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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

JERUSALEM: A CUP OF TREMBLING

U.S. embassy opens in Israel's capital

May 14, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "The U.S. embassy in Jerusalem, Israel officially opened Monday afternoon.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman spoke at the opening ceremony.

'On this exact day 70 years ago, at almost this exact time, David Ben Gurion declared Israel's independence. Just 11 minutes later, President Harry Truman caused the United States to be the first nation to recognize the reborn State of Israel. He later regretted that he waited so long,' Ambassador Friedman said.

'70 years since that memorable event, almost to the minute, the United States finally takes the next step: a step awaited, voted upon, litigated, and prayed for for all these years. Today, we open the United States embassy in Jerusalem, Israel,' he declared.

The ambassador credited U.S. President Donald Trump for having the courage to open an embassy in Israel's capital. 'Today's historic event is attributed to the vision, the courage, and the moral clarity of one person to whom we owe an enormous and eternal debt of gratitude, President Donald J. Trump.' 'Today, we keep our promise to the American people, and we extend to Israel the same right that we extend to every other nation, the right to designate its capital city. A capital city, I should add, which houses all three seats of government, with a 3,000 year old history dating back to the time when King David made Jerusalem the capital of ancient Israel..." (In 1995, the U.S. Congress voted to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. President Bill Clinton said that he supported the idea in principle, President George W. Bush stated that he would move the U.S. ambassador there in 2000, President Barack Obama referred to Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and said that it must remain undivided. Congress has also repeatedly passed legislation calling for the embassy **President Donald Trump** move. made it official.

Although its history is one of war and destruction, Jerusalem means "city of peace" or "foundation of peace."

From the siege of David in 1000 B.C. to the Six Day War of 1967, the sounds of battle have been heard as this city has experienced 46 sieges and 32 partial destructions. It has been burned to the ground five times, always rising from the ashes. It is the site of the most volatile political, religious, and military problems in the entire world.

The Jewish cry for peace in Jerusalem is sincere, finding its roots in the promise given through Moses (Leviticus 26:6). Jerusalem will finally become the city of peace and capital of the world when Christ, who is our peace, returns (Isaiah 9:6). See the next two reports.)

'You have made history': Netanyahu hails Trump at Jerusalem embassy opening

May 14, 2018 -- The Times of Israel reports: "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday praised Donald Trump for 'making history by recognizing history' at a ceremony dedicating the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem, while President Reuven Rivlin thanked the U.S. president for 'keeping his promise.'

'What a glorious day,' Netanyahu told the crowd at the new embassy building in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Arnona. 'Remember this moment, this is history. President Trump, by recognizing history, you have made history.'

'Today, the embassy of the most powerful country on earth, our friend and ally, the United States of America, opens in Jerusalem,' he exclaimed.

Some 800 guests attended the embassy dedication. Representing the U.S. at the opening were U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan, Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner, the president's daughter and adviser Ivanka Trump, and Special Representative for International Negotiations Jason Greenblatt. U.S. Ambassador David Friedman was presiding over the dedication ceremony. 'We have no better friends in the world,' Netanyahu told the American guests...

Pence: By recognizing Jerusalem, we chose fact over fiction

May 16, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "U.S. Vice President Mike Pence on Monday night delivered remarks at an event celebrating Israel's 70th Independence Day at the Israeli embassy in Washington, DC.

Pence welcomed the relocation of the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem, noting that President Trump 'has made history now. Thanks to President Trump's leadership, almost exactly 70 years to the minute since the rebirth of the Jewish State, the American Embassy officially opened in Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Israel!'

'By finally recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital, the United States has chosen fact over fiction – and fact is the only true foundation for a just and lasting peace. And as President Trump made clear this morning, 'our greatest hope is for peace," he continued..."

'U.S. embassy relocation speeds up Israel's annihilation'

May 16, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Ali Akbar Velayati, a top foreign policy adviser to Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamanei, threatened Israel on Tuesday.

Velayati declared that the relocation of the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem speeds up the 'annihilation of the Zionist regime', according to a report in the *Tehran Times*. 'Relocation of the U.S. embassy to one of the most sacred religious places of the Muslims will speed up the process of the Zionist regime's collapse,' he said in a post on Instagram.

