israel is ready

The Jerusalem Post reports: "Four years ago, on the eve of the Second Lebanon War, the IDF had just a few hundred designated Hezbollah targets throughout Lebanon. About 90 of them were long-range missiles that had been stored in the homes of top Hezbollah operatives and these were destroyed by the air force within 36 minutes on the first night of the war.

While by the end of the war, the air force had bombed close to 8,000 targets, the fact that it knew about only a few hundred before the war partially led to the failure to stop the rocket fire and fatally hurt the guerrilla group.

...IDF officers revealed that the air

force today has thousands of designated targets it can bomb if war were to break out.

Some of them, like those that appear on the maps of the southern Lebanese village of el-Khiam that were declassified, are of arms caches, command-and-control centers and rocket launchers; others are likely long-range rockets, like the highly accurate M600 or Scuds, which Syria recently transferred to Lebanon.

In the four years that have passed since the Second Lebanon War, both the IDF and Hezbollah have been busy studying their mistakes and implementing the necessary lessons. The IDF, for example, significantly increased training regimens, developed and procured active-protection systems for tanks and armored personnel carriers and is investing in building new urban warfare training centers due to an understanding that the next conflict would be fought in the narrow streets of southern Lebanese villages.

Hezbollah, senior officers said, mostly consists of a lot more of the same encountered in 2006, except today its command posts, rocket launchers and guerrilla forces are deployed inside villages and not in the notorious 'nature reserves' it had created in the forests of southern Lebanon before 2006..." (A message to Iran and it's sponsored thugs — Hamas and Hezbollah. Yahweh, the God of Judaism and Christianity warns: "I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name" — Isaiah 56:5. See also the next three reports.)

Report: Hezbollah on high alert over concern Israel 'preparing something for us'

Haaretz reports: "Hezbollah warned that Israel was preparing 'something' in Lebanon and that the organization has been on high alert since Israel released aerial images to highlight the militant group's activities close to the Israeli border earlier, the London-based Arabic language daily *Asharq al-Awsat* reported.

...Israel offered evidence of what it

says is a growing threat from Hezbollah in southern Lebanon.

In a briefing to journalists, Israel Defense Forces Colonel Ronen Marley revealed previously classified photographs to show what he said was a unit of 90 Hezbollah militants operating in the village of Al-Hiyam, where they were storing weapons close to hospitals and schools.

The Hezbollah official told *Asharq al-Awsat* that they were concerned that Israel was 'preparing something for us' and added that they would act with restraint.

'We want to avoid heated political debates because we want the summer season to be perfect for the Lebanese despite Israeli attempts to execute what it failed to achieve in 2006,' *Asharq al-Awsat* quoted the Hezbollah official..."

Hamas official: Palestinians should fire at Israel from West Bank

Haaretz reports: "Palestinians should initiate rocket attacks on Israel from the West Bank, Israel Radio quoted Hamas strongman Mahmoud Zahar as saying in an interview that such a move was necessary.

Asked whether rocket fire against Israel should be limited to launches originating in Gaza, Zahar told the East Jerusalem newspaper *Al Quds* that the fact that 'such launches should happen in the West Bank as well [as Gaza] is inevitable.'

Zahar criticized the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority for fighting the 'resistance,' saying that it was not Hamas that took over Gaza, but in fact President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah movement that had seized the power in the West Bank, aided by the Israeli 'occupation.'

Abbas, according to Zahar, got 'one big zero' out of the international community, adding that Arab states had severed ties with Hamas in order to avoid conflict with the United States and to 'save their heads.'

The Hamas leader also stressed that Hamas would never change its policy, even if it won the next elections, saying

that the solution lies in 'resistance.'..."

Hezbollah: If Israel attacks, it will be defeated

YnetNews.com reports: "Hezbollah's deputy secretary-general, Sheikh Naim Qassem, said that his organization would crush any attempt by Israel to launch an attack on the Shiite group and warned the Jewish state against an embarrassing defeat.

In an interview to a Syrian television station, Qassem said of the 2006 Second Lebanon War: 'If the result of the July war was an Israeli defeat, it will suffer an even greater blow in its next offensive.'

Hassan Nasrallah's deputy called on the United Nations Security Council to discuss what he referred to as 'Israel's violations' against Lebanon in regards to Resolution 1701, which ended the Second Lebanon War..."

