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# Intelligence BRIEFING

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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*

## RUSSIA AND THE KINGS OF THE EAST

### **China foreign minister: Beijing, Moscow must deepen cooperation**

September 21, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Beijing’s top diplomat told President Vladimir Putin that China and Russia must work to strengthen cooperation in the face of a ‘complex international situation’, Chinese state media reported Thursday.

Speaking at a meeting with Putin in Saint Petersburg, at which the Russian leader accepted an invitation to visit China next month, Wang Yi said the ‘world is rapidly moving toward multipolarity’.

‘Economic globalization is progressing against headwinds, unilateral actions are unsustainable, and hegemonism is not popular,’ Wang said, according to an English readout by Beijing’s *Xinhua* news agency.

‘Both sides need to strengthen their multilateral strategic cooperation, protect their legitimate rights and interests, and make new efforts to promote the international order toward fairness and justice,’ he added...” **(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 report.)*

### **Putin says accepted Xi’s invitation to visit China in October**

September 21, 2023 -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Russian leader Vladimir Putin said on Wednesday he had accepted Chinese President Xi Jinping’s invitation to travel to China in October. China and Russia describe each other as strategic allies, with both countries frequently touting their ‘no limits’ partnership and economic and military cooperation.

They came even closer after the start of Russia’s offensive in Ukraine in February last year, which China has

refused to criticise.

‘I was pleased to accept the invitation of the Chairman of the People’s Republic of China to visit China in October,’ Putin told Beijing’s Foreign Minister Wang Yi in televised remarks as they met in Saint Petersburg.

In March, China’s leader Xi Jinping made a state visit to Moscow, where he and Putin sought to showcase a united front against Western countries...”

### **A Wary China Eyes Ties With Russia, North Korea**

September 15, 2023 -- *Voice of America News* reports: “China, watching this week’s historic Russia-North Korea summit from the sidelines, is likely to welcome a boost for President Vladimir Putin’s war in Ukraine but worry that its longtime client state in Pyongyang could be slipping from its grasp, experts say.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un’s green bulletproof train headed to Komsomolsk-on-Amur, a city in Russia’s far Khabarovsk region, on Thursday after his rare summit with Putin a day earlier, according to *Yonhap News* in Seoul.

In Komsomolsk-on-Amur, Kim is expected to meet with Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and visit a manufacturing facility that produces Sukhoi fighter jets. From there, he will head toward Vladivostok to inspect Russia’s Pacific fleet before returning

to Pyongyang.

China and Russia, autocratic socialist states, have supported each other for decades. The two have become closer than ever as they seek to counter the United States and its allies in Europe and Asia. But experts say the shift by North Korea, their junior partner and socialist neighbor, toward Moscow may make Beijing feel as if Kim has found a new suitor...” **(China and North Korea are prophesied to be top contenders and bloody warriors during the battle of Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Revelation 16:12 pictures Kings coming to the Middle East, primarily China and North Korea to slay a third-part of mankind in atomic warfare. Revelation 9:14 – 18 the Oriental nations from the East join with Russia – the leader from the North – Daniel 11:44 – for the most horrendous war in history. See the next two reports.)**

### **North Korea Says Cooperation With Russia 'Natural' for Neighbors**

**September 25, 2023** -- *Voice of America News* reports: “North Korea on Monday slammed South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol for criticizing its cooperation with Moscow following leader Kim Jong Un’s Russia visit, saying it is ‘natural’ and ‘normal’ for neighbors to keep close relations.

Yoon, speaking at the U.N. General Assembly last week, said that if Russia helped North Korea enhance its weapons programs in return for assistance for its war in Ukraine, it would be ‘a direct provocation.’

In a piece carried by *KCNA* news agency, the North denounced Yoon for ‘malignantly’ slandering its friendly cooperation with Russia, and said Yoon was serving as a ‘loudspeaker’ for the United States.

‘It is quite natural and normal for neighboring countries to keep close relations with each other, and there is no reason to call such practice to account,’ it said...”

### **North Korean Leader Vows 'Unconditional Support' for 'All Decisions' by Putin**

**September 13, 2023** -- *Voice of America News* reports: “Russian President

Vladimir Putin met Wednesday with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at Russia’s most advanced spaceport amid warnings from the U.S. and South Korea against a potential arms transfer.

Kim pledged his ‘full and unconditional support’ for ‘all decisions’ by Putin, in an apparent reference to Russia’s war on Ukraine, as the two leaders held talks at the Vostochny Cosmodrome in the Amur region of Russia’s far east, near the Chinese border.

The meeting came as media reports quoted unidentified Western officials as saying Russia hopes to receive North Korean artillery shells for use in its war in Ukraine, while Pyongyang appears to want advanced technology for its satellites and nuclear-powered submarines, as well as food assistance from Moscow...”

### **North Korea test-fires missiles as part of mock 'nuclear attack'**

**September 4, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “North Korea staged a ‘simulated tactical nuclear attack’ drill at the weekend with mock atomic warheads attached to two long-range cruise missiles that were test-fired into the ocean, state-controlled media reported Sunday.

The *Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)* said the operation early Saturday was a ‘counteraction drill’ in response to joint military activity by U.S. and South Korean forces that the agency said had escalated tensions in the region.

‘A firing drill for simulated tactical nuclear attack was conducted at dawn of September 2 to warn the enemies of the actual nuclear war danger,’ *KCNA* reported.

‘Two long-range strategic cruise missiles tipped with mock nuclear warheads were fired’ from North Korea’s west coast into the sea to the south, it said.

South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said Saturday that an unspecified number of cruise missiles were launched at around 4:00 am (1900 GMT) towards the Yellow Sea, adding that the specifications of the missiles were being evaluated.

A JCS official dismissed Pyongyang’s claims, calling them ‘exaggerated’, the South Korean *Yonhap* news agency

reported Sunday...” **(Even if North Korea gives up its nuclear weapons, there are enough remaining in the world to create havoc. 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. See the next report.)**

### **Yoon: Seoul will not 'stand idly by' if Russia and North Korea make weapons deal**

**September 22, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol warned during an address to the United Nations General Assembly that Seoul and its allies will not ‘stand idly by’ if Russia gives North Korea technical assistance with its nuclear and missile programs.

Yoon made the remark during his keynote address at the U.N. General Assembly in New York on Wednesday evening, shortly after a six-day visit by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un to Russia that prompted widespread speculation over a potential weapons deal.

Last week, the White House expressed concern over a ‘budding arms deal’ between Pyongyang and Moscow, citing intelligence that Kim was planning to supply Russia with artillery for its war against Ukraine.

Kim, meanwhile, is reportedly seeking advanced technology for the North’s weapons programs, including its efforts to launch a military spy satellite into orbit.

Yoon on Wednesday called the North’s nuclear and missile programs a ‘direct and existential threat’ to South Korea and a ‘serious challenge’ to peace around the world.

‘If the DPRK acquires the information and technology necessary to enhance its WMD capabilities in exchange for supporting Russia with conventional weapons, such a deal between Russia and the DPRK will be a direct provocation,’ Yoon said, referring to North Korea by its official acronym.

‘The Republic of Korea, together with its allies and partners, will not stand idly by,’ he said...’’

### **China announces ‘strategic partnership’ with Syria**

**September 25, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Chinese President Xi Jinping announced a ‘strategic partnership’ with Syria on Friday during talks with President Bashar al-Assad, who is seeking financial support to help rebuild his devastated country.

The leaders met on the eve of the Asian Games opening ceremony, which Assad will attend as part of his first visit to China since 2004.

China is one of only a handful of countries outside the Middle East that Assad has visited since the 2011 start of a civil war that killed more than half a million people, displaced millions and battered Syria’s infrastructure and industry.

Assad is the latest in a string of leaders ostracised by the West to be feted by Beijing, with Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro and Iran’s President Ebrahim Raisi visiting this year, as well as top Russian officials.

‘Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad on Friday jointly announced the establishment of the China-Syria strategic partnership,’ according to Chinese state news agency *Xinhua*...’’ **(China is prophesied to be a top contender and bloody warrior during the battle of Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. Revelation 16:12 pictures Kings coming to the Middle East, primarily China, to slay a third-part of mankind in atomic warfare. Revelation 9:14 – 18 the Oriental nations from the East join with Russia – the leader from the North – Daniel 11:44 – for the most horrendous war in history.)**

### **China’s recent military activities ‘abnormal’: Taiwan defence minister**

**September 25, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “Taiwan’s defence minister said China’s recent military activities were ‘abnormal’, after a spike in incursions by Chinese warplanes around the island this week.

China claims self-ruled Taiwan as its

territory and has maintained it will seize it one day — by force, if necessary.

Beijing performs near-daily aerial incursions around the island, and on Monday Taiwan’s defence ministry reported a ‘recent high’ of 103 warplanes within a 24-hour window.

‘Our enemy’s recent movements are really quite abnormal,’ Taiwan’s defence minister Chiu Kuo-cheng told reporters outside parliament in Taipei on Friday.

‘Our initial analysis is that up to September, they have been doing joint exercises, including land, sea, air and amphibious,’ he said...’’ **(A March 19, 2021 article in *The New York Times* – [Tense Talks With China Left U.S. ‘Cleareyed’ About Beijing’s Intentions, Officials Say](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/19/world/asia/china-us-alaska.html) <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/19/world/asia/china-us-alaska.html> states: “Just as Washington’s views on China have shifted after years of encouraging the country’s economic integration, so have Beijing’s perceptions of the United States and the privileged place in the world that it has long held. The Americans, in their view, no longer have an overwhelming reservoir of global influence, nor the power to wield it against China.**

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

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

### **China VP warns at UN of ‘strong will’ on Taiwan**

**September 22, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “China warned Thursday at the United Nations not to underestimate its ‘strong will’ on Taiwan, while saying Beijing preferred peaceful means to take the self-governing democracy.

Addressing the General Assembly, Vice President Han Zheng repeated Beijing’s stance that Taiwan — around which the communist mainland has

staged repeated military exercises — constitutes an ‘inalienable part’ of China.

‘No one should ever underestimate the firm resolve, strong will and the power of the Chinese people to safeguard their sovereignty and territorial integrity,’ he said.

‘Realizing China’s complete reunification is a shared aspiration of all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation,’ he said.

‘We will continue to strive for peaceful reunification with the greatest sincerity and the utmost effort.’

Nearly all countries recognize Beijing rather than Taipei but the United States has a strong unofficial relationship with Taiwan, to which it provides weapons to ensure its self-defense...’’

### **India issues ‘strong protest’ to China over map**

**August 30, 2023** -- *SpaceWar.com* reports: “India issued a ‘strong protest’ to China on Tuesday after a Beijing map claimed land that New Delhi says is theirs, including territory close to where the neighbours battled in 2020.

‘We have today lodged a strong protest through diplomatic channels with the Chinese side on the so-called 2023 ‘standard map’ of China that lays claim to India’s territory,’ foreign ministry spokesman Arindam Bagchi said in a statement.

‘We reject these claims as they have no basis. Such steps by the Chinese side only complicate the resolution of the boundary question.’

India has been wary of its northern neighbour’s growing military assertiveness and their 3,500-kilometre (2,200-mile) shared frontier has been a perennial source of tension.

New Delhi said two areas on a map released on Beijing’s state-owned Global Times newspaper belong to India.

One was India’s northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh, which China considers to be part of Tibet, and where the Asian giants fought a full-scale border war in 1962.

The second was Aksai Chin, a high-altitude strategic corridor linking Tibet to western China...’’

