This Week's Developments

October 16 - 22, 2022 [original]

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Iranian 'Kamikaze drones' strike the centre of Kyiv

The Times, October 17, 2022



EVENT

The Ukrainian capital came under attack from Russian-launched "kamikaze drones" early this morning, exactly a week after a wave of missile strikes on Kyiv and other cities across the country. Air raid sirens wailed soon after 6.30am local time, followed by a string of explosions, before more warnings rang out across much of the country. "The Russians think it will help them, but it shows their desperation," Andriy Yermak, chief of staff to President Zelensky, said on social media. The attacks appeared to have been carried out using Iranian-made Shahed drones, which were also used in strikes on Ukrainian energy infrastructure last week, despite Tehran's denial that it was supplying Russia with weapons. Russia fired more than 80 cruise missiles at Ukraine last week in retaliation for strikes that damaged the Kerch bridge to Crimea, its biggest barrage since the early days of the invasion. Iran's emergence as a weapons supplier to the Russian war effort is an inflammatory new element in the conflict, strengthening relations between the two heavily sanctioned countries.

COMMENT

Russia conventional forces are being pushed back in Ukraine so Putin with his new brutal general are turning to worsening forms of terror. These Iranian drones are hitting Ukraine's power stations across the country. Sometimes hitting a target then coming back 2 hours later to kill the rescuers. The fact Iran is supplying Russia with these attack drones raises the temperature of the war even further. New sanctions on both Iran and Russia are coming and this in turn impacts the Iran Nuclear Deal negotiations. The Bible says that Iran (Persia) will join with Russia in invading Israel. It says that Russia will "guard" or protect Iran. At this time we see Iran supporting Russia...

BIBLE QUOTE

Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.

(Ezekiel 38:5-7)

Russia's Iranian drones complicate Israel's balancing act

Associated Press, October 19, 2022



EVENT

The Iranian-made drones that Russia sent slamming into central Kyiv this week have complicated Israel's balancing act between Russia and the West. Israel has stayed largely on the sidelines since Russia's invasion of Ukraine last February so as not to damage its strategic relationship with the Kremlin. Although Israel has sent humanitarian aid to Ukraine, it has refused Kyiv's frequent requests to send air defense systems and other military equipment and refrained from enforcing strict economic sanctions on Russia and the many Russian-Jewish oligarchs who have second homes in Israel. But with news of Moscow's deepening ties with Tehran, Israel's sworn foe, pressure is growing on Israel to back Ukraine in the grinding war. Israel has long fought a shadowy war with Iran across the Middle East by land, sea and air. A military spokesman, said the suicide drone attack in Ukraine had raised new concerns in Israel.

COMMENT

Iran's involvement in Ukraine is now complicating things dramatically for Israel. Until now Israel has tried to sit on the fence on the Ukraine conflict. Many Jews live in Ukraine and of course the president and prime minister of Ukraine are Jewish. But on the other side Israel has agreements with Russia over how it can target Iranian militias and weapons in Syria. So Israel does not want to upset Russia. But Russian use of Iranian drones caused Israel's minister of diaspora affairs to write "The time has come for Ukraine to receive military aid as well, just as the USA and NATO countries provide." His comments set off a storm in Russia. Former Russian president Medvedev said "It will destroy all interstate relations between our countries." The Bible says Russia will invade Israel and we can see that one day (soon) relations will be destroyed....

BIBLE QUOTE

and will cause thee [Gog/Putin] 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 beasts of the field to be devoured. (Ezekiel 39:2-4)

US rushes to send new systems in response to Russian missiles

The Independent, October 20, 2022



EVENT

In the days since the missile barrage, which left energy infrastructure damaged and killed at least 14 civilians, the United States and its Nato allies have pledged deliveries of advanced air defence systems. At the top of that list was a pledge by the White House to speed up the delivery of sophisticated National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System, or NASAMS — a short to medium range ground-based air defence. The US had approved the delivery of eight NASAMS in August, following repeated requests from Zelensky. The first two of which were due to arrive in November, and the rest at a later date. But that order has been expedited following the Russian missile attacks, the White House said, and Ukraine's defence minister now expects the first two to arrive before the end of October. The systems cost around \$23m per unit, according to the Department of Defence. "Systems will be provided as fast as we can physically get them there," Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin told reporters on Tuesday.

COMMENT

UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace went on a secretive and hastily-arranged visit to Washington to talk with his counterpart about "shared security concerns" including Ukraine and Russia an official said. After the meeting it was announced that the West would send more rockets to Ukraine to defend against the Iranian drones unleashed by Russia. There is growing fear Putin could use nuclear weapons or even blow up a huge dam to flood southern Ukraine. The concerns are increasing and the head of the UK armed forces said this week that troops need to be prepared for war. As the US and UK lead the way in supplying ever more capable and accurate long range missiles we can see the "military provocation" (the push) described in Daniel 11:40 coming to pass....

BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown:

(Daniel 11:40)

US military chief: China could invade Taiwan this year

The Times, October 20, 2022



EVENT

China could invade the self-governed island of Taiwan as soon as this year, a senior US naval commander said. Admiral Mike Gilday, chief of US naval operations, raised the prospect of imminent war yesterday at a discussion hosted by the Atlantic Council in Washington. He was asked about recent official US assessments that China is building the capability to seize Taiwan by 2027. "When we talk about the 2027 window, in my mind that has to be a 2022 window or potentially a 2023 window," Gilday said. "I can't rule that out. I don't mean at all to be alarmist by saying that, it's just that we can't wish that away." His comments came after President Xi vowed to unify with the island in his opening speech to the Chinese Communist Party congress in Beijing on Sunday. Beijing has long considered the island of more than 23 million people part of Chinese territory, but Taiwan sees itself as separate from the mainland. Antony Blinken, the US secretary of state, this week said China was pursuing unification with Taiwan on a "much faster timeline."

COMMENT The autocratic, totalitarian, authoritarian regimes of the East are rising up. Whether we look at Russia, or China, or Iran, or North Korea. All of them are sensing weakness in the West. Democracy is in trouble, and western nations especially, are seeing economies under immense stress due to Covid and then the Ukraine war. China sees this and might decide to use this time to further its own agenda by taking Taiwan back under its control. Jesus said nation would rise up against nation....Taiwan is critical to the world's economy as it supply 20% of global semiconductors (microchips). Many digital appliances use these. Mobile Phones, TV's, washing machines, cars etc etc.

BIBLE QUOTE

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 21:10-11)

Putin in the shadows after France loses sway in Africa

The Times, October 17, 2022



EVENT

Moscow has revealed its next target in resource-rich west Africa, where a deteriorating security environment is helping the Kremlin wrench influence over former French colonies from Paris. Niger and its uranium mines are next, a series of pro-Putin voices have declared via the Telegram messaging service. The same voices were chattering ahead of the coup d'état that toppled Burkina Faso's government last month. Kremlin cronies were quick to exploit the chaos, backed by demonstrators waving Russian flags outside the capital's French embassy. The fresh challenge will alarm French diplomats struggling to come to terms with Moscow's exploitation of the chaos caused by a worsening insurgency in the Sahel. Although few observers believe that Putin has the clout to run the region as Paris once did, many fear the growing presence of the Russian paramilitary force Wagner will leave jihadists as the uncontested masters of vast swathes of territory, notably in the Sahel.

COMMENT

Russia's expanding influence in Africa in recent years is mostly a result of Moscow's use of unofficial means — deploying mercenaries, disinformation campaigns, arms for resources deals, and trafficking of precious metals. Putin uses the Wagner Group which passes itself off as a private military contractor but is controlled and funded by the Kremlin. In sub-Saharan Africa, Wagner has gained substantial footholds for Russia in Sudan, Ethiopia and Libya. This is interesting with Bible in hand because we are told that Gog is joined by Ethiopia and Libya when it invades Israel. Putin's hand maybe in the shadows at this time in Africa but one day Russia's true intentions will be laid bare...

BIBLE QUOTE

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: Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters,

(Ezekiel 38:4-6)

UK 'is facing democratic crisis and the damage could last the rest of our lives

Metro, October 21, 2022



EVENT

The country faces a stern test of trust in democracy as the Conservative party sets about finding a new leader after the resignation of Liz Truss. Ms Truss's departure from No10 leaves behind faith in politics that is said to be 'toxic' at a time when 'government is needed more than ever'. Her calamitous 44 days in office were set by the ill-fated mini-Budget after which she sacked her chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng as her tenure fell apart. As Rishi Sunak and Boris Johnson are linked to the latest Tory leadership race, the issue of the public's faith in democracy has come to the fore. Political commentators told said that a 'staggering' level of voter apathy and disenchantment will only increase if some form of stability is not found in coming weeks. Dr Matt Cole, a professor of political history said: 'Our faith in democracy and trust in politicians has been in decline for some time, in terms of membership of political parties, turnout at elections and trust in politicians.'

COMMENT A 7 year old child in Britain will have lived under their 5th prime minister by the end of next week! Britain is in political and economic crisis. The UK prides itself on being the beacon of democracy and their parliament became the model for many other western democracies around the world. It is known as the "mother of parliaments." We have a hymn where the words seems so apt..."Lord, thy Thy judgments now are waking, Let not Thy compassion sleep; But while earthly thrones are shaking sure and firm thy purpose keep; O Lord, hear us, be Thou near us when the storm shall o'er us sweep" We are seeing earthly thrones shaking - the kingdoms of men are coming to an end...

