The Burden of Babylon

I. LINKS TