THE BURDEN OF DAMASCUS

Syrian children enduring ‘unspeakable’ suffering

February 5, 2014 – BBC News reports: “A new report shows children have endured ‘unspeakable and unacceptable’ suffering during the conflict in Syria, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon says.

Children have been sexually abused and tortured in government detention, while rebels have recruited them in support roles and for combat, the report warns.

It estimates that more than 10,000 children have been killed. Many more have been injured or have disappeared.

Mr. Ban urged both sides in the conflict to protect and uphold their rights.

While the U.N. has previously accused the government and rebels of grave violations against children, the report is the first to have been presented to the U.N. Security Council.

Mr. Ban’s special representative for children and armed conflict, Leila Zerrougui, is scheduled to brief diplomats on the report’s findings next week…” (God will deal with these murderers: “…whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea” – Mark 9:42.)

Syria accused of torture and 11,000 executions

January 21, 2014 – BBC News reports: “There is clear evidence that Syria has systematically tortured and executed about 11,000 detainees since the start of the uprising, a report by three former war crimes prosecutors says.

The investigators examined thousands of still images of dead prisoners reportedly smuggled out by a defector.

One of the authors told the BBC there was evidence of government involvement. Damascus has denied claims of abuse.

The report comes a day before peace talks are due to begin in Switzerland.

The Guardian newspaper in the U.K. – which along with CNN first unveiled the report - says the release appears timed to coincide with the conference, opening in the resort town of Montreux, and continuing in Geneva two days later.

The talks, known as ‘Geneva II’, are being seen as the biggest diplomatic effort to end the three-year conflict which has left more than 100,000 dead and millions displaced…” (Islamic Sharia Law rewards those who put apostates to death. This is the punishment of all Muslims who mock Mohammad or the Koran. Judaism and Christianity both accept and practice God’s Ten Commandments including Exodus 20:14: “Thou shalt not kill.” In both Judeo-Christian religions murderers are not rewarded with 72 virgins as in Islam but are instead cast into hell – the Lake of Fire – Revelation 20:15; 21:8; 22:15. See the next report.)

Syria barrel bombs ‘kill dozens of civilians’ in Aleppo

February 2, 2014 – BBC News reports: “Syrian government forces have killed dozens of civilians in air raids in the northern city of Aleppo, activists say.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) says about 90 people - most of them civilians - died when helicopters dropped barrel bombs on Saturday.

See Damascus Continued on Page 2
Aleppo has been the focus of bitter fighting between President Bashar al-Assad's forces and rebels.

Meanwhile militants linked to Al-Qaeda are reported to have killed the leader of a rival Islamist militia there.

Fighters from the Islamic State of the Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) killed Adnan Bakkour during a raid on the base of rivals, the Tawheed Brigades, according to SOHR, a U.K.-based group that monitors the conflict.

Attacks using barrel bombs and Scud missiles by President Assad's forces are believed to have killed hundreds of people in Aleppo since the conflict began almost three years ago.

The use of the barrel bombs - essentially barrels packed with explosives - has been condemned by rights groups as indiscriminate.

Among those killed on Saturday were 33 civilians, including women and children, who died in a bombardment of the al-Bab area of Aleppo, while at least 13 civilians were killed in eastern areas of the city, SOHR said.

U.S. intelligence chief warns against Syria's biological weapons

January 30, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “The Syrian regime has agreed to dismantle its arsenal of chemical agents but may now have the ability to produce biological weapons, the U.S. intelligence chief warned senators Wednesday, according to AFP.

‘We judge that some elements of Syria’s biological warfare program might have advanced beyond the research and development stage and might be capable of limited agent production, based on the duration of its longstanding program,’ James Clapper, director of national intelligence, said in a written statement presented to the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Clapper offered no further details but it was the first time officials had stated publicly that America’s spy agencies believed Syria had made significant strides in its biological weapons program.

British experts have already warned that there is a ‘clear and present danger’ of Al-Qaeda gaining possession of the Assad regime’s stockpile of biological weapons, claiming to have substantial evidence that Al-Qaeda-linked groups may already have possession of toxic agents.