BIBLE QUOTE

but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. (Daniel 2:43-44)

ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

- DebkaFile Review (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) TV-7 Israel News Watchman Newscast
- 2022-10-23 Gantz- Israel may supply Ukraine with rocket and drone alert system, but not weapons The Times of Israel
- 2022-10-19 US fighter jets intercept two Russian nuclear-capable warplanes near Alaska World News WION 5.42 min YouTube
- 2022-10-18 Will Israel be dragged into the Ukraine war Gravitas 8.41 min YouTube
- 2022-10-17 Russia WARNS Israel to Not Arm Ukraine as Iran Drones SLAM Kyiv Watchman Newscast 9.50 min YouTube
- 2022-10-14 'No waiting'- Turkey, Russia to act on Putin's gas hub offer AP News
- 2022-10-14 EU official- East Med gas can wean bloc off Russian energy AP News
- 2022-10-13 Ukraine raises \$9.6 million in 24 hours to buy drones WION Fineprint 2.13 min YouTube
- 2022-10-13 Russia offers more gas to Europe via Nord Stream, Germany says no Gravitas 7.54 min YouTube
- 2022-10-12 Iran & Russia ALLIANCE Deepens as Iranian Drones BLAST Ukraine; Missiles Next 9.44 min Watchman YouTube
- 2022-10-10 Israel & Russia TENSION as Lapid Condemns Ukraine Strikes; Lebanon Deal Done 10.52 min Watchman YouTube
- 2022-10-10 Israel & Lebanon Border Deal BACK ON- Natural Gas May Have Bible Prophecy Role 11.56 min Watchman YouTube
- 2022-10-10 Anti-NATO protests erupt in Paris Gravitas 5.22 min YouTube
- 2022-10-09 Protests continue to erupt across Iran with no sign of stopping The Jerusalem Post
- 2022-10-08 'We may suddenly arrive one night'- Erdogan reaffirms Greece threats CGTN
- 2022-10-08 Wagner forces- Morale is plummeting in Putin's private army as Russia's war in Ukraine falters CNN
- 2022-10-08 UN- Ukraine nuclear power plant loses external power link AP News
- 2022-09-21 Most Republicans Support Declaring the United States a Christian Nation POLITICO
- 2022-05-10 How Politics Poisoned the Evangelical Church The Atlantic
- 2020-02-20 How a Bible prophecy shapes US foreign policy YouTube
- 2020-01-13 Steve Bannon's Master Plan for Europe 14.24 min YouTube





This Week's Developments

October 16 - 22, 2022 [extra]

How a Bible Prophecy Shapes [US] Foreign Policy

Additional & Supporting Articles

How a Bible prophecy shapes [US] foreign policy

Voice Of America, Feb 20, 2020 & Politico Sept 21, 2022



EVENT

For an influential group of American Christians, support for Israel -- and hatred of Iran -- are based in a biblical prophecy. When President Trump authorized the drone strike that killed the powerful Iranian general Qasem Soleimani, he wasn't just flexing America's muscle in the Middle East. He was also acting on the advice of a politically powerful group of evangelical Christians who believe that the US and Israel are part of the Bible's plan to bring about the second coming of Jesus. Once considered a fringe element of the religious right, evangelical Christian Zionists are playing an increasingly visible role in Republican politics. Today, unprecedented access to the Trump administration has given them an opportunity to reshape the Middle East. // Christian nationalism, a belief that the United States was founded as a white, Christian nation and that there is no separation between church and state, is gaining steam on the right. Prominent Republican politicians have made the themes critical to their message to voters in the run up to the 2022 midterm elections.

COMMENT

The division between church and state has always been a heated political debate, but the part it plays in the development of God's purpose is at the same time one of the most misunderstood and misapplied subjects for churchgoers. We have been given certain signs to watch for as indicators of the advancement of the Divine purpose, but never have we been instructed to participate in making them happen or engage in any political movement thereof. This world's politics - right or left - are not part of our calling. We need to be cautious not to get caught up in its rhetoric; very few things are more seductive & dangerous to true followers of Christ. What is happening around us is a crisis of discernment; i.e.,, one's basic ability to separate truth from untruth. This is a core biblical discipline, and like any discipline, if it is not constantly exercised, it will atrophy.

BIBLE QUOTE

For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect.

- Mar 13:22 KJV

You see, fake anointed kings and fake preachers will get up and give indicators and wonderful things, with the intent to be misleading, if possible, the select people away. - Mar 13:22 BV