Top U.A.E. diplomat endorses striking Iran nuclear sites

Haaretz reports: "The United Arab Emirates ambassador to the United States, Yousef Al-Otaiba, said that the benefits of bombing Iran's nuclear sites eclipse the short-term costs such an attack would entail, the *Washington Times* reported.

'It's a cost-benefit analysis,' Al-Otaiba opined during an interview with *The Atlantic* correspondent Jeffrey Goldberg at the Aspen Ideas Festival. 'There will be consequences, there will be a backlash and there will be problems with people protesting and rioting and very unhappy that there is an outside force attacking a Muslim country; that is going to happen no matter what.'

'We cannot live with a nuclear Iran,' he concluded..." (Iran's president promoting a Shia messiah, Mahdi, will stop at nothing including the annihilation of Jews as well as compromising Sunni Muslims. Our God warns: "Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." I John 3:15 and

“He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.” — I John 4:8.)

CIA chief warns Iran could have nukes ready by 2012

SpaceDaily.com reports: “Iran has enough low-enriched uranium to make two weapons, which it could have prepared and ready for delivery as early as 2012, CIA director Leon Panetta warned.

‘We think they have enough

low-enriched uranium for two weapons,’ Panetta told the ABC network’s ‘*This Week*’ program.

Tehran would need a year to enrich it fully to produce a bomb and it would take ‘another year to develop the kind of weapon delivery system in order to make that viable,’ he said.

Iran is under mounting international pressure over its suspect nuclear program, which the West fears masks

a covert weapons drive.

The Islamic republic vehemently denies the charge, but has been flexing its military muscle mainly in the strategic Gulf region by staging regular war games and showcasing an array of Iran-manufactured missiles...” (*The History Channel has predicted a global war for 2012. Could Iran have an enormous part in such a war? See Daniel 11:40; Isaiah 17:1; Ezekiel 38:5-7; and Psalm 83:5-7.*)

NEWS FROM ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Ahmadinejad Calls to Liberate America

Israel National News reports: “Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad went on a tirade against the United States and the Jewish people in a speech given in Shahre-Kord in central Iran. The speech was printed in Iran’s *Fars* media and translated by the *Middle East Media Research Institute* (MEMRI).

Among other things, Ahmadinejad announced a new goal: ‘liberating’ the U.S.

‘I hereby announce that from this point forward, one of the Iranian nation’s main aspirations will be to deliver the American people from [its] undemocratic and bullying government,’ he said.

He also condemned Jews and Israel, saying ‘the West’ had ‘gathered the filthiest and greatest of criminals, who only appear to be human from all corners of the earth... so that they would occupy the lands of Palestine.’...” (**This hatemonger is a second Hitler. Jesus predicted and described such a vile blasphemer against Jews in Matthew 23:33 when He stated: “Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?” God will at that day add: sorry you suicide bombers, you missed the 72 virgins you were promised by your god.**)

Assad: U.S. administration is weak

The Jerusalem Post reports: “The Obama administration’s failure to facilitate change in the Middle East shows that it is weak, Syrian President Bashar Assad said during a visit to Latin America amid rising regional tensions over the Gaza flotilla incident and increasing efforts to defuse the Iranian threat.

Assad was quoted in the Argentine daily *Clarín* as saying that Washington did not ‘seem to be able to manage a peace process from beginning to end.’ He added that while the U.S. was capable of pulling ‘all its weight’ to support a peace process, the current administration has so far proved to be impractical and unable to gain the backing of Congress.

‘Afghanistan is worse than before,’ said Assad, stressing that the situation in Iraq had not changed and ties with Syria remained stagnant despite U.S. President Barack Obama’s announcement that he would dispatch a new ambassador to Damascus.

While criticizing the Obama administration, Assad had only words of praise for rising players in global and regional diplomacy – namely Turkey and Brazil, who recently brokered a deal to enrich Iran’s uranium on Turkish soil. The move, said Assad, transfers ‘essential political weight from a few countries in the North, such as Europe and the U.S.,

to others in the world.’...” (Sad that Dr. Rick Warren who leads thousands of ministers globally praised Assad of Syria as one of the world’s great leaders. Strange he failed to help this Jew hating Muslim with his book, *“The Purpose Driven Life.”*)

Ahmadinejad Terms UN Resolution against Iran “Failure” of Obama’s Policy

Fars News Agency reports: “The approval of the fourth round of sanctions against Iran at the UN Security Council indicated the failure of U.S. President Barack Obama in bringing a change to Washington’s policies, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said.