Velayati further said that the U.S. move was made to recognize the Zionist regime's 'illegal' status, but it revealed more the 'cruel' image of the Zionists.

'Return to homeland which has been occupied by a tyrant and child-killer regime is a rightful demand which will be met soon. The Palestinians have always resisted and will resist criminal acts of Israel which is being backed by the U.S. and certain reactionary allies in the region,' he said, according to the *Tehran Times*.

Velayati then claimed that Jerusalem has belonged and will always belong to Muslims..." (The Gatestone Institute, in an article entitled: <u>The Ouran Says</u> <u>Jerusalem Belongs to the Jews - https://</u> <u>www.gatestoneinstitute.org/11680/</u>

<u>quran-jerusalem-jews</u> states: "… Although ordinary Muslims who might not actually have read their holy book could be excused for their ignorance about the Jewish roots of and rights to Israel and Jerusalem, the same cannot be said for the leaders of Muslim countries, imams and the heads of illustrious Islamic institutions. Dignitaries and scholars of that caliber should know better. Yet many of them repeat false assertions that contradict the Quran and scholarly interpretations of its verses.

The fact is that the Quran does not mention Jerusalem or Palestine. It does refer to the sanctity of other holy places, such as Mecca -- which is called the "Mother of Cities" -- where the Prophet Muhammad was born and where the house of God was built by Abraham, the "father of the prophets."

The Quran also mentions the city of Yathrib [Medina], where the Prophet Mohammed emigrated after he was persecuted in Mecca, and the location of his grave and the Prophet's Mosque..."

930 times God promises Jerusalem forever to the Jews. God promised to

Abraham: "...I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, and thou shalt be a blessing: and I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" – Genesis 12:2, 3. 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.)

Syria condemns 'brutal massacre' in Gaza

May 15, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Syria accused Israel of carrying out a 'brutal massacre' after at least 58 Arab rioters were shot dead in the Gaza Strip on Monday as tens of thousands of rioters clashed with Israeli security forces in protest of the U.S.' Jerusalem embassy opening.

'Syria condemns... the brutal massacre carried out by the Israeli occupation against unarmed Palestinian civilians,' a foreign affairs ministry official was quoted as saying by the official *SANA* news agency.

58 Arab rioters were killed and roughly 2,700 more were injured during the violent riots that erupted along the Gaza-Israel border ahead of the opening ceremony for the new U.S. embassy in Jerusalem.

Damascus condemned the 'criminal and illegitimate' decision to move the U.S. mission to Jerusalem, asserting that the Trump administration bore 'responsibility for the blood of Palestinian martyrs.'..." (What hypocrisy that Syria is accusing anyone of brutality. As was reported in the May 2018 Van Impe Intelligence Briefing, more than 500,000 people have died in Syria since 2011. Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has carried out numerous inhumane tactics such as chemical weapons, and barrel bombs, both classified as weapons of terror.)

THE KINGS OF THE EAST

Short of war, China now controls South China Sea

May 8, 2018 -- Asia Times Online reports: "Tensions in the South China Sea are on the boil again amid new reports that China has deployed advanced missiles to land features in the disputed maritime area.

According to new reports, China has installed several Surface-to-Air Missiles (SAMs) and Anti-Cruise Ballistic Missiles (ACBMs) systems across the Paracel and Spratly island chains, parts of which are claimed by multiple regional states including the Philippines and Vietnam.

Weeks earlier, China also deployed electronic jamming equipment to the maritime area, giving it the ability to disrupt the command-and-control communications of rival states' military assets operating in the South China Sea. China's neighbors and rivals fear that the Asian powerhouse is slowly but surely establishing the foundation of an Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ) in one of the world's most important and busy waterways. Over U.S.\$5 trillion worth of global trade traversed the sea last year.