Clapper, according to AFP, added that Syria could potentially launch biological agents with conventional weapons…” (God’s Word predicts that 25% of the world’s population will die through viruses, and animal diseases – Revelation 6:7, 8. And another 33% will die as nuclear war covers the globe – Revelation 9:14 – 18.)

Syria: Al-Qaeda training Western citizens for terror abroad

January 21, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “Al-Qaeda has been using the influx of foreign nationals to Syria to train potential terrorists to begin cells abroad, specifically in the United Kingdom (U.K.) and European Union (E.U.), Britain’s The Telegraph reported Monday.

A defector from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) and Western security sources confirmed to the British news agency what U.K. and other intelligence officials have long suspected: that at least some foreign nationals who leave to fight in the Syrian civil war plan to use their experience and training there to attack their native countries upon their return.

The defector, speaking from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) and Western security sources confirmed to the British news agency what U.K. and other intelligence officials have long suspected: that at least some foreign nationals who leave to fight in the Syrian civil war plan to use their experience and training there to attack their native countries upon their return.

The defector, speaking from the Turkish border - a route commonly taken by foreign Islamist fighters into Syria - said that Al-Qaeda has been training recruits from Europe, the U.K. and the U.S. how to make and detonate car bombs and suicide vests in anticipation of being sent home to start new terror cells.

‘They talked often about terrorist attacks,’ the defector, who would only give the name of Murad, stated to the British daily. ‘The foreigners were proud of 9/11 and the London bombings. The British, French and American mujahideen [holy warriors] in the room started talking about places that they wanted to bomb or explode themselves in Europe and the United States. Everyone named a target. The American said he dreamed of blowing up the White House’...”(Terrorism is soon to be unleashed upon the world. Jesus said in Matthew 24:37: ‘...as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” In Noah’s day Genesis 6:11 states: “...the earth was filled with violence.” See Luke 21:9, 27, 28, 31, & 32. See also the next report.)

Swedish study: Islamic extremists greatest terrorism threat

February 2, 2014 – Breitbart.com reports: “A study of extremist groups in Sweden finds that Islamic extremists pose the biggest threat of terrorist violence.

The study looked at extremists on the far left and far right, but finds that an election year there, and a possible return of Swedes who have joined the Syrian jihad, increase the potential for violence. Sweden’s national police agency, Säpo, reported that at least 75 Swedes have gone to Syria to join the fight against dictator Bashar al-Assad.

The report was presented Friday to Democracy Minister Birgitta Ohlsson.

The country saw its first suicide bombing in 2010, carried out by a man who moved to Sweden as a child but reportedly became radicalized during his college years in England.

Sweden is home to cartoonist Lars Vilks, whose images of the prophet Muhammad were among those published in a Danish newspaper in the fall of 2005, prompting violent protests months later. This continues to make him an assassination target for Muslim extremists throughout the world. Communication intercepted by the FBI shows that American Colleen LaRose made killing Vilks ‘my goal till I achieve it or die trying.’ She traveled in preparation for an attack and even tried to contact the cartoonist, she admitted in a 2011 guilty plea...”
Kerry plan: Arab capital in East Jerusalem

January 29, 2014 — Israel National News reports: “U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is about to present a plan for peace between Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) that will call for a phased Israeli withdrawal from Judea and Samaria based on the 1949 lines, with ‘unprecedented’ security arrangements in the strategic Jordan Valley, writes Thomas Friedman in the New York Times – one of the journalists considered most close to the Obama administration.

The Israeli withdrawal will not include certain settlement blocs, but Israel will compensate the Arab side for this with Israeli territory. The deal will call for ‘Palestine’ to have a capital in Arab East Jerusalem and to recognize Israel as the nation state of the Jewish people. It will not include any right of return for Palestinian refugees into pre-1967 Israel, Friedman says.

Kerry has been ‘fanatically relentless’ but also ‘highly sophisticated’ in his attempts to bridge the gaps between Israel and the PA, he adds. ‘After letting the two sides fruitlessly butt heads for six months, he’s now planning to present a U.S. framework that will lay out what Washington considers the core concessions Israelis and Palestinians need to make for a fair, lasting deal.’…” (930 times God promises Jerusalem forever to the Jews. President Obama and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry are violating the promises of the Almighty God to Israel. Soon all Hell will break loose in the Middle East. Joel 3:2 warns today’s politicians that World War III occurs because of parting God’s land. It won’t succeed. Christ will return, stop the horrendous war and reign over the world from the Throne of David in Jerusalem forever — Revelation 11:18; Luke 1:32, 33. See the next report.)

Rabbis threaten Kerry with ‘divine wrath’

February 5, 2014 — Israel National News reports: “A group called Rabbis from the Committee to Save the Land and People of Israel sent a letter to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry this Sunday, warning him to end his ‘antagonism’ towards Israel.

The rabbis sharply criticized Kerry for his plans to establish an Arab capital in Jerusalem for Palestinian Authority (PA) Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, and to have Israel withdraw to the 1949 Armistice lines. On Saturday, Kerry threatened Israel with an international boycott if peace talks fail, in addition to previous threats of a ‘Third Intifada’ last year.

‘Your incessant efforts to expropriate integral parts of our Holy Land and hand them over to Abbas’s terrorist gang, amount to a declaration of war against the Creator and Ruler of the universe. For G-d awarded the entire Land of Israel to our ancestors, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in order that they bequeath it, as an everlasting inheritance, to their descendants, the Jewish people, until the end of all time,’ opens the rabbis’ letter.

The letter was signed by Rabbi Gedalya Axelrod, emeritus head of the Haifa Rabbinical Court, Rabbi Yisrael Ariel, Chairman of the Temple Institute, Rabbi Ben Tziyon Grossman of Migdal Haemek, Rabbi Shalom Dov Wolpo, Dean of the Institute for the Complete Code of Maimonides, and Rabbi Yigal Pizam, Dean of Yeshivat Kiryat Shmuel.

Warning of the imminent security threat that Kerry’s plans would place Israelis in, and bringing the example of Gaza’s having turned into a launching pad for rockets, the rabbis slammed the plan for seeking to immediately uproot ‘20% of the Jews now living productively in Judea, Samaria and the Jordan valley.’

The letter adds that Kerry’s plan ‘would force tens of thousands of Jews to be evicted from their homes and livelihoods, devastating their lives financially, economically and psychologically, as happened to those expelled from the flourishing Gaza settlements, most of whom still suffer from the expulsion’s ruinous after-effects.’

Drawing on Jewish history, the letters declares to Kerry: ‘If you continue on this destructive path, you will ensure your everlasting disgrace in Jewish history for bringing calamity upon the Jewish people – like Nebuchadnezzar and Titus who destroyed, respectively, the first and second great Temples and the entire Holy City of Jerusalem, and who, by Heavenly punishment, brought eventual disaster upon themselves, too.’”

Ya’alon: Palestinians see destruction of Jews as realistic possibility

January 27, 2014 — The Jerusalem Post reports: “Israel will no longer tolerate Palestinian incitement and attempts to isolate it in international institutions, Defense Minister Moshe Ya’alon said on Monday.

Speaking at an event to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the defense minister lashed out at the Palestinian Authority for claiming to seek peace on one hand yet encouraging ‘efforts to boycott Israel.’

‘In the Palestinian Authority, whose leadership presents itself as one that is striving to reach an agreement with us, the brutal, insufferable incitement against the State of Israel and the Jewish people continues,’ Ya’alon said.

‘This incitement is manifest in the education system and the media, where the hatred and poison ought to be an affront to any human,’ he said.

‘It is creating another generation of
Palestinian children who are taught to look at the expulsion and destruction of the Jews as a realistic possibility instead of educating them toward a culture of peace and co-existence alongside Israel’...” (Israel will never be destroyed again. Yahweh God states in Isaiah 56:5 – “I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name...” See the next five reports.)