# THE PALESTINIAN STATE?

## **King Abdullah: Middle East security impossible without Palestinian state**

September 20, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “Global solidarity is needed to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which remains the central security issue in the region, Jordan’s King Abdullah told the United Nations on Tuesday.

‘The region will continue to suffer until the world lifts the shadow of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the central issue in the Middle East.

No architecture for regional security and development can stand over the burning ashes of this conflict,’ the monarch said as he joined world leaders in taking the stage at the high-level portion of the 78th UN General Assembly’s opening session.

He spoke at a time when the Israeli government does not believe in the creation of a Palestinian state and many Israelis themselves have lost faith in it. Some members of the government consider a Palestinian state to be an existential threat to Israel...” (Caroline B. Glick, senior contributing editor to *The Jerusalem Post* wrote a book in 2014 entitled “The Israeli Solution” where she stated in the preface: “Establishing a Palestinian state, so the thinking goes, would be a panacea for all the region’s ills. It would end the Arab world’s conflict with Israel, because the reason the Arab world is anti-Israel is that there is no Palestinian state. It would also nearly erase the Arab world’s anti-Americanism, because the reason the Arabs – and the larger Muslim world – are anti-American is that the

United States supports Israel even though there is no Palestinian state... For the past ninety years, the two-state solution has been tried more than a dozen times, and every time it has failed, abysmally. Between 1970 and 2013, the United States presented nine different peace plans for Israel and the Palestinians, all based on the two-state solution – and for the past twenty years, the two-state solution has been the centerpiece of the U.S. Middle East policy. But despite this laser focus, American efforts to implement the two-state solution have all been dismal failures.” See the next two reports.)

## **Only way to solve conflict is independent Palestinian state, says top Saudi diplomat**

September 19, 2023 -- *The Times of Israel* reports: “The Saudi foreign minister said Monday that the only way to solve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is via an independent Palestinian state, amid talks on Israeli-Saudi normalization in which Riyadh has been seeking Israeli gestures toward Ramallah.

‘There is no way to resolve the conflict other than by ensuring the establishment of an independent Palestinian state,’ Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan told Saudi state TV network *Al Ekhbariya*.

‘People have begun to lose hope in the two-state solution,’ Farhan said, adding that the plan ‘must return to the forefront.’

Farhan’s remarks were made at the sidelines of a United Nations General Assembly event dubbed the ‘Peace Day Effort,’ in which nearly 30 foreign ministers from countries in Europe and

the Middle East met Monday to unveil a new initiative aimed at reviving the long-dormant Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Driven by the European Union, Saudi Arabia, the Arab League, Egypt and Jordan, the sides agreed at the event to produce a ‘Peace Supporting Package’ in the coming months that will maximize dividends for Israelis and Palestinians, once they reach a peace agreement...”

## **Saudis say Palestinians must be part of Israel peace deal, says Blinken**

September 14, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “Saudi Arabia has let the Biden administration know that resolving Palestinian issues is critical for any normalization deal with Israel, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Wednesday.

‘It is also clear from what we hear from the Saudis that if this process is to move forward the Palestinian piece is going to be very important too,’ he said in an interview with the podcast ‘Pod Save the World.’

He spoke as the Biden administration has been increasingly public about its pursuit of a security pact with Saudi Arabia that would include a normalization deal with Israel. It’s expected that Israel would have to make concessions to the Palestinians as part of the deal.

Such a deal would come on top of the U.S.-backed 2020 Abraham Accords, in which Israel agreed to suspend the annexation of West Bank settlement in exchange for normalization deals with four Arab countries: the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan...”

## NEWS FROM ISRAEL

### **Hamis issues terror threat to Israel: ‘We will return to the Intifada’**

September 18, 2023 -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: “Saleh al-Aroui, Deputy Head of Hamas’ political bureau, met

in Beirut on Saturday with a delegation from the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – led by its Deputy Secretary-General, Jamil Mazhar.

The two called on Hamas and the Popular

Front to escalate their opposition against Israel.

