

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

## PSALM 83:4

### **Hamas: Israel has no right to exist**

**April 30, 2020** -- *Israel National News* reports: “Abdel Latif al-Qanoa, a spokesman for the Hamas terrorist organization, on Wednesday denied the right of the Jewish people to establish a state on the territory of Israel.

In a series of Twitter posts as Israel marked its 72nd Independence Day, Qanoa said the independence celebrations do not change the historical fact that Israel was established as an entity that ‘stole Palestinian land on the bodies of the Palestinian people’ and could never achieve legitimacy for its existence.

Qanoa stated that Israel would continue to be an enemy because it stole the rights of the Palestinian people and the holy places of the Islamic nation and because it is the main enemy of the nation...” (Almighty God has stated: “...I will give them [Israel] an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off” – Isaiah 56:5. Everlasting means everlasting. God promised to Abraham in Genesis 22:17: “...in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore...” “And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose

*their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight with his mighty power out of Egypt; To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day. Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the Lord thy God giveth thee, for ever” – Deuteronomy 4:37 – 40.)*

### **Hamas praises Jerusalem terrorist as a ‘hero’**

**April 23, 2020** -- *Israel National News* reports: “The Hamas terrorist organization praised the ramming and stabbing attack which was carried out on Wednesday by a 25-year-old terrorist at the Kiosk checkpoint near Abu Dis, just east of Jerusalem.

The terrorist rammed a Border Police officer with his vehicle upon arriving at the checkpoint and then stepped out of the vehicle armed with scissors and tried to stab the policeman to death. The policeman’s friends who noticed

the terrorist shot and killed him. In a statement, Hamas called the terrorist a ‘hero’ and described the attack as an ‘heroic act’.

The attack, the organization noted, shows that there are surprises waiting for the ‘occupation’ in the ‘Occupied West Bank’ and that the Palestinian people will thwart Israel’s annexation plans using resistance...” (Larry Miller, a humorist, tells of visiting several hospitals in Israel in in 2001 – 2002 where he met several victims of terror attacks. He wrote: “Downstairs, before we left, the head of the hospital, an Israeli named Audrey, was showing me the children’s waiting room. I couldn’t help but notice, all around, an Arab woman with her son, an Arab family over there checking in, Arab children playing with the toys while waiting. The doctor saw the look on my face and laughed. “Oh, yes, we treat everyone.” I guess I was astonished. She just shrugged. “We’re Jews. This is how we live. It’s also for the future. They’re not going anywhere, and we’re not going anywhere. There will eventually be peace. There has to be.” When? A month? A year? A hundred years? More? She didn’t know. I had to say it. You’re incredible. You take

everyone, you treat everyone, no one goes first, no one goes last, you just go in order of who needs help. That's, like, Mother Teresa stuff. "We're not saints, we're just doing our jobs. It's not easy, I admit. And it gets hard when they cheer when the [Jewish] bodies are brought in." I looked at her. What did you say? She sighed. "Yes, it gets hard when they cheer." This was one of the times during my trip when I held up my hands and said, "Stop. Wait." I turned and walked away to breathe deeply for a minute... I didn't meet one Jew the whole trip who didn't think there would be peace, not one. "We can work it out. We have to. They're not going anywhere. Neither are we." Of course, it gets hard when they cheer. I guess it does.")

### **ICC: 'Palestine' a state, Israel can be prosecuted**

May 1, 2020 -- *Israel National News* reports: "Palestine' is a state and the International Criminal Court has jurisdiction involving its cases, the ICC prosecutor ruled Thursday, which could pave the way for a war crimes investigation against Israel.

A three-judge panel of the ICC Pretrial Chamber must now affirm the decision by Fatou Bensouda.

Israel has been accused of committing war crimes in Judea and Samaria, eastern Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

Israel is not a signer of the Rome Statute and therefore not a part of the ICC. The Palestinian Authority is, even though it is not a full member state of the United Nations.