Iran: ‘We won’t leave Zionists with air to breathe’

February 2, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “Hossein Salami, commander of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, threatened the U.S., the West, and Israel in a televised interview Saturday, according to Maariv.

‘If the Islamic nation would unite, it could minimize the brething room of the U.S. and the West until the Zionist regime would no longer have room to breathe,’ the commander threatened on Iranian state television.

Salami downplayed the possibility of a military attack against Iran, while noting that the U.S. stated recently that it is leaving a military option on the table.

‘We also have strong military capabilities that can attack and destroy [our enemies],’ Salami boasted. ‘We can threaten the interests of major powers in every arena; but during the diplomatic negotiations we are not talking about military power.’

‘Americans are wrong in their assessments [of Iran], which leads them to adopt mistaken policies,’ he continued. ‘They need to look at the distant past and learn their military might not yield results. If they think that by means of threats they will make us retract our positions, they are wrong.’”

Gaza youth encouraged to carry out terror attacks

January 24, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “Suicide terror attacks against the ‘Zionist enemy’ were glorified in a televised graduation ceremony for a Hamas youth camp in Gaza.

The ceremony aired on Hamas’s Al-Aqsa TV on January 16 and translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

In the video, the campers are encouraged to ‘rock the fortifications of the enemy’ and become liberators of the land that was ‘occupied’ by Israel.

The campers are heard saying, ‘Our message to the Zionist enemy, everywhere and at any time, is this: You shall never enjoy a pleasant life on our beloved homeland. We, the sons of the ‘Futuwwa’ youth camps, will confront you on every hill, in every valley, and on every road. Nothing awaits you here but to be killed. Nothing awaits you here but to be killed or to leave.’

The graduation ceremony was attended by Hamas’s Gaza Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, as well as by Hamas Education Minister Osama Al-Mazini and Interior Minister Fathi Hammad...”

Fatah leader calls for ‘armed uprising’

January 26, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “A senior member of Fatah, the party headed by Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas, has called to renew terrorist attacks on Israel, Maariv/nrg reports.

Fatah Central Committee member Tawfik Tirawi reportedly told Al-Miadin that there will be no new Arab state in Judea, Samaria and Gaza in the near future, and not even in 20 years. For that reason, he said, Fatah must resume the ‘violent uprising’ against Israel – meaning terrorism.

‘That’s the only way things will change,’ he argued.

Fatah must ‘join all of the organizations, both those operating under the Palestinian Authority, and those outside it,’ he added, in an apparent reference to Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Hamas remains openly committed to obliterating Israel, while Islamic Jihad recently threatened to resume suicide bombings.

Tirawi argued that Fatah never truly abandoned terrorism. ‘Fatah never abandoned any form of action, including armed resistance,’ he insisted...”

Hamas trains 13,000 teens to emulate ‘suicide martyrs’

January 16, 2014 – Breitbart.com reports: “Hamas has historically engaged in concerted efforts to brainwash its youth to wage violent jihad. Roughly 13,000 high school students participated in a week-long training camp geared to enable the teenagers ‘to follow in the footsteps of the suicide martyrs.’

This is more than twice the enrollment from last year’s camp, the Times of Israel reports. The ‘Pioneers of Liberation’ camp included weapons training, marching exercises, and ‘security awareness’ classes concerning the identification of Israeli spies.

While addressing the graduation ceremony, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh warned Israel that ‘this is a generation which knows no fear. It is the generation of the missile, the tunnel, and the suicide operations.’ Hamas’ interior minister said that the training was in preparation for the next war with Israel...”

Intel head: 170,000 rockets and missiles threaten Israel

January 29, 2014 – The Jerusalem Post reports: “Military intel head Gen. Aviv Kochavi said on Wednesday during his remarks at the INSS annual security conference that Israel’s ability to deter enemies is strong, but on the other hand, terror is still a challenge.