The two factions also called on the Palestinian Authority leadership to ‘return to the intifada in order to achieve national unity and the settlement of

the Palestinian home on national and democratic bases.’

Both sides reviewed the developments of the two organizations’ goals. The meeting also discussed the situation in the Ain al-Hilweh, a Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon, shortly after the clashes stopped two days ago. They confirmed their support for all parties to stabilize the ceasefire in the area...”

*(Deliver me from mine enemies, O my God: defend me from them that rise up against me. Deliver me from the workers of iniquity, and save me from bloody men. For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not for my transgression, nor for my sin, O Lord. They run and prepare themselves without my fault: awake to help me, and behold. Thou therefore, O Lord God of hosts, the God of Israel, awake to visit all the heathen: be not merciful to any wicked transgressors. Selah. They return at evening: they make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city. Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips: for who, say they, doth hear? But thou, O Lord, shalt laugh at them; thou shalt have all the heathen in derision. Because of his strength will I wait upon thee: for God is my defence. The God of my mercy shall prevent me: God shall let me see my desire upon mine enemies. Slay them not, lest my people forget: scatter them by thy power; and bring them down, O Lord our shield. For the sin of their mouth and the words of their lips let them even be taken in their pride: and for cursing and lying which they speak. Consume them in wrath, consume them, that they may not be: and let them know that God ruleth in Jacob unto the ends of the earth. Selah. And at evening let them return; and let them make a noise like a dog, and go round about the city. Let them wander up and down for meat, and grudge if they be not satisfied. But I will sing of thy power; yea, I will sing aloud of thy mercy in the morning: for thou hast been my defence and refuge in the day of my trouble. Unto thee, O my strength, will I sing: for God is my defence, and the God of my mercy. – Psalm 59:1-17; Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who*

*prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace. The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth. The Lord shall laugh at him: for he seeth that his day is coming. The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation. Their sword shall enter into their own heart, and their bows shall be broken. A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked. For the arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the Lord upholdeth the righteous. The Lord knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. – Psalm 37:7-18; 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. – Psalm 2:1-5. See the next report.)*

### **Report: New Hamas rocket has one ton warhead, can hit Israel’s northern border**

September 1, 2023 -- *Israel National News* reports: “A Telegram channel bearing the name of Mohammed Deif, supreme commander of Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas, reported that a missile that threatens the majority of Israeli territory has recently become operational.

According to the report, the new rocket has a range of 190 KM (118 Miles), can reach Rosh Hanikra, on Israel’s northern border, from Gaza, and its warhead weighs one ton.

It was also reported that the rocket

is manufactured by the Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades in the Gaza Strip, and its explosives are imported from Iran. On August 17th, 2023, this model of rocket was launched from the Gaza Strip toward the Mediterranean Sea, and according to the report, the launch was meant to send a message to Israel...”

### **Israel warns Hamas: There will be a response to any firing of rockets from Gaza**

September 11, 2023 -- *Israel National News* reports: “Senior officials in the IDF contacted the Hamas terrorist organization, through mediators, and warned the group against firing rockets from the Gaza Strip during the upcoming holidays, *Kan 11 News* reported on Friday.

According to the report, the defense establishment is preparing for about 200 alerts of terrorist attacks every day.

Israel conveyed the message through countries that have diplomatic relations with both Israel and Hamas, and the message was that in the event of rocket fire from Gaza, Israel will react very harshly, as it did in the past by launching a military operation.

There are also security tensions in the Judea and Samaria area, where the defense establishment has been receiving many alerts of possible terrorist attacks. The IDF has deployed 22 battalions of soldiers to the field, and there is also cooperation with the Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet)...”

*(The IDF is correct. Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a*

*potter's vessel. Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him – Psalm 2:1-12. See the next two reports.)*

**Mossad director warns Iran: 'Harm to Israelis will lead to strike in heart of Tehran'**

**September 11, 2023** -- *Israel National News* reports: "Mossad Director David Barnea, during a conference a Richman University in Herzliya on Sunday, revealed that Iran intended to sell Russia short and long-range missiles, but the deal was shut down. 'They intend to sell additional arms, which will be shut down as well. Our

fear is that in return, the Russians will transfer advanced weaponry to the Iranians that would certainly threaten our wellbeing and even our existence here,' he stated.