Boosting China's missile defense system in the area would allow it to progressively restrict the movement as well as squeeze the supply lines of smaller claimant states, all of which comparatively maintain modest military capabilities to fortify their sea claims..." (China will become a basic partner with Russia for the rapidly approaching battle of Armageddon - Revelation 16:16. Russia will lead invasion number one – Ezekiel 38 & 39. China will lead invasion number two - Revelation 16:12; Revelation 9:14 – 16. Then all nations will come against Jerusalem for the final invasion at which point Jesus will return to stop the bloodshed and set up his eternal kingdom upon earth - "[He gathers] all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken... Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south" - Zechariah 14:2 -4. Then Psalm 2:6 occurs as God the Father says: "... I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion [Jerusalem]." See the next three reports)

China's 'new' map aims to extend South China Sea claims

April 30, 2018 -- Asia Times Online reports: "In what is likely a new bid to reinforce and even expand China's sweeping territorial claims in the South China Sea, a group of Chinese scholars recently published a 'New Map of the People's Republic of China.'

The alleged political national map, reportedly first published in April 1951 but only 'discovered' through a recent national archival investigation, could give new clarity to the precise extent of China's official claims in the disputed waters.

Instead of dotted lines, as reflected in China's U-shaped Nine-Dash Line claim to nearly all of the South China Sea, the newly discovered map provides a solid 'continuous national boundary line and administrative region line.'

The Chinese researchers claim that through analysis of historical maps, the 1951 solid-line map 'proves' beyond dispute that the 'U-boundary line is the border of China's territorial sea' in the South China Sea.

They also claim that the solid administrative line overlaying the U-boundary 'definitely indicated that the sovereignty of the sea' enclosed within the U-boundary 'belonged to China.'...''

China advances, West frets in South Pacific

April 25, 2018 -- Asia Times Online reports: "Recent Australian media reports suggest that China aims to establish a permanent naval base on the Pacific island republic of Vanuatu, a move which if true would significantly shift the region's security dynamics.

The Vanuatu government and China deny that any such plans are afoot. But the fact is that China has already built a new wharf on the Vanuatu island of Espiritu Santo which is far too large for the mere commercial purposes of its 40,000 inhabitants and occasional tourists.

The port, built with financial support from China, is one of the largest in the South Pacific and can accommodate three cargo ships and two cruise liners at the same time, according to press reports. Whatever the facility's ultimate intent, the controversy surrounding it has put a new spotlight on China's expanding influence in the South Pacific, a challenge not only to nearby Australia but also to the United States as the prime power in the region.

Most of the Pacific nations are tiny with minuscule populations. But they each have huge economic exclusive zones (EEZs) in the vast waterway that lies between China and America..."

U.S. Commerce Secretary calls China 2025 plan 'frightening'

April 25, 2018 -- SpaceDaily.com reports: "China's plan to transform itself into the global technology nexus is a 'frightening' one that puts American intellectual property at risk, U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said Tuesday.

'It's a huge, huge problem,' Ross told a gathering of fabric industry executives about the repeated theft of technology.

'And it's not going away.'

He said Beijing's development plan — Made in China 2025 — maps out the country's strategy to dominate 'every hot industry' from space to telecommunications to robotics to electric cars.

'They have been the factory floor of the world, now their vision is to be the technology center for the world,' Ross said. "What they are really trying to do is take their immense trade surplus from the conventional industries of today... and plow them into semiconductor research and every kind of research you can imagine."..."

SUFFER THE CHILDREN

IDF: Hamas sending children at us

April 23, 2018 -- YnetNews.com reports: "Hamas encourages young children, some of them aged no more than 10, to take part in riots on the Gaza border fence—using them as glorified human shields with the knowledge that the IDF will refrain from shooting at them, the Israeli army has said.

In a demonstration last Friday on the Gaza border, four Palestinians were killed, including 15-year-old Mohammed Ibrahim Ayoub, who ran toward the fence and was shot by a sniper. Ayoub's death was captured by a photographer who was at the scene and drew severe condemnation.

In the video, the boy ran between people near the fence, but did not touch it, when he was suddenly shot in the head. The video became viral on social media and caused serious damage to Israel's image, with many accusing the IDF of purposefully killing children..." (Golda Meir has been quoted as saying: "We can forgive the Arabs for killing our children. We cannot forgive them for forcing us to kill their children. We will only have peace with the Arabs when they love their children more than they hate us." me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea" – Mark 9:42; and "Suffer [allow] little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven" – Matthew 19:14. See the next two reports.)