‘We call this period in time the ‘Era of Fire’, in light of the amount of missiles and rockets we face as a constant threat. There are about 170,000 rockets and missiles that threaten Israel,’ Kochavi said.

‘For the first time the enemy now has the ability to hit Israeli cities hard,’ he commented.

‘The state of Israel is surrounded 360 degrees with active enemies. The conventional threats have not disappeared.’

Speaking of the challenges of guarding
Israel’s border’s, however, Kochavi said that neighboring countries have little interest in war.

‘The countries around us are busy with themselves, they have less funds to start a war. There is no question that there is a decrease in such threats but they have not given up,’ he said…”

**Jordan’s FM rejects recognizing Israel as Jewish state**

February 3, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “Jordan’s Foreign Minister said Sunday that he was against recognizing Israel as a Jewish state, the Jordanian website Ammon News reports.

The minister, Nasser Judeh, also rejected the idea of Jordan being an alternative home for Palestinian Arabs.

Speaking during a parliament session which dealt with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry’s peace plan, Judeh reiterated that Jordan will not be an ‘alternative home for anybody.’

Judeh described American efforts to push peace talks between Israel and the Palestinian Authority (PA) as a ‘serious attempt’ to reach tangible results.

‘Jordan is integrally involved in and has a big role in the Palestinian-Israeli talks,’ he added, according to Ammon News.

Judeh stressed that Jordan is not absent from the peace negotiations and will not accept any solution that contradicts with the country’s interests and national security…” (Israel will always be a Jewish state. Though Satan has always stood against Israel – 1 Chronicles 21:1 – Yahweh God will “…send a fire against Magog [Russia]” and her Arabic allies – Daniel 11:40; Isaiah 17:1; Ezekiel 38:5-7 and Psalms 83:5-7. In the heat of the battle to destroy Israel – Psalms 83:4 – the enemies of God will be crushed as Jesus, the Son of God sets up His kingdom. Isaiah 59:20 states: “…the Redeemer shall come to Zion [Jerusalem],” sent by His Father – Psalms 2:6 – to reign over the world from Jerusalem forever – Luke 1:32 – 33.)

**NEWS FROM IRAN**

**January 2014: two people executed every day in Iran**

January 21, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “A disturbing new trend is on the rise in Iran, according to Amnesty International.

Execution orders have risen dramatically since 2014 in the Islamic Republic, according to new statistics revealed by the watchdog group. In the 21 days since 2014 began, more than 40 orders have been issued - more than 33% of them in this past week alone.

‘The sharp rise in executions in Iran so far this month is alarming,’ said Hassiba Hadja Sahraoui, Deputy Program Manager for Amnesty International in the Middle East and North Africa. ‘Iranian authorities are trying to change their international image, but it’s meaningless if executions are being ordered at the same time.’

The organization emphasized that ‘the death penalty is a violation of the right to life of every human and is cruel, inhuman and humiliating.’ As for Iran, ‘the Iranian authorities must urgently take steps to abolish the death penalty, which has been shown again and again not to have any special deterrent effect on crime,’ Sahraoui said.

Since the beginning of 2014, Amnesty International has documented 21 executions officially ordered by Iranian authorities, and 19 more executions have been reported from trusted sources, according to the organization.

‘Public executions are usually carried out by a crane, which lifts a noose hanging around the neck of the condemned,’ the organization noted…” (The denominational Shia’s of Islam who are but 10% of the Muslim religion control Iran and are sending their terrorist militias to fight in Syria where they killed 100,000 Sunnis – brothers in the faith. They have also killed thousands in Iraq and will soon disavow their six month pledge to abandon the making of nuclear weapons. Then they will attempt to slaughter millions in Western Europe, America, and Canada. However, the Sunnis who are 90% of the Muslim religion will soon take vengeance on the Shia murderers who have killed so many of their family members and people in Syria. See the next five ridiculous reports.)

**Khamenei warns U.S.: Show self-restraint**


The comments were made in response to ones made last week by Secretary of State John Kerry, who said the military option was still on the table if Iran fails to live up to its part of the agreement that was signed with it in Geneva.