‘Mr. Obama took the power with the slogan of change but the [recent] resolution... means that nothing will happen. [It] is in fact an indication of Obama’s failure to bring change,’ Ahmadinejad said.

With the new resolution passed at the UNSC, President Obama has followed in former U.S. president George W. Bush’s footsteps, President Ahmadinejad said, adding that such policy was doomed to failure.

The UNSC adopted new sanctions against the Islamic Republic after the U.S.’s hard lobbying for new punitive

measures against Tehran over its nuclear work.

The Iranian chief executive blamed Washington for the ratification of the recent sanctions, saying other nations were pushed by the U.S. to approve the UN resolution.

‘We consider the United States as responsible for the resolution, because the Security Council is under U.S. influence,’ President Ahmadinejad said in an interview with Japan’s *Kyodo* news agency.

The Iranian president said the U.S. government has been treating Iran with hostility for over 50 years, adding that threats and sanctions could not force Iran to withdraw from its peaceful nuclear activities...” **(God help the world if this religious fanatic ever creates the nuclear bomb. Please review the opening report again in this Intelligence Briefing.)**

Ahmadinejad Cautions Israel about “Playing with Lion”

The Fars News Agency reports: “Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad warned Israel about any potential aggression against Iran, cautioning the regime that playing with Iran is as dangerous as playing with a lion.

‘They all know that playing with Iran is like playing with a lion,’ Ahmadinejad said.

‘The Zionist regime is too weak to launch aggression against Iran. They long to deal a blow to Iran, but wouldn’t dare even think about it,’ he added in an interview with Turkey’s ATV network.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the president underlined the Israeli attack on the Gaza-bound aid flotilla was the most despicable act the Zionist regime could have done.

‘Today, world nations are all ears to hear what freedom-seeking peoples are saying,’ President Ahmadinejad further said.

‘Fortunately, freedom-seeking and justice-seeking nations reacted to the Zionist regime’s brutal actions, and we hope protests to the occupying regime will continue’, added the president.

He underlined the Gaza siege should be lifted as soon as possible...” **(Ahmadinejad finally had something right when he calls himself and the subjugated nation over which he rules by oppression and persecution “a Lion” because God’s Word pictures Satan “as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” — I Peter 5:8.)**

Iran: World has not done enough to curb Zionist atrocities

Haaretz reports: “Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki accused the United Nations of neglecting their responsibility to deal with the ‘atrocities’ of the Zionist regime, according to the Iranian news agency *IRNA*.

At a ceremony marking 28 years since four Iranians vanished in Beirut — an event Iran claims was orchestrated by Israel — Mottaki said he regarded ‘Zionists as the worst threat to the Middle East.’

‘If the UN had adopted a severe stand against the crimes and atrocities of the Zionists in the past, the regime would not have dared to commit new crimes such as targeting Gaza-bound flotilla,’ Mottaki said.

The Iranian FM was referring to the May raid by Israeli special forces on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla, which resulted in the death of nine of the flotilla participants.

‘The Zionist regime has turned into a source of threat to all nations of the region, endangering peace and security of the world,’ Mottaki said, adding that the ‘inhuman crimes committed by the usurper regime in the past six decades in the occupied lands as well as other parts of the region, truly demonstrates the savage nature of the fabricated regime.’

‘The Zionist regime has lost its credibility and legitimacy among world nations and is now on the verge of collapse,’ Mottaki said, adding that ‘the Zionist regime like the former apartheid regime in South Africa is doomed to failure and the nations of the region mainly the Palestinians will witness formation of a

democratic system in place of the Zionist occupiers.’...” **(I have been waiting to use this Bible verse on Ahmadinejad and his henchmen — II Peter 2:16. Don’t miss looking up this text.)**

Egypt FM: Arab League will declare Palestinian state if peace talks fail

Haaretz reports: “The Arab League will turn to the United Nations Security Council to declare an independent Palestinian state if peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians do not bear fruit by September, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit told the Egyptian daily *al-Masry al-Youm*.

According to the *al-Masry al-Youm* report, the Arab League decision was based on UNSC resolution 1515, which calls for regional Middle East peace, based on the two-state solution.