According to him, 'Tehran continues trying to get the status of an enlightened country. They hide behind a story. As Iran's self-confidence grows, so do its efforts to spread terrorism around the world since it feels that it won't pay a high price.

We see a significant rise in attempts to harm Jews and Israelis around the world. In the past year, we foiled, together with our partners, 27 terror attacks worldwide,' he added.

Barnea declared that 'until now, we only hit the commanders, the time has come that we take a different toll on Iran. Harm to an Israeli or a Jew, in any way, would

lead to action deep in Iran and even in the heart of Teheran, from the executive level to the decision-makers'..."

**Syria airstrikes: 'Proof thunder of Israel's jets is loudest,' Gallant says**

**September 15, 2023** -- *The Jerusalem Post* reports: "Defense Minister Yoav Gallant appeared on Thursday to reference alleged Israeli airstrikes which targeted sites in Syria on Wednesday, stating 'last night we received another proof, that in the State of Israel the thunder of the planes is louder than all the other background noises.'

'In the end what matters is the performance, not the talk,' said Gallant at a pre-Rosh Hashanah toast with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the General Staff Forum..."

# NEWS FROM IRAN

**Ayatollah Khamenei Marks \$6 Billion 9/11 with Speech Celebrating America's Demise**

**September 13, 2023** -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "Iranian dictator Ayatollah Ali Khamenei celebrated the demise of 'the arrogant power of America' in a speech in Tehran on Monday, the 22nd anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the U.S. homeland by radical Muslim terrorists.

Khamenei's remarks, in which he celebrated that America 'has weakened and will become weaker,' preceded a report by the *Associated Press* claiming on Monday that leftist American President Joe Biden agreed to waive sanctions on third-party countries to allow the transfer of \$6 billion in frozen funds to Iran out of banks in South Korea – a further concession as part of a prisoner swap first reported in early August...

Khamenei's remarks on Monday did not mention the reported \$6 billion agreement, nor did they dwell on the September 11, 2001, attacks. The 'supreme leader' instead warned Iranians to fear alleged American 'plots' to undermine the Islamic 'revolution' but claimed such schemes were the last

gasps of a dying power.

'The arrogant power of America and some European countries has weakened and will become weaker,' Khamenei said, according to Iran's *PressTV* state propaganda outlet. Khamenei claimed the world was in the process of 'transformation' away from the era of America being the world's dominant superpower..." **(Iran will be blotted out when Russia, China, and Islamic nations fight Israel and her allies during Armageddon – Revelation 16:16. The battle is described in Ezekiel 39:1 – 5: ...thou son of man, prophesy against Gog, and say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and leave but the sixth part of thee, and will cause thee to come up from the north parts, and will bring thee upon the mountains of Israel: And I will smite thy bow out of thy left hand, and will cause thine arrows to fall out of thy right hand. Thou shalt fall upon the mountains of Israel, thou, and all thy bands, and the people that is with thee: I will give thee unto the ravenous birds of every sort, and to the beasts of the field to be devoured... Soon the war of wars will arrive from the**

**North and East [Russia and China] – Daniel 11:44. The battle is described in Ezekiel 38:1 – 5: ...the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief [Russian] prince of Meshech and Tubal: [Moscow and Tubal, or Tubalsk – Southwest of the Russian capital]: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet. See the next report.)**

**Iranian President: We'll Spend Money from Prisoner Swap How We Want**

**September 13, 2023** -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "During an interview aired on Tuesday's broadcast of 'NBC Nightly News,' Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi stated that the money that will be unfrozen under Iran's prisoner swap with the United States 'belongs to the

Islamic Republic of Iran, and naturally, we will decide, the Islamic Republic of Iran will decide to spend it wherever we need it.’