Haley: Hamas must stop using Gaza children as cannon fodder

April 27, 2018 -- The Jerusalem Post reports: "Hamas must stop its 'outrageous practice' of using Palestinians in Gaza, particularly children, as human shields when it attacks Israel, U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley told the Security Council on Thursday, at its monthly meeting on the Middle East.

'Anyone who truly cares about children in Gaza should insist that Hamas immediately stop using children as cannon fodder in its conflict with Israel,' Haley said. 'This is an issue that transcends the usual debates in this chamber. It is quite simply an issue of decency. Humanity itself loses when the barbaric practice of human shields is tolerated and unanswered.'

She also took to task ISIS, Iran and Houthi gunmen in Yemen for their use of human shields, saying the practice had reached epic proportions in the region.

'It's difficult to think of a more cowardly

act – even for a terrorist – than hiding behind innocent civilians,' Haley said. 'Anyone who cares about the lives of Yemenis or Palestinians should demand accountability for the militants who exploit them.'...''

Videos Show Gaza Rioters Faking Injuries, Using Children as Human Shields

May 7, 2018 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Footage of Palestinian protesters faking injuries and using children as human shields in border riots was released by the IDF Saturday night.

One clip shows a group of Gazans carrying a supposedly wounded demonstrator on a stretcher (see source article), but towards the end of the clip, the demonstrator falls off the stretcher and gets up completely unharmed and walks.

'Throughout Hamas's activity, fake injuries and the exploitation of women and children are rampant,' the IDF said in a tweet.

'This was all intended to disguise terror activity, including hurling explosives & grenades, attempted infiltrations, & burning Israeli land.'

In another clip, children as young as five and six are seen rolling tires and hurling rocks. They are also shown being taken by the hand by older rioters to be used as cover, or human shields..."

Jesus says: "...whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in

THE GROWING NUCLEAR THREAT

Threat of nuclear weapons use growing, UN warns

April 24, 2018 -- SpaceDaily.com reports: "A top UN official sounded

the alarm Monday over a new, looming arms race and warned that the risk that devastating nuclear weapons could be used was on the rise.

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'The threat of the use, intentional or otherwise, of nuclear weapons is growing,' the UN's representative for disarmament affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, told a preliminary review meeting of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

The United States, which holds one of the world's largest nuclear arsenals, also warned the conference that the prospects for progress on disarmament was currently 'bleak'.

The NPT, negotiated at the height of the Cold War nearly a half century ago, seeks to prevent the spread of atomic weapons while putting the onus on nuclear states to reduce their stockpiles. Speaking at the opening of the Geneva meeting, Nakamitsu warned that 'the world today faces similar challenges to the context that gave birth to the NPT.'..." A huge nuclear war is 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. See the next report.)

Netanyahu – 100,000 Secret Files Prove Iran 'Lied Big Time' About Nukes

May 1, 2018 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "In a dramatic press conference in Jerusalem aimed at the international community, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday unveiled a cache of secret files he says were obtained from inside a hidden Iranian site and clearly demonstrate that Tehran maintained a secret nuclear weapons program despite declarations to the contrary.

Netanyahu explained that the structure of the U.S.-led international nuclear agreement was in part based on deceptive Iranian descriptions of its previous nuclear work. He said Iran's failure to disclose its secret program while misleading the world shows the nuclear deal is 'based on lies based on Iranian deception.'

The Israeli leader presented evidence that Iran continued research for a nuclear weapons program even after signing the 2015 nuclear deal.

'Iran's leaders repeatedly deny ever pursuing nuclear weapons,' Netanyahu began. 'Tonight I'm here to tell you one thing: Iran lied.'...''

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Christian Schoolgirl Spends 15th Birthday in Boko Haram Captivity for Refusing to Convert

May 17, 2018 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "The jihadist terror group Boko Haram continued to hold a Christian schoolgirl captive after 85 days for refusing to renounce her faith and convert to Islam after she turned 15 this week.

Leah Sharibu, one of the 110 girls Boko Haram kidnapped from their school in northeast Nigeria's Dapchi region on February 19, recently turned 15 while in captivity.

Boko Haram has released all Dapchi girls except for Leah.