The Egyptian FM said in the interview that it was important to establish a Palestinian state at least in principle, while garnering international support for the main elements of a permanence peace deal with Israel...” **(The real problem will be the division over Jerusalem which God’s Word mentions 930 times as belonging to the Jews as much as Mecca is the holy place for Muslims. This division is why World War III begins — Joel 3:2.)**

‘Genocidal’ Israel will be put in its place — Chavez

Reuters reports: “Venezuela’s President Hugo Chavez described Israel as a genocidal state that acted as an assassin for the United States, predicting the Middle East nation would one day be ‘put in its place.’

The socialist Chavez is a harsh critic of both Israel and the United States and cut relations with Israel after accusing it of ‘holocaust’ for its 2009 offensive in the Gaza Strip.

‘It has become the assassin arm of the United States, no one can doubt it. It is a threat to all of us,’ Chavez said, during a visit by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Chavez said he supported a peaceful

struggle for the return to Syria of the Golan Heights, captured by Israel in 1967.

‘The territory will one day return to the Syrian hands,’ Chavez said. ‘Of course we want it to be peaceful because we don’t want more war.’

‘But one day the genocidal state of Israel will be put into its place, and let’s hope that a really democratic state emerges there, with which we can share a path and ideas.’

Chavez did not offer further details of what putting Israel ‘in its place’ would entail... **(Chavez has recently dropped his democracy mask and in his hatred wants to help Iran destroy Israel as well as allow Russia to build a missile base in Venezuela to strike America.)**

Israeli PM: Mideast Peace Deal Unlikely by 2012

Voice of America News reports: “Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says he does not envision a negotiated Middle East peace settlement within the next two years, despite his Palestinian counterpart’s intention to set up the institutions for a state by 2011.

Mr. Netanyahu told U.S. television’s *Fox News Sunday* that a Palestinian state is possible, but that finalizing security arrangements and other issues will likely push the process beyond 2012.

Western-backed Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, an American-educated economist, last year unveiled a government program to build the

economic and legal infrastructure of a Palestinian state by 2011, regardless of progress in the stalled peace negotiations.

Mr. Netanyahu told his Cabinet that when he travels to Egypt for talks he plans to ask Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to help promote direct peace negotiations with the Palestinians.

The two leaders last met in early May in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, a few days before the start of the indirect peace talks — the first between Israel and the Palestinians in more than a year...” **(The Bible predicts that the signing of a “peace contract” lasting seven years will be signed immediately after the Rapture — Revelation 4:1; II Thessalonians 2:3-8.)**

THE NEW WORLD ORDER

Medvedev sees chance for new world order

The Financial Times reports: “Dmitry Medvedev, the Russian president, said Moscow was bidding to help lead efforts to build a new world economic order after the old system collapsed in the global financial crisis.

Opening Russia’s annual economic forum in St Petersburg where hundreds of global chief executives have flocked, Mr. Medvedev said the renewed interest in Russia this year was a sign of a changing world in which the institutions of the western-dominated world order had had their day amid thousands of corporate defaults and the threat of sovereign defaults.

‘What had seemed untouchable has collapsed. The bubbles that created the illusion of flourishing economies have burst,’ Mr. Medvedev said. ‘For Russia this situation is a challenge and an opportunity. We are living in a unique time. And we should use it to build a modern, flourishing and strong Russia... which will be a co-founder of the new world economic order and a full participant in the collective political leadership of the post-crisis world.’

Mr. Medvedev insisted ‘Russia has changed’ in the past year as it sought

to pursue a course of ‘smart politics’ that would leverage its competitive advantages in the raw materials sector, while shifting emphasis towards modernizing the economy and focusing on boosting innovation over resources.

Acknowledging that the country still had a great deal to do to meet these aims, Mr. Medvedev laid out a series of new initiatives that aim to boost its attractiveness as an investment destination. ‘Russia needs a real investment boom’, in order to achieve its modernization goals, he said. To stimulate that, Mr. Medvedev announced Moscow would introduce zero taxation on capital gains for companies working on long-term investments starting from January next year and said Russia was improving the legal system to provide better protection for businesses against the long arm of bureaucracy...” **(It is being set up now and will be in full force soon. Order my DVD “Dictator of the New World Order: Alive and Waiting in the Wings” for a full study — Daniel 8:23; Daniel 7:23; Revelation 13:1, 7.)**

Medvedev Pushes Ruble Reserve Currency to Cut Dollar Dominance

Bloomberg.com reports: “Russia wants the ruble to be one of the world’s

reserve currencies as President Dmitry Medvedev renews his push to reduce the dollar’s dominance and make Moscow a global financial hub.