Host Lester Holt asked, ‘You believe this money was wrongfully taken from Iran, but what is your expectation of its use? We’re told that it’s for humanitarian purposes, food and medicine. Do you believe you have the right to use that money in any way that you see fit?’

Speaking through an Iranian government-provided translator, Raisi responded, ‘This money belongs to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and naturally, we will decide, the Islamic Republic of Iran will decide to spend it wherever we need it.’ ...”

**Iran to toughen penalties for women who breach dress code**

**September 21, 2023** -- *Israel National News* reports: “Iranian women who flout the strict Islamic dress code mandating head coverings and modest clothing would face up to 10 years’ prison under a new bill passed on Wednesday, reports the *AFP* news agency.

The push to step up penalties comes a year after a wave of protests sparked by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who had been arrested for allegedly breaching the rules.

Since then, a growing number of Iranian women have been seen in public without hijab head scarves or observing the rules against clothes that are deemed too tight-fitting or otherwise revealing.

Iran’s legislature approved ‘the ‘Support for the Culture of Hijab and Chastity’ bill for a trial period of three years,’ the official *IRNA* news agency reported on Wednesday...” **(Islam is a religion of hate. Sharia Law demands death penalties for (1) Daughters who have premarital sex, (2) Homosexuals – these murderers are told to drop them from the highest mountain to be sure to hear their fearful screams, (3) Apostates – these are Islamic religionists who mock Allah, Muhammad, of the Koran, (4) All infidels – non Muslim religionists. Genuine Christianity is the only religion of peace – Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren – I John 3:16.**

**Mass sexual assault of women in public has been documented in Islam for years. On February 11, 2011, former CBS News correspondent Lara Logan was reporting in Egypt about the celebrations following the resignation of Hosni Mubarak when she was attacked by a group of 200 – 300 men, several of whom gang raped her for nearly one half hour. Her only offense – not having her head covered. In an article Dr. Van Impe has cited before, Dawn Perlmutter said: “From a Western perspective this was a crazed mob out of control. For a shame culture this was an acceptable punishment for a woman who was not properly covered. They pulled her**

**blonde hair out and more than likely kept it as souvenirs.”**

**Here is what our God states: Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God — I Corinthians 6:9, 10. See the next report.)**

**Iran Bans Weightlifter for Life Over Handshake With Israeli**

**September 1, 2023** -- *Voice of America News* reports: “An Iranian weightlifter has been given a lifetime ban by authorities in the Islamic republic after shaking hands with an Israeli competitor at an event in Poland, state media reported.

Mostafa Rajaei, who is his 40s, shook hands with Israeli weightlifter Maksim Svirsky on Saturday after they both stood on the podium at a World Masters championship in Wieliczka, Poland.

‘The weightlifting federation bans athlete Mostafa Rajaei for life from entering all sports facilities in the country and dismisses the head of the delegation for the competition, Hamid Salehinia,’ the body announced in a statement cited by state news agency *IRNA*.

Iran does not recognize Israel, its sworn enemy, and prohibits all contact between Iranian and Israeli athletes...”

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

**Azerbaijan Pursues ‘Elimination of the Entire Christian Population and Its Churches’ in Nagorno-Karabakh**

**September 8, 2023** -- *Breitbart.com* reports: “The congressional Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, chaired by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), held a hearing Wednesday to discuss the plight of Armenian Christians trapped by an Azerbaijani blockade in the contested Nagorno-Karabakh region. The commission heard testimony from experts who said Azerbaijan’s actions clearly constituted genocide,

with complicity from Turkey and the Islamist forces it has dispatched into the region...”

Testifying before the commission on Wednesday was Luis Moreno Ocampo, a former prosecutor for the International Criminal Court (ICC) who published a report in August about the Lachin Corridor blockade. Ocampo’s report said the blockade was Azerbaijan’s attempt to use ‘starvation as a means of genocide.’