Nigeria's *Premium Times* reported this week, 'The kidnapped teenage student, Leah Sharibu, will on Monday mark her 15th birthday in the custody of her captors. Miss Sharibu is the only one of the schoolgirls kidnapped from Dapchi still with the terror group, Boko Haram.' Citing her schoolmates, her parents, Nathan and Rebecca Sharibu, told *USA Today* in March that the terrorists will not release her until she converts to Islam.

'My daughter is alive, but they wouldn't release her because she is a Christian. They told her they would release her if she converted, but she said she will never become a Muslim. I am very sad, but I am also overjoyed because my daughter did not denounce Christ,' Nathan told the newspaper..." ("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. Jesus said in the Beatitudes: "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.)

China Aid: President Xi Jinping Views Christian Churches as 'Severe National Security Threat'

April 22, 2018 -- Breitbart.com reports: "Chinese President Xi Jinping harbors a 'particular animosity' toward Christians and sees underground churches as a 'severe national security threat,' according to the founder of China Aid, a U.S.-based watchdog group.

China Aid founder and president Bob Fu told a conference on religious persecution last week that the number of persecuted Christians has 'dramatically increased' under the reign of President Xi Jinping who has 'animosity against Christianity in particular.'

'The number of people we documented who are persecuted among just Christians alone last year reached 223,000 compared to these 48,000 in 2016,' Mr. Fu said.

Whereas underground churches that operate outside state control are seen as a particular threat, growing attendance even at official churches has provoked hostility from the Xi government.

Mr. Fu said the communist-controlled state is forcing churches to install facial recognition systems to identify attending services. those Every church building was 'forced to put a sign banning children, students, civil servants, military personnel, communist party members and from entering,' he said ... " (Great persecution will soon overtake most Christians in a majority of the world. USA Today reported that Christianity is the most hated religion in the world. "Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ve, 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. However: 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 two reports.)

16 Killed in Nigerian Church Attack, Police Say

April 25, 2018 -- Voice of America News reports: "Seminomadic herdsmen armed with guns killed 16 people Tuesday in an attack on a church congregation in a central state of Nigeria plagued by communal violence, police said.

Hundreds of people have died in clashes this year between herders and farmers in central Nigeria in an outbreak of violence that has put pressure on President Muhammadu Buhari less than a year before an election he wants to contest.

The bloody clashes, linked to grazing rights and dwindling fertile land, have raised questions about the government's ability to maintain security in the country.

Moses Yamu, a police spokesman in Benue state, said the attack took place around 6 a.m. (0500 UTC) in the village of Ayar Mbalom, in Gwer East local government authority.

'Sixteen persons were confirmed killed, including two priests,' said Yamu...''

Church shooting: At least 15 dead after gunmen open fire on CAR worshippers

May 2, 2018 -- *ChristianToday.com* reports: "At least 15 people including a Catholic priest were killed in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR) on Tuesday, when unidentified gunmen opened fire on a church service.

The gunmen attacked Notre Dame de Fatima church, launching grenades and gunfire on the congregation during its morning mass.

'Filled with panic, some Christians began to flee until bullets and grenades began to fall in the parish grounds, trapping those who remained in the compound,' Moses Aliou, a priest at the church, told *Reuters*. Trapped congregants were forced to escape the area through a hole made in the church wall by police..."

Pakistani Christian Girl Murdered in Acid Attack After Refusing to Marry Muslim

April 24, 2018 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "A Christian woman in Pakistan was murdered in an acid attack after refusing to marry a Muslim man.

According to Pakistan Today, 25-year-old

Asma Yaqoob from the city of Sialkot had been working as a beautician in the city of Sialkot when she met Rizwan Gujjar through her 23-year-old brother Nabeel Yaqoob.

Rizwan quickly fell in love with Asma and began pressuring her to convert to Islam before asking her to marry him. After she rejected his advances, he planned a revenge attack.

Her father, Yaqoob Masih, claimed in his First Information Report filed with Sialkot's Civil Lines Police that Rizwan had ambushed Asma by knocking on the door.

'On April 17, my son Maqsood and I went to Zaman's house around to meet Asma and to inquire after the health of Zaman's mother,' Mashi said. 'We were sitting in a room when there was a knock on the front gate. Asma went out to see who had come when after some time we heard her screaming in pain.'