Under Bensouda's 60-page decision, the ICC may exercise its jurisdiction in 'territory' that 'comprises the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and Gaza.'

Some 50 briefs, both for and against Israel, were filed in the case. The countries that supported Israel position included the Czech Republic, Austria, Germany, Australia, Hungary, Brazil and Uganda, *The Jerusalem Post* reported..." (**"Why do the heathen rage,**

*and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him"* – Psalm 2:1-12.)

### **Arab League: Sovereignty would be a 'war crime' against Palestinians**

May 1, 2020 -- *Israel National News* reports: "The Arab League said on Thursday that an Israeli proposal to apply sovereignty over parts of Judea and Samaria constituted a 'new war crime' against the Palestinians, *AFP* reports.

'The implementation of plans to annex any part of the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, including the Jordan Valley... and the lands on which Israeli settlements are standing represents a new war crime... against the Palestinian people,' Arab foreign ministers said in a joint statement following a virtual conference chaired in Cairo.

The Arab League also urged the United States to 'withdraw its support in enabling the plans of the occupying Israeli government'.

The condemnation follows the coalition agreement between Prime Minister

Binyamin Netanyahu and Blue and White chairman Benny Gantz, which states that the government could apply sovereignty to parts of Judea and Samaria this coming July..." (The Arab League does not know history, or the Qur'an – "And, when Moses said to his people, "O my people, remember the favor of Allah [God] upon you when He appointed among you prophets and made you possessors and gave you that which He had not given anyone among the worlds. O my people, enter the Holy Land which Allah has assigned to you and do not turn back and [thus] become losers." — Quran, Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:20-21. Nor do they know the Bible — Genesis 15:18 states: "In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 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.)

### **PA TV: Al-Aqsa is more precious than your children**

April 23, 2020 -- *Israel National News* reports: "A filler between broadcasts on official *PA TV* reinforces the PA's message to Palestinian Arabs that the Islamic holy places and the struggle for 'Palestine' are worth the sacrifice of their children.

For decades, the PA has promoted to parents and children alike the ideal of dying as 'Martyrs' for the cause.

In the new filler, the PA teaches Palestinian Arabs that the Al-Aqsa Mosque is 'more precious than my children and more precious than my family.'

‘Al-Aqsa – the lemon blossom, the olives. I will redeem you with my soul and my eyes. Al-Aqsa is more precious than my children and more precious than my family – Al-Aqsa is my life, Al-Aqsa is my life,’ the filler says...” (How barbaric to use children in such a manner. Golda Meir once said: “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.” Read the following passages to see what the Bible says about children. “...children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb

*is his reward”- Psalms 127:3. “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” – Proverbs 22:6. “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up” – Deuteronomy 6:4 – 7. “...all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of*

*thy children” – Isaiah 54:13. Matthew 18:2 – 6 states: “And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.” )*

## PLAGUES AND PESTILENCES

### **The other crisis: Locusts imperil millions in Africa**

April 28, 2020 -- *The EU Observer* reports: “The idea that a butterfly flapping its wings can cause a hurricane on the other side of the globe is a commonplace of so-called ‘chaos theory’ in physics.

But theory aside, individual consumers making tiny choices in the industrialised north have helped set flapping the wings of hurricanes of locusts in east Africa.

‘The situation is particularly worrisome in Ethiopia, Somalia, and Kenya,’ Cyril Ferrand, a senior UN official based in the region, told *EUobserver*.

‘About one million individuals in Ethiopia have been affected by the desert locust upsurge and require emergency food assistance,’ he said.

‘Around 20 million people were already experiencing acute food insecurity in the ... greater Horn of Africa,’ he added...” (“*And the Lord said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail hath left. And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the Lord brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it*

*was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. And the locust went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such. For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt” – Exodus 10:12-15.*

According to the UN Food & Agriculture Organization, a one square kilometer swarm of locusts can eat the same amount of food in one day as 35,000 people... *CNN* reported that one swarm in Kenya was three times the size of New York City. See the next report.)