‘Only three, five years ago it seemed like a fantasy’ to create a new reserve currency, Medvedev said in a speech in St. Petersburg, Russia. ‘Now we are seriously discussing it.’

Medvedev, who has repeatedly called for a supranational currency to match the dollar, said discussions with China are continuing on broadening the global options. Russia sold U.S. Treasuries for a fifth consecutive month in April, the U.S. Treasury Department said June 15. The world may need as many as six reserve currencies, Medvedev said.

‘It’s something that’s obviously needed,’ he said at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum. ‘Developing a financial center in Moscow will considerably help to strengthen the ruble’s position as one of the reserve currencies.’

Medvedev’s comments underline Russia’s ambition to reassert its global power following the financial crisis. Gross domestic product shrank 7.9 percent last year, the worst contraction since the fall of communism in 1991, after the credit crunch sent commodity

prices plunging.

If a country wants to alter the world economic order, including the number of reserve currencies, it must become an international financial center, Bank of Israel Governor Stanley Fischer said in an interview...” (**Shades of the beginning of Revelation 13: 16-18.**)

Scrap dollar as sole reserve currency: U.N. report

Reuters reports: “A new United Nations report released calls for abandoning the U.S. dollar as the main global reserve currency, saying it has been unable to safeguard value.

But several European officials attending a high-level meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Council

countered by saying that the market, not politicians, would determine what currencies countries would keep on hand for reserves.

‘The dollar has proved not to be a stable store of value, which is a requisite for a stable reserve currency,’ the U.N. World Economic and Social Survey 2010 said.

The report says that developing countries have been hit by the U.S. dollar’s loss of value in recent years.

‘Motivated in part by needs for self-insurance against volatility in commodity markets and capital flows, many developing countries accumulated vast amounts of such (U.S. dollar) reserves during the 2000s,’ it said.

The report supports replacing the dollar with the International Monetary

Fund’s special drawing rights (SDRs), an international reserve asset that is used as a unit of payment on IMF loans and is made up of a basket of currencies.

‘A new global reserve system could be created, one that no longer relies on the United States dollar as the single major reserve currency,’ the U.N. report said.

The report said a new reserve system ‘must not be based on a single currency or even multiple national currencies but instead, should permit the emission of international liquidity — such as SDRs — to create a more stable global financial system.’

‘Such emissions of international liquidity could also underpin the financing of investment in long-term sustainable development,’ it said...” (**See the preceding article.**)

TERRORIST THREAT

Times Square Bomb Suspect Pleads Guilty

Voice of America News reports: “Calling himself a ‘Muslim soldier,’ Faisal Shahzad, the Pakistani-born man accused in a failed attempt to ignite a car bomb in New York City’s Times Square, has pleaded guilty to all ten counts against him.

‘I want to plead guilty, and I’m gonna plead guilty 100 times over,’ he said at his arraignment in federal court in Manhattan.

He said he intended to injure and kill as many people in Times Square as possible, and had chosen a busy Saturday evening for that reason, he told the court...

Judge Cedarbaum asked Shahzad if he had looked at the people who were walking in Times Square that night. He replied that ‘the people selected the government. We consider them all the same.’

She asked him if he had intended to hurt and kill many people. ‘Yes,’ he said. ‘One has to understand where I’m coming from. I consider myself a Mujahideen – a Muslim soldier. I’m part of the answer to the U.S. terrorizing the Muslim nations

and Muslim people, and on behalf of that, I am an avenger,’ he said.

He listed his grievances against U.S. policy, including drone strikes in Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia, and the Iraqi occupation. He said that U.S. attacks hurt civilians in other countries. ‘The U.S. only care[s] about their people, not the other,’ he said.

Shahzad said that unless the United States leaves Muslim lands, including Afghanistan and Iraq, ‘We will be attacking [the] U.S., and I plead guilty to that.’...” (**See the prediction of Christ in Matthew 24:37 and its interpretation in Genesis 6:11. See the next report as well.**)

Three held in Norway ‘al-Qaeda bomb plot’

BBC News reports: “Three people have been arrested in connection with a plot to bomb targets in Norway, police in Oslo have said.