In the televised address which was translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), Khamenei also referred to American-Jewish billionaire Sheldon Adelson, who said in October that the United States should ‘drop a nuclear bomb’ on Iran.

Adelson, said Khamenei, should be ‘punched in the mouth and crushed.’…”

**Rouhani: Israel would be ‘crazy’ to attack**

January 26, 2014 – Israel National News reports: “Israel will not dare attack Iran, because it knows what the consequences will be, said Iranian
President Hassan Rouhani. In an interview with CNN, Rouhani said that an Israeli attack on Iran’s nuclear facilities would be ‘crazy.’

Iran would agree not to enrich more uranium to levels that could be used for nuclear weapons, but it would not agree to relinquish any uranium it had already enriched, he said, addressing the recent discussions between Iran and Western countries. ‘It is a part of our national pride, and nuclear technology has become indigenous,’ Rouhani said. ‘And recently, we have managed to secure very considerable prowess with regards to the fabrication of centrifuges,’ which the country would retain under any circumstances, he said.

‘In the context of R&D and peaceful nuclear technology, we will not accept any limitations,’ he said, adding that Iran was planning to use its nuclear facilities for medical purposes. ‘We are standing on our own two feet. Iranian scientists have designed this. We have constructed it. It’s nearly finished. So when it comes to medical concerns, we cannot accept limitations.’

Rouhani dismissed the possibility that Israel would attack Iran’s nuclear facilities. ‘Israel knows very well what the response would be. Israel knows well our regional capability,’ he said. ‘When it comes to practice, the Israelis cannot do that. If they do such a crazy thing, our response will make them rue the day.’

‘Mr. Kerry must know that direct battle with the U.S. is the biggest dream of pious and revolutionary people across the world. Your threats offer our revolutionary people the best opportunity,’ he said.

He went on to say that ‘wise’ American politicians would most likely prevent use of the ‘ridiculous military option.’

Kerry, in an exclusive interview with the Al Arabiya website on Thursday, said that if Iran did not abide by its commitments with world powers, ‘the military option of the United States is ready and prepared to do what it would have to do.’

Multiple senior Iranian officials responded to Kerry’s remarks.

‘The Americans are well aware that if they make a mistake, the Islamic Republic’s response will be crushing and devastating and in other words, we will give a response with a wider radius,’ Yadollah Javani, a senior official of the Revolutionary Guards, told Fars on Sunday. ‘The Islamic Republic can attack all the U.S. interests in the region and they will never be able to show a proportionate reaction....’

Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said Iran would increase its military budget following Kerry’s comments...

Iranian warships ‘to sail close to U.S. maritime border’

February 9, 2014 — BBC News reports: “Iranian warships in the Atlantic Ocean are to sail close to U.S. maritime borders for the first time, a senior naval commander has said.

Iranian media quoted Adm. Afshin Rezayee Haddad as saying the deployment was a response to U.S. threats, and added that the IRGC vessels in the region are monitoring every move made by the Americans.”

Iranian admiral: The U.S. can expect heavy losses at sea should it attack Iran

February 10, 2014 — The Jerusalem Post reports: “The commander of Iran’s navy threatens to sink American naval vessels, cites progressive naval capabilities after sending fleet toward U.S. shores.

The commander of Iran’s navy ratcheted up the Islamic Republic’s recent rhetoric against the United States, threatening the Americans with major losses at sea should they choose to attack Iranian nuclear facilities.

‘The Americans can fully expect that their warships [and] aircraft carrier will be sunk with all 5,000 crew aboard, in combat against Iran, and they could find its hulk in the depths of the sea,’ Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Navy Commander Rear Admiral Ali Fadavi was quoted as saying by semi-official Iranian Fars News on Sunday.

Fadavi said that since the day that the U.S. warships entered the Persian Gulf, the IRGC Navy has evolved all its capabilities, training, structures, organizations and weapons to counter Washington’s threats, and added that the IRGC vessels in the region are monitoring every move made by the Americans.”