### **“Multiple famines of biblical proportions within a short few months”**

April 22, 2020 -- *Israel National News* reports: “David Beasley, UN World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Director, spoke yesterday (Tuesday) in a virtual session of the UN Security Council which was titled ‘Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Protecting Civilians Affected by

Conflict-Induced Hunger’.

‘At the same time while dealing with a COVID-19 pandemic’, Beasley said, ‘we are also on the brink of a hunger pandemic’.

Beasley emphasized that speaking with world leaders way before the coronavirus, he said that 2020 would be facing the worst humanitarian crisis since World War II.

‘So today, with COVID-19’, he stressed, ‘we are not only facing a global health pandemic but also a global humanitarian catastrophe. Millions of civilians living in conflict-scarred nations, including many women and children, face being pushed to the brink of starvation, with the spectre of famine a very real and dangerous possibility’.

According to the UN World Food Programme 821 million people go to bed hungry every night all over the world, ‘chronically hungry’ Beasley noted.

According to the new Global Report on Food Crisis published yesterday (Tuesday) 135 million people on earth are marching towards the brink of starvation...”

**45,500 corpses incinerated in Wuhan in 2 weeks, say U.S. intel sources**

April 29, 2020 -- *WND.com* reports: “The Wuhan coronavirus pandemic has infected more than 3.1 million people worldwide, causing more than 216,000 deaths.

But the true totals probably never will be known, in part because of unreliable information from China, where it originated.

The Chinese Communist Party’s count of about 80,000 infections and 4,000 deaths in the country is not even ‘remotely close,’ according to U.S. officials.

*Summit News* reported U.S. intelligence has estimated that between March 23 and April 4, at least 45,500 corpses were incinerated in China.

The U.S. believes the total is at least 50 times worst than China admits.

They say up to 60,000 dead bodies per month could have been processed by funeral homes in Wuhan...”

*“But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; but the end is not by and by. Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven” – Luke 21:9-11.*

*This pandemic that we are facing is but a foretaste of the pandemics that will be a part of the Tribulation period. In Revelation 11:6 we are told of the two witnesses who “...have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.” “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”*

– Revelation 6:8. We may never know the true toll of this pandemic because of the lies and subterfuge that is coming from China. See the next three reports.)

**Chinese Media Admits Coronavirus Still Raging: ‘Prevention Will Become a Protracted War’**

April 23, 2020 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “Chinese Communist Party (CCP) propaganda claims the country suffered a relative handful of infections during the coronavirus pandemic compared to other countries around the world and has all but eradicated the virus across most of China, but state media this week tacitly admitted the disease is still raging and told readers to prepare for preventive measures remaining necessary far into the future.

*The Global Times* on Tuesday wrote an editorial quoting the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) warning that ‘the worst is yet ahead of us.’ The primary thrust of the editorial was to chastise American and European officials who want to lift coronavirus lockdowns as soon as possible, since keeping those lockdowns in place on adversaries while China ramps up its own industrial production appears to be a major CCP objective.

In the course of playing the victim and rejecting criticism of how the CCP handled the coronavirus, the *Global Times* admitted it still has a much bigger problem than the numbers it feeds to W.H.O. would suggest...”

**Report: China’s Coronavirus Data Off by Millions of Cases**

April 10, 2020 -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “A report published by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI) this week denounced China’s official coronavirus statistics as mathematically improbable and estimated the true number of infections from the epidemic in China was about 2.9 million, over a hundred times the total of 81,907 infections claimed by Beijing as of Friday.

‘Population size makes it almost certain that China’s disinformation about what

happened outside the original outbreak city of Wuhan is worse than the disinformation about what happened inside,’ the AEI report contended.

The report quoted figures from Chinese state media in January to demonstrate that the number of people who left the outbreak city of Wuhan and its surrounding Hubei province before the city and province were locked down – a wave of travelers consistent with the Lunar New Year season in previous years – would have infected far more people than the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) claims.