'Zaman, Maqsood and I rushed outside to see what had happened and saw the accused Rizwan Gujjar fleeing from the scene while Asma was engulfed in flames,' he continued, adding that she 'suffered 80 per cent burn injuries on her face and body.'

Asma was taken to Mayo Hospital, Lahore with 90 percent burns, but later succumbed to her injuries..." (This was not the normal honor killing where her family carried out the murder. but it is a result of another individual feeling slighted and felt that she had dishonored him. According to the Honor Based Violence Awareness Network there are 5,000 honor killings internationally per year. 1,000 of them occur in India, 1,000 occur in Pakistan, It is estimated that between 23 – 27 honor killings occur annually in the United States. This is a result of Shariah law – all the women who bring "dishonor" upon their family by premarital sex, extramarital sex, or marrying an unapproved husband, or any other offense, such as becoming too "Westernized" are to be slaughtered.)

NEWS FROM ISRAEL AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Report: Israel preparing for war with Iran

May 2, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Israel appears to be preparing for war with the Islamic Republic of Iran, U.S. officials told *NBC News*.

'On the list of the potentials for most likely live hostility around the world, the battle between Israel and Iran in Syria is at the top of the list right now,' one of the senior officials told *NBC News*.

According to the officials, the latest explosions at Syrian military bases were the latest sign that Israel and Iran are moving closer to an all-out war.

Approximately 200 missiles were destroyed and dozens of Iranian soldiers were reportedly killed in the explosions which rocked Syrian military facilities in and around Hama and Aleppo Sunday night. Iran has denied that any of its forces were killed in the explosions..." (Iran's goal is found in Psalm 83:4: "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance." As I have emphatically stated before – it won't happen. God has promised: "...I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name, that shall not be cut *off*" – Isaiah 56:5.)

'If S-300 systems fire on our planes – we will respond'

May 3, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman was interviewed by the Russian newspaper Kommersant, during which he spoke about confrontations with Russia and Syria in recent weeks.

^cWe are not looking for any confrontation with Russia, and on the contrary, in recent years, an open, clear and transparent dialogue has been created with Russia, both when our opinions are compatible and incompatible.

'As far as I am concerned, Assad is a war criminal, responsible for the deaths of more than half a million citizens of his country. But we are not going to interfere in Syria's internal affairs. What we will not tolerate is Iran's attempts to turn Syria into an outpost against Israel. Any attempt by Iran to establish itself in Syria will be thwarted.

'If Assad does not intervene – it would be very wise of him not to, as we do not plan to interfere in Syria's internal affairs. If his forces, his aerial defense systems, open fire against us – we will open fire against them. There is a delicate line between the IDF and the Russian army forces in Syria. We always take into account Russian interests, and hope that they will take into account Israel's security interests.

'If the S-300 systems are not directed against us - that's one thing. If these systems open fire against our planes, we will definitely respond,' he said ... " ("God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early" - Psalm 46:1 - 5. See the next report.)

Liberman: 'If Tel Aviv attacked – we will strike Tehran'

April 26, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Defense Minister Liberman emphasized that Israel would not tolerate an Iranian strike on Israel, asserting that Israel would not hesitate to strike Tehran in such a case.

In an interview with the London-based Saudi paper *Elaph* published this morning, Thursday, Liberman said that, while Israel is not interested in war with anybody, it will not tolerate an Iranian presence in Syria 'at any price.' 'These are the final days of the Iranian regime,' Liberman warned, emphasizing that 'if Iran attacks Tel Aviv, Israel will strike Tehran and destroy every Iranian military site that threatens Israel in Syria, whatever the price.'

The warning comes after the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Ali Shamkhani, vowed on Tuesday that Tehran would punish Israel in response to the recent air strike on the T-4 airbase in Homs, Syria, in which several Iranian soldiers and officers were killed.

'The Islamic Republic paid a high price to establish regional security and to fight radical Islamic terrorism, and therefore it cannot sit idly by in the face of the alarming escalation which undermines security that is expressed in the steps of the United States, the Zionist entity and some of their allies,' Shamkhani said...''

Hamas leader: Our blood will go to Jerusalem

May 4, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "SeniorHamasleaderMahmoud al-Zahar said on Thursday that the 'March of the Return' processions in Gaza sent a clear message to all sides that it was impossible to implement the 'deal of the century', a reference to the peace plan being put forward by the Trump administration.