Revolutionary Guards threaten U.S. after Kerry says military option is ‘ready’

January 27, 2014 — The Jerusalem Post reports: “The head of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps, Maj.-Gen. Muhammad Ali Jafari, threatened the U.S. with a strong military response after American Secretary of State John Kerry said a military option to counter the country’s nuclear drive was ‘ready.’

‘You could never understand the extent of the invasive capacity of the Islamic Republic of Iran,’ Jafari said Saturday according to Iran’s Fars News Agency.
CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Christian persecution?
No. Annihilation!

January 28, 2014 – WND.com reports: “The first delegation of Syrian Christian church leaders to visit the U.S. since civil war broke out in March 2011 spoke Monday at the Heritage Foundation, issuing a stunning warning that the nation’s Christian population could vanish.

‘Today we are faced with a potential extinction of the church,’ Patrick Sookhdeo, chairman of the Westminster Institute, warned. ‘Not just in Syria. We’ve seen it in Iraq. The church could fall in Lebanon.’

The panel discussion, ‘Marked for Destruction: The Plight of Syria’s Christians,’ featured Syrian Christian leaders Rev. Adib Awad, the General Secretary of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon; H.E. Bishop Elias Toumeh, Orthodox Bishop of Pyrgou-Syria; Rev. Riad Jarjour, former General Secretary of the Middle East Council of Churches; H.E. Bishop Dionysius Jean Kawak of the Syrian Orthodox Church; Bishop Armash Nalbandian of the Armenian Church of Damascus, and Bishop Julian Dobbs.

Dobbs said Syria ‘used to be one of the easiest places in the Arab world to be a Christian across the Middle East.

‘The church has existed there since biblical times,’ he said. ‘Christians were respected by the Muslim majority and were able to practice their faith with little interference. But, this has largely changed since the civil war broke out…’”

(United States of America’s and Canada’s ministers better believe the warnings Islam is giving to North America and prepare their people rather than entertaining their flocks on the Lord’s Day. Soon Revelation 6:9 and Revelation 20:4 will become a reality and a blood bath will strike the Christian world. Stand up preacher – Jude 1:3, 4. See the next two reports.)

General: U.S. Christians targeted for murder

February 7, 2014 – WND.com reports: “Lt. Gen. Jerry Boykin, the executive vice president for the Family Research Council, is blasting the Southern Poverty Law Center for still maintaining – a year after it was linked to a domestic terror case – an online feature that identifies the family group as a ‘hate’ organization.

In an exclusive commentary on WND, Boykin notes that attacker Floyd Corkins II picked the FRC as a target – he testified he went there wanting to kill as many people as possible – through the SPLC feature.

That organization described FRC as a ‘hate’ group even though it ‘actually is a pro-family organization championing faith, family and freedom,’ Boykin wrote.

‘It is the intention of the SPLC to fix animus and hostility on the organizations it places on its Hate Map,’ Boykin wrote. While some are ‘racist or supremacist’ groups, the map also includes those who simply ‘oppose liberalized standards of sexualized morality and the redefinition of marriage.’

‘There is no resemblance of such groups to violent, extremist organizations. But, that is the point. The SPLC wants to associate groups that have voiced moral objections to same-sex marriage with groups like the Skinheads. It is a powerful campaign of defamation, bullying, and destruction.’”

Muslim violence surges in Christian-majority country

January 26, 2014 – WND.com reports: “In the Central African Republic, human rights groups and the United Nations estimate more than 2,000 people have been killed in sectarian violence that began, analysts say, when a Muslim faction took control of the majority-Christian country.

‘In 20 years of my service to God, I have never seen such trials as these. Since the (Muslim) Seleka [faction] came to the country, even the Muslims with whom we have always lived in peace have turned against us. They are now aggressive toward us,’ Noel said.

‘These rebels are raping our daughters and murdering our people. We know of cases where people have been locked in their homes and burned alive. Everyone trying to escape was shot dead.’