Even assuming those figures from Chinese state media were on the high side, possibly because Wuhan officials were eager at the time to demonstrate the enigmatic illness they were passing off as a minor annoyance was not interfering with daily life or the holiday season, the lowest estimates have over a million people leaving the hot zone before travel was restricted – many of them probably carrying the highly infectious coronavirus, which can lurk inside people who do not appear sick, each of whom could be capable of infecting five or six other people...”

**China’s failure to warn of likely pandemic for 6 key days may have been critical**

April 15, 2020 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: “In the six days after top Chinese officials secretly determined they likely were facing a pandemic from a new coronavirus, the city of Wuhan at the epicenter of the disease hosted a mass banquet for tens of thousands of people; millions began traveling through for Lunar New Year celebrations.

President Xi Jinping warned the public on the seventh day, January 20. But by then, more than 3,000 people had been infected during almost a week of public silence, according to internal documents obtained by *The Associated Press* and estimates based on retrospective infection data.

The delay from January 14 to January

20 was neither the first mistake made by Chinese officials at all levels in confronting the outbreak, nor the longest lag, as governments around the world have dragged their feet for weeks and even months in addressing the virus.

But the delay by the first country to face the new coronavirus came at a critical time — the beginning of the outbreak. China’s attempt to walk a line between alerting the public and avoiding panic set the stage for a pandemic that has infected almost 2 million people and taken more than 126,000 lives.

‘This is tremendous,’ said Zuo-Feng Zhang, an epidemiologist at the University of California, Los Angeles. ‘If they took action six days earlier, there would have been much fewer patients and medical facilities would have been sufficient.’...’

**Expert: India Treating Christian Health Workers as ‘Expendable’ Fodder in Coronavirus Response**

**April 10, 2020 -- Breitbart.com** reports: “David Curry, the leader of the Christian aid organization Open Doors, told *Breitbart News* on Wednesday that the group has received reports of Indian government officials sending Christian nurses to tend to the most contagious Chinese coronavirus patients because ‘they are considered dispensable.’

Curry emphasized that many nations on the organization’s World Watch List – the countries where freedom of religion is most restricted – have become even more dangerous for Christians in light of the current pandemic, among them nations like China, India, Iran, and North Korea. In some cases, Christians are struggling to receive proper medical care; in others, Christians are already among the nation’s poorest and must now contend with shut down economies.

In India, Curry told *Breitbart News*, Open Doors is receiving alarming evidence of Christian health workers being placed in dangerous situations with little support or care because of their faith...” (*“If the world hate you,*

*ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name’s sake, because they know not him that sent me. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin. He that hateth me hateth my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father” – John 15:18-24. See the next report.)*

**Christians yet again denied food aid, coronavirus relief distribution for Muslims only**

**April 16, 2020 -- Israel National News** reports: “International Christian Concern (ICC) reports Pakistani Christians were denied food aid amid the COVID-19 crisis in the fourth incident ICC has documented since Pakistan was placed on lockdown by authorities seeking to combat the pandemic.

According to a video post on Facebook, Christians were denied food aid on April 2 in a village situated on the Raiwind road, near Lahore. A local pastor confirmed the incident to ICC.

In the Facebook video, a young Christian man claims that a local mosque committee distributed food on April 2, however, village Christians were told to leave the mosque compound because the food aid was meant for only Muslims...”

**Coronavirus Searches Lead Millions to Hear About Jesus**

**April 13, 2020 -- ChristianityToday.com** reports: “Millions of worried people who have turned to Google with their anxiety over COVID-19 have

ended up connecting with Christian evangelists in their search results— leading to a spike in online conversions in March.

In the Philippines, a woman named Grace found herself on a website about coronavirus fear hosted by the internet evangelism organization Global Media Outreach (GMO). “Please help me not to worry about everything,” she wrote in a chat with a volunteer counselor. “What’s happening now is very confusing.” The counselor explained that only Jesus can bring lasting peace, and Grace received Jesus as her Savior.