Speaking at a conference in Gaza, Zahar said that the processions demonstrated that the Palestinian decision would remain in the hands of Hamas and the resistance organizations until the liberation of 'Palestine'.

'The attempt to instill fear in the lives of the settlers has already done its part, and if we look at what is happening around us, we will find that they fled because they are thieves, and what happened to them will happen in the north of the country as well,' Zahar said.

'The blood of the Palestinian people, spilled on this land, will go from here to

Jerusalem,' he vowed..." (Genesis 15:18 states: "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saving, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates" and in Joshua 1:4 we read: "From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast." These verses encompass all of the land modern Israel currently possesses, plus all of the land of the Palestinians (the West Bank and Gaza), plus some of Egypt and Syria, plus all of Jordan, plus some of Saudi Arabia and Iraq. Israel currently possesses only a fraction of the land God has promised. See the next two reports.)

Hamas leader: We will free all of Palestine

April 29, 2018 -- Israel National News reports: "Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh promised during the Gaza 'March of Return' to embarrass the 'Israeli occupiers.'

During the Friday riots, Haniyeh blessed the youth who took part in violent activities against the Israel.

'This march places our nation on the path to freedom.... from here, from Rafah, the fortress of the south, until the farthest border of Palestine, we will continue. We will not hesitate and we will not be deterred, and we will continue forward,' he said.

'This land is our land, Al-Quds [the Arabic name for Jerusalem – ed.] is our holy place, return is our right, and anyone who fights us for this right – we will hit him with an iron fist.'..."

Palestinians must make peace or shut up, Saudi crown prince said to tell U.S. Jews

April 29, 2018 -- The Times of Israel reports: "At a meeting with Jewish leaders in New York last month, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman castigated the Palestinian leadership for rejecting opportunities for peace with Israel for decades and said they should either start accepting peace proposals or 'shut up.'

Citing what it said were multiple sources, Israel's *Channel 10 News* on Sunday night quoted what it said were remarks made by the crown prince at the meeting that left those who were present 'staggered' by the ferocity of his criticism of the Palestinians.

'For the past 40 years, the Palestinian leadership has missed opportunities again and again, and rejected all the offers it was given,' the Saudi leader reportedly said.

'It's about time that the Palestinians accept the offers, and agree to come to the negotiating table — or they should shut up and stop complaining,' he reportedly went on..."

Iran's Khamenei urges Muslim nations to unite against U.S.

April 26, 2018 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "Iran's supreme leader called on Muslim nations to unite against the United States, saying Tehran would never yield to 'bullying,' state television reported on Thursday.

'The Iranian nation has successfully resisted bullying attempts by America and other arrogant powers and we will continue to resist... All Muslim nations should stand united against America and other enemies,' Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said.

Iran's top authority criticized Trump for saying on Tuesday some countries in the Middle East 'wouldn't last a week' without U.S. protection.

'Such remarks are a humiliation for Muslims ... Unfortunately there is war in our region between Muslim countries. The backward governments of some Muslim countries are fighting with other countries,' Khamenei said..." (Genesis 6:11 states: "The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence." Jesus picked up on this text and compared it to the hour of His return: "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" - Matthew 24:37 - 39. II Timothy 3:1 – 5 pictures the blasphemous acts of human beings, young and old, preceding the hour of Christ's return: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn *away.*" See the next report.)

Iran Leader: U.S. feet must be cut off from West Asia

April 30, 2018 -- The *Islamic Republic News Agency* reports: "Ayatollah Khamenei made the remarks in a meeting with a group of Iranian workers on the occasion of the International Workers' Day.

Wherever U.S. entered, it created instability, brought misery to people; that's why the U.S. feet must be cut off from the West Asia.

U.S. must leave this region. The one whose feet should be cut off is the United States, not the Islamic Republic. We belong to this region; the Persian Gulf and West Asia are our home, he said.

'The U.S. plan is to provoke some ignorant governments with little knowledge in our own region, to confront the Islamic Republic. If officials from these governments gain some wisdom, they won't confront with the Islamic Republic,' the Leader said.

'If they stand against Iran, they will certainly suffer defeat,' he said..."