Muslims make up about 15 percent of the country’s population and are generally concentrated in the north…”

‘Jesus is the Son of Allah’ brings fiery response in Malaysia

February 3, 2014 – ChristianToday.com reports: “An unofficial banner using the word ‘Allah’ outside a Catholic church was enough to prompt the throwing of Molotov Cocktails in the Malaysian western state of Penang, according to local police.

The 228-year-old Church of the Assumption on the Lebuh Farquhar thoroughfare in George Town, was attacked with two glass bottles of flaming petrol at 1:30am local time on Tuesday. Anthony Dass Sinapan, the 71-year-old church guard volunteer, caught sight of a fire near a shrine to St. Mary that sits at the church’s front.

Banners declaring ‘Allah is Great! Jesus is the Son of Allah!’ have recently appeared outside five churches - four Catholic, one Lutheran. The one outside the Church of the Assumption appeared on Sunday morning.

Leaders of the affected churches claim they did not put them there.

Despite being the Arabic word for ‘God’, the use of ‘Allah’ by non-Muslims is highly controversial in Malaysia.

The government has attempted to ban the use of the word from the country, including in church services…”
Chinese scientists reported only days ago that Nanchang City in south-eastern China, birds, and later spread to poultry. The new strain is a variant of a virus known as H10N8, which scientists believe may have originated in wild animals. An elderly woman was the first person confirmed to have been infected with the new type, and a second case has since been discovered, raising concerns that the virus has evolved so that it can transfer easily from birds to humans. Its emergence coincides with a surge in the number of cases of another bird flu strain, H7N9, which is known to have infected 286 people since March. This region China wants to target. EMP damage could include a complete loss of electronics, computers, automated systems, communications, food and utility services – even transportation.

However, the Department of Defense, or DOD, in response to an inquiry from Fox News’ Bret Baier, downplayed the destructive use of an EMP. ‘The Department is unaware of any increase in the threat of a deliberate destructive use of an EMP,’ the unsigned DOD statement said. ‘Further, any reporting to the contrary by those without access to current threat assessments is both reckless and irresponsible.’

Ironically, this latest statement is at odds with even a new report issued by DOD’s Defense Science Board, or DSB, which concludes that DOD and the intelligence community currently lack national technical means sufficient to monitor the development of foreign, including terrorist, nuclear weapons programs...’ (The above headline is the most dangerous one in history if promoted. The EMP threat can cause an entire nation to darken for months; all electrical service is finished as a nuclear bomb exploded at 200 miles above the earth, from 200 miles out at sea, allows the explosive materials to descend from space and mingle with radioactive materials on earth, resulting in mass devastation. Nothing can equal this disastrous event. China and Iran have EMP weapon technology on their drawing boards.)

PLAGUES AND PESTILENCES

‘Pandemic potential’ after confirmed human death from new strain of bird flu

February 6, 2014 – The Independent. co.uk reports: “Chinese scientists have said the ‘pandemic potential’ of a new strain of bird flu ‘should not be underestimated’ after the first known human infection resulted in the death of an elderly woman. The new strain is a variant of a virus known as H10N8, which scientists believe may have originated in wild birds, and later spread to poultry. The victim, a 73-year-old woman from Nanchang City in south-eastern China, was the first person confirmed to have been infected with the new type, and a second case has since been discovered, raising concerns that the virus has evolved so that it can transfer easily from birds to humans.

Its emergence coincides with a surge in the number of cases of another bird flu strain, H7N9, which is known to have infected 286 people since March last year, causing 60 deaths. The vast majority of cases have occurred in China, but Taiwan has also recorded two infections, and the virus is known to have spread to Hong Kong, which has seen four cases. Nearly half of the H7N9 infections since March have occurred in 2014, and Chinese authorities have warned that large numbers of people traveling across the country for the Chinese New Year may further the spread of the virus...” (Read Matthew 24:7; Luke 21:11 and Revelation 6:7, 8 – “...when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see. And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.”)