Back in the U.S., a volunteer at the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) chatted online with a young mother named Brittany who worried that COVID-19 would take her life and her children’s lives. The volunteer offered hope and peace, and Brittany too accepted Christ.

Three of the largest online evangelism ministries—GMO, BGEA, and Cru— account cumulatively for at least 200 million gospel presentations on the internet each year. All three say the number of people seeking online information about knowing Jesus has increased since the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic in early March...” **(I want to repeat what I said in the April 2020 edition of *The Van Impe Intelligence Briefing: Should the Lord tarry, death is certain for all of us. But with the focus on the lethality of this disease what should our response be? “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” – I Peter 3:15. As people are coming face to face with their mortality we need to be sharing the Gospel with them and give them peace and hope.)***

# THE KINGS OF THE EAST

## **U.S. warns China not to 'exploit' virus for sea disputes**

April 7, 2020 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "The United States on Monday warned China not to take advantage of the coronavirus pandemic to exert itself in the South China Sea after Vietnam said Beijing sank a trawler.

Amid the global focus on fighting COVID-19, China has ramped up self-described research stations and landed special military aircraft in the dispute-rife sea, according to the State Department.

'We call on the PRC to remain focused on supporting international efforts to combat the global pandemic, and to stop exploiting the distraction or vulnerability of other states to expand its unlawful claims in the South China Sea,' State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortagus said in a statement.

Vietnam said last week that it lodged a protest with Beijing after the Chinese Coast Guard 'hindered, rammed and sunk' a Vietnamese boat with eight fishermen on board near the Paracel Islands.

Vietnam — which, like China and Taiwan, claims sovereignty over the Paracel Islands — called in a foreign ministry statement for Beijing to compensate the fishermen, 'strictly discipline' the officers responsible and prevent similar occurrences in the future..." **(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 two reports)

## **Chinese aircraft carrier sails past Japan, Taiwan**

April 14, 2020 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "A Chinese aircraft carrier passed through the East China Sea over the weekend, a maneuver keeping defense ministries in Japan and Taiwan on edge.

The aircraft carrier Liaoning, accompanied by five other vessels in its strike group — two guided missile destroyers, two multi-role warships and a fast combat supply ship — carried out what a People's Liberation Army spokesman called 'routine' exercises.

The vessel traveled through the 155-mile-wide Miyako Strait, between Japan's Ryukyu Islands and the Bashi Channel, then east of Taiwan toward the South China Sea. Both Tokyo and Taipei announced that they were monitoring the progress of the Chinese convoy.

China has ongoing territorial claims on the islands of the area, and the show of force comes as two U.S. aircraft carriers in the Pacific region are debilitated by the effects of the coronavirus.

The USS Theodore Roosevelt is in port in Guam, with much of its crew undergoing quarantine. The U.S. Navy said that 585 of the ship's crew of about 4,800 have tested positive for the virus.

The USS Ronald Reagan, undergoing maintenance in Yokohama, Japan, is preparing for deployment, but currently has 1,000 members of its strike force in quarantine..."

## **U.S. 'Strongly Opposes China's Bullying' in the South China Sea**

April 23, 2020 -- *Voice of America News* reports: "The United States is accusing China of taking advantage of the COVID-19 outbreak and increasing its military activities near Taiwan and in the South China Sea.

'The United States strongly opposes China's bullying,' U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Wednesday, ahead of a virtual meeting between the U.S. and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) foreign ministers later in the day.

'We've also seen that the Chinese Communist Party is exerting military pressure on Taiwan and coercing its neighbors in the South China Sea, even going so far as to sink a Vietnamese fishing vessel. We hope other nations will hold them to account,' added Pompeo during a press briefing, hours before his videoconference with ASEAN ministers.

The U.S. and ASEAN had been eyeing a summit to boost ties, at a time when China continues to expand its influence in Southeast Asia. The dialogue was scheduled for March but later postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak..."