‘There are no crematories and there are no machete attacks. Starvation is the invisible genocide weapon. Without

immediate dramatic change, this group of Armenians will be destroyed in a few weeks,’ Ocampo warned in August...”

**(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.)

**Report: Islamist Massacres of Christians a 'Regular Occurrence' in Sub-Saharan Africa**

**August 28, 2023** -- *Breitbart.com* reports: "The slaughter of Christians has become a regular occurrence in sub-Saharan Africa, the Barnabas Fund reports on Saturday, and the 'cause is Islamism.'

Hotspots of Islamic terrorist activity include the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), northern Mozambique, and northern and Middle Belt Nigeria, the Christian aid and persecution watchdog group asserts, and the perpetrators 'are not just rebels or militants, but jihadists.'

The report notes that Islamic terrorists from the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) are affiliated with the Islamic State and together with Islamic State Mozambique, they form the Islamic State Central Africa Province.

The violence in Nigeria and across West Africa 'is carried out by the Islamic State West Africa Province, jihadi group Boko Haram, and other Islamist extremists,' the document states..."

**(Great persecution will soon overtake most Christians in a majority of the world. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. – Matthew**

**5:10 – 12; ...When he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held. — Revelation 6:9; ...I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. – Revelation 20:4; and Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. – Revelation 2:10. See the next two reports.)**

**Terrorists Kidnap Two Christians, Kill Baptist Pastor in Nigeria**

**Sep. 7, 2023** -- *ChristianHeadlines.com* reports: "Two Christians were kidnapped on Friday (Aug. 25) in Kaduna state, Nigeria, two days after gunmen described as terrorists killed a Baptist pastor in another area of the state, sources said.

Terrorists on Friday night (Aug. 25) invaded the predominantly Christian community of Wusasa, Zaria, and kidnapped the two Christians, brothers Yusha'u Peter and Joshua Peter, staff members of St. Luke's Anglican Hospital in Wusasa, a community leader in the area said.

Isiyaku Ibrahim said the brothers were abducted at about 9 p.m. by 'terrorists.' 'This is coming not long after the father of the two victims was also kidnapped and taken into captivity by the terrorists,' Ibrahim told *Morning Star News* in a text message. 'The terrorists have so often made our area their target of attacks and abductions of our people. In fact, recently two Christians in our community were killed in similar attacks.'

The two brothers had fled to Zaria from

Ikara in Kaduna state after their father was kidnapped there, according to local reports.

The abductions come after the Rev. Jeremiah Mayau, 61-year-old pastor of Tawaliu Baptist Church in Ungwan Mission, Kujama in Chikun County, was shot to death on Aug. 23..."

**2 Teens Arrested for Plotting Attack on Christian Middle Schoolers**

**Aug 29, 2023** -- *ChristianHeadlines.com* reports: "Two teen boys were sentenced to two years in prison in Austria for conspiring to kill as many Christians as possible at a middle school in the Styria city of Bruck an der Mur.

According to *The Christian Post*, two boys, ages 15 and 16, from Bruck an der Mur, confessed last month to conspiring to attack Christians at the middle school where the younger boy was a student.

The 15-year-old is of Chechnyan descent, while the 16-year-old is Austrian. They are both Muslim.

The teens testified in Leoben Regional Court on July 16 after being charged with being a part of a terrorist organization and criminal organization, according to Austrian news outlets.

Austrian newspaper *Kleine Zeitung* reports that the teens were part of a radical chat group. In the group, the boys alleged they had access to swords, knives and guns and were in the 'final phase of making explosives.' The older teen also claimed he was 'angry with the West' and they wanted to 're-establish the caliphate.'

The teens reportedly asserted in the group chat that they did not want to engage in 'boring knife attacks' and instead wanted to use explosives to kill as many people as possible. The teens also claimed that they wanted to 'shoot all the Christians in the class,' noting that one of their friends unsuccessfully obtained his father's submachine gun for them to use, and they were saving for their own firearms, *The Christian Post* reports..."