Two of the plotters were arrested in Norway and one in Germany, said the head of the Norwegian security police, Janne Kristiansen.

The men — a Uighur from China, an Iraqi and an Uzbek - are said to have ties

to al-Qaeda and to be linked to bomb plots in the U.S. and UK, Ms. Kristiansen said.

The three, all Norwegian residents, had been under surveillance for a year.

U.S. prosecutors say the Norwegian case is linked to foiled bomb plots in New York and the English city of Manchester.

‘We believe this group has had links to people abroad who can be linked to al-Qaeda, and to people who are involved in investigations in other countries, among others the United States and Britain,’ Ms. Kristiansen said.

She said one of the men was a Norwegian citizen, 39, a Muslim Uighur from China, who had lived in Norway since 1999.

Another was an Iraqi citizen, 37, who was granted Norwegian residency on humanitarian grounds.

The third man was an Uzbek national, 31, who was granted permanent residency in Norway on grounds of family reunification, Ms. Kristiansen said.

She gave no details of where the men were arrested, nor any information about locations which may have been targeted for attacks...”

KNOWLEDGE INCREASED

Zoo to bring dead animals back to life, 'Jurassic Park'-style

The London Daily Telegraph reports: "Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, and San Diego Zoo have collaborated to create stem cells from the skin cells of a dead drill monkey, an endangered monkey native to Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria and Cameroon.

The scientists, speaking at the International Society for Stem Cell Research in San Francisco, hope that the 'induced pluripotent stem' (iPS) cells thus created can then be biochemically persuaded into becoming sperm and egg cells. They can then be implanted into the womb of another monkey, and will hopefully form a viable fetus.

San Diego Zoo's Frozen Zoo project has taken samples from 8,400 individuals of more than 800 species. It is hoped that these samples can be used in IVF programmes to improve captive breeding projects.

Jeane Loring, one of the Scripps researchers, told *New Scientist* : 'You could actually breed from animals that are dead.'

The team used genetically engineered viruses fitted with specific human genes to reprogramme adult skin cells into becoming iPS cells. The process worked in drill monkeys, but failed in white rhinoceros cells, implying that it may be necessary to use species-specific versions of the cells in some cases.

There are also concerns that the reprogramming process can cause the

iPS cells to become cancerous. However, other researchers have developed techniques for creating iPS cells without leaving the reprogrammed genes in the new cells.

While the process is being used on endangered species, it would be technically possible to use it for extinct animals, using surrogate mothers from other species..." (***“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” Daniel 12:4.***)

LHC smashes beam collision record

BBC News reports: "Scientists working on the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) say they have moved a step closer to their aim of unlocking the mysteries of the Universe.

The world's highest-energy particle accelerator has produced a record-breaking particle collision rate — about double the previous rate.

The collider is now generating around 10,000 particle collisions per second, according to physicist Andrei Golutvin.

The LHC is housed in a 27km circular tunnel under the French-Swiss border.

The vast machine is operated by the European Organization for Nuclear Research (Cern), based near Geneva in Switzerland.

Physicists say this marks the start of turning the LHC into the world's most powerful particle collider.

'It's clear that the LHC is the new boy in town, but in two years running we're going to put Fermilab out of business,' operation group leader Mike Lamont told *BBC News*.

The Tevatron particle accelerator at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in Illinois, USA, is the LHC's rival. It has operated at higher intensities, but the current collision rate is a record for Cern.

The LHC is expected to overtake the American machine in due course.

Over the past few months, LHC engineers have slowly and carefully increased the energy and intensity of the proton beams which race around the collider's 27km-long 'ring'.

...Engineers smashed together two beams consisting of three 'bunches' of protons particles.

For the first time, these bunches were at 'nominal' intensity — the intensity the LHC was designed to work at. This means each bunch consisted of as many as 100 billion protons.

The LHC smashed together its first two particle beams travelling at close to the speed of light in November 2009.

At the moment, it is running at half the energy it was designed for, but the scientists aim to take the machine to the top energy of seven tera-electronvolts (TeV) per beam by 2013..." (***Mankind will never duplicate God's work of creation. Man's Big Bang attempt could become a devastating experiment — Genesis 1:1 and Luke 21:26.***)

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Italy fights for crucifixes in classrooms

The CNN Belief Blog reports: "Italy will fight against a European court ruling that crucifixes in classrooms violate students' right to freedom of religion.