# NEWS FROM RUSSIA

## **Air Force intercepts Russian patrol aircraft near Alaska**

**April 13, 2020** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: "U.S. Air Force fighter jets intercepted two Russian patrol aircraft near Alaska this week, according to North American Aerospace Defense Command.

An unspecified number of F-22 Raptors 'intercepted two Russian IL-38 aircraft entering the Alaskan Air Defense Identification Zone' in the Bering Sea north of the Aleutian Islands on Wednesday, according to NORAD's Twitter feed.

'This is the latest of several occasions in the past month in which we have intercepted Russian aircraft operating near the approaches to our nations. We continue to execute our no-fail homeland defense missions with the same capability and capacity we always bring to the fight,' NORAD Commander General Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy said on Twitter.

During a Thursday appearance on *'Fox & Friends'*, O'Shaughnessy said Russia's plane came within 50 miles of Alaska's coast..." **(Russia preparing to fulfill Ezekiel 38:1, 2, 8, 16; Joel 2:3, 20, 30 for the Armageddon campaign – Revelation 16:16 – which will be fought against America, the EU and the entire Western World. Islamic armies will align themselves with Russia and China for holy jihad – holy war – Ezekiel 38:13; Daniel 11:40; Isaiah 17:1; Ezekiel 38:5-7; Psalm 83: 4 – 7.)**

## **Russia warns U.S. against any attempt to use low-yield missiles**

**April 30, 2020** -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "The Russian foreign ministry has warned the U.S. against any attempt to use low-yield nuclear weapons, after the State Department said placing such weapons on ballistic missiles launched from submarines would counter possible new threats from Russia and China, according to *VOA*.

A low-yield weapon is on the level of the bombs dropped by the U.S. on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The State Department claims that low-yield weapons 'reduce the risk of nuclear war by reinforcing extended deterrence and assurance' and alleges that Russia is considering using such weapons in a limited war, according to *VOA*.

Russia denied the threat and accused the U.S. of 'lowering the nuclear threshold...' **(Nuclear war is part of the battle of the ages – see Revelation 9:18. Other prophesied texts are predicted in Psalm 97:3; Isaiah 66:15; Ezekiel 20:47: "...Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched..." Study also Zephaniah 1:8; Malachi 4:1; and Revelation 8:7.)**

## **Russia tests system to shoot down satellites**

**April 16, 2020** -- *Israel National News* reports: "Russia has tested a system designed to shoot down satellites, the U.S. Space Command announced Wednesday.

'Russia's DA-ASAT test provides yet another example that the threats to U.S. and allied space systems are real, serious and growing,' said Gen. John W. 'Jay' Raymond, USSPACECOM commander and U.S. Space Force Chief of Space Operations. 'The United States is ready and committed to deterring aggression and defending the Nation, our allies and U.S. interests from hostile acts in space.'

'This test is further proof of Russia's hypocritical advocacy of outer space arms control proposals designed to restrict the capabilities of the United States while clearly having no intention of halting their counterspace weapons programs,' Raymond said. 'Space is critical to all nations and our way of life. The demands on space systems continue in this time of crisis where global logistics, transportation and communication are key to defeating the COVID-19 pandemic...' **(Russia is warming up for Armageddon. Soon a peace program will be contracted for the Middle East nations – Daniel 11: 21, 24. It will be a peace contract for seven years but broken after 42 months – Daniel 9:27. Russia is the nation that then says: "...I will go up to the land of unwallled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations..." – Ezekiel 38:11, 12.)**

# THE PERSIAN GULF

## **Iran warns U.S.: 'Severe' response if our territorial waters our violated**

**April 30, 2020** -- *Israel National News* reports: "Iran is continuing to

threaten the U.S., with a spokesman for the Iranian Armed Forces saying Wednesday the Islamic Republic will respond 'severely' if U.S. vessels violate its territorial waters.

The spokesman, Abolfazl Shekarchi, criticized the United States for what he called 'causing disturbance' in the Gulf, reported the *Xinhua* news agency.

Shekarchi also dismissed U.S. President

Donald Trump's recent threats as 'psychological warfare' with the purpose of attracting public attention ahead of the U.S. presidential election.

Trump last week warned Tehran over its harassment of U.S. vessels, writing on Twitter that he had instructed the U.S. Navy to fire on any Iranian ships that harass it at sea, but said later he was not changing the military's rules of engagement.

The warning followed a tense encounter between U.S. and Iranian ships in the Persian Gulf earlier this month..." **(More bragging and blustering from Iran. In 2016 the Global Firepower list puts the United States as the number 1 military power in the world. Israel ranks as number 16, and Iran is ranked as number 21. In early February 2017 President Trump tweeted: "Iran is playing with fire – they don't appreciate how 'kind' President Obama was to them. Not me!" See the next report.)**

**Iranian general threatens: We'll destroy U.S. warships**

**April 24, 2020 -- Israel National News** reports: "The head of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards threatened on Thursday that Iran will destroy U.S. warships if its security is threatened in the Persian Gulf.

'I have ordered our naval forces to destroy any American terrorist force in the Persian Gulf that threatens security of Iran's military or non-military ships,' Major General Hossein Salami said, according to *Reuters*, adding, 'Security of the Persian Gulf is part of Iran's strategic priorities.'

'I am telling the Americans that we are absolutely determined and serious in defending our national security, our water borders, our shipping safety, and our security forces, and we will respond decisively to any sabotage,' he continued.

'Americans have experienced our power in the past and must learn from it,' stated Salami..."

**Pompeo: Iran's space program is dangerous – not peaceful**

**April 28, 2020 -- Israel National News** reports: "U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo warned Monday that Iran's burgeoning space program is 'dangerous', adding that the recent successful launch of a military satellite proves that Tehran has concealed development of technology for intercontinental ballistic missiles under the guise of an allegedly 'civilian' space program.

In a statement released Monday, Pompeo responded to Iran's launching of a satellite into orbit last Wednesday.

'For years, Iran has claimed its space program is purely peaceful and civilian. The Trump Administration has never believed this fiction,' said Pompeo.

The 'launch of a military satellite by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, a designated Foreign Terrorist Organization, makes clear what we have said all along: Iran's space program is neither peaceful nor entirely civilian.'

The Secretary of State said that the satellite's launch vehicle incorporated technologies used for long-range missiles, hinting that the space program has served as cover for Iran's development of 'a delivery system for nuclear weapons..." **(Ezekiel 38:5 predicts that Russia, the Orient, and Persia [which changed its name to Iran in 1932] will see millions destroyed through atomic warfare in the Latter Years and Latter Days – Ezekiel 38:8, 16. This battle is described in Revelation 9:14 – 18: "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."** See the next report.)

**IRGC Aerospace Force Commander General Amir Ali Hajizadeh: 'We are a superpower now'**

**April 30, 2020 -- Israel National News** reports: "IRGC Aerospace Force Commander General Amir Ali Hajizadeh said in a *Channel 2* (Iran) interview that he would like to thank the start-up companies, the universities, and the people from Iran's Ministry of Defense and Aerospace Industries Organization for their help in the construction of the first-stage engine of the missile that launched the Noor satellite into orbit on April 22, 2020, reports the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI).

Saying that Iran is now a superpower, he said that the Noor satellite's orbit passes over the U.S. and other countries that Iran can't fly planes over, and he went on to explain that the first-stage engine used liquid fuel that is also used in surface-to-surface missiles because it was a cheaper option.

He elaborated that the first-stage engine had belonged to an old missile that had been in storage, and that in the future, Iran will develop a solid-fuel first-stage engine. Furthermore, he said that since Iran used a portable launch pad, it has no need for a stationary command center.

He also promised to advance Iran's space technologies, to strengthen Iran every day, and to secure Iran such that nobody would dare threaten it..."