The European Court of Human Rights

found unanimously last November that the display of a particular religious symbol — such as the Christian cross — in a classroom 'restricted the right of parents to educate their children in conformity with their convictions, and the right of children to believe or not to believe.'

But the court agreed in January to hear Italy's appeal. Ten other European governments, dozens of European lawmakers and half a dozen non-governmental organizations have also gotten involved in the appeal...

The court does not have the

power to force Italy to take down the representations of Jesus on the cross, but if its ruling stands and Italy does not comply, the door would be open for others to sue on the same grounds, court spokesman Stefano Piedimonte told *CNN*.

Leading Catholic figures expressed astonishment and anger at the ruling last year. The Italian Conference of Bishops

called it ‘cause for bitterness and many perplexities.’

‘It does not take into account the fact that in Italy the display of the crucifix in public places is in line with the recognition of the principles of the Catholicism as ‘part of the historical patrimony of the Italian people,’ as stated in the Vatican/Italy agreement of 1984,’

the bishops said in a written statement.

Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re told the leading Italian daily *La Repubblica* he could not understand it, and that no one with common sense could have expected it...” (See **Philippians 3:18; I Corinthians 1:18; Galatians 5:12, 14; and Colossians 1:20. There is only one way — the Cross.**)

NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Russian Official Terms U.S. Unilateral Sanctions against Iran “Unacceptable”

Fars News Agency reports: “Chairman of the Russian State Duma’s International Affairs Committee Konstantin Kosachev dismissed the United States’ unilateral sanctions against Iran as ‘unacceptable’.

According to Iran’s embassy in Moscow, Kosachev made the remarks in a meeting with Iran’s Ambassador to Russia Mahmoud Reza Sajjadi.

U.S. President Barack Obama has recently signed a unilateral measure that bars foreign entities engaged in the Iranian energy sector from U.S. markets.

The Russian official also reminded the efforts made by his country to resolve Iran’s nuclear issue through diplomatic means, and said that Moscow’s pressures led to a much moderate resolution at the UN Security Council against Iran.

‘Russia had two options: opposition to the UNSC resolution, an option that could force the western states to resort

to harsher and more aggressive ways outside the UN.

‘And another one was the approval of the resolution in a bid to contain the West’s moves,’ he explained.

‘And we saw the second one as a better option,’ Kosachev stressed...” (The above headline is meaningful as **Russia backs Persia which changed its name to Iran in 1935 who marches with Russia in the war of the latter years and latter days — Ezekiel 38:1, 2, 5, 8, 16.**)

NEWS FROM CHINA

China flexes its naval muscle

The Asia Times Online reports: “China again used the East China Sea as a setting for military maneuvers and exercises that it knew would rattle the United States and its allies. After recently calming Japanese concerns about rising tensions in this area, China shut down all vessel traffic in a large zone off the coast of Zhejiang as the People’s Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) conducted a series of live fire drills.

The PLAN engages in such drills each year, and does so in waters considered part of China’s exclusive economic zone (EEZ). All ships, including U.S. military surveillance ships, are given fair warning to stay clear.

At the same time, because U.S. Navy

carriers do not frequent the Yellow Sea for a variety of reasons, China was sending messages in advance that ‘national interests could be damaged’ if the U.S. proceeds to deploy a U.S. carrier during a joint exercise with the South Korean navy later this summer.

‘Under current situations, relevant parties should exercise restraint and refrain from doing things that may escalate tensions and harm the interests of the countries in the region,’ said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang.

Having this floating symbol of U.S. military might deployed so close to China is perceived by Beijing as more than a very unfriendly gesture on the part of the U.S. Another U.S. aircraft carrier has just passed through the Panama Canal

and will soon transit the Pacific Ocean — something else that Beijing must keep in mind.

Simply put, seldom have so many warships been exercising all at once in the Pacific. A large fleet of U.S. and allied warships are engaged in the RIMPAC exercise off Hawaii, and the Russians are conducting a very large exercise in the western Pacific region.

Speculation swirled in the U.S. and elsewhere about the possibility that the PLAN would launch Anti-Ship Ballistic Missiles (ASBM) — known as ‘carrier killers’ — during its East China Sea exercises just north of Taiwan...” (China invades Israel in the second move of World War III — Revelation 16:12. For the result see Revelation 9:14 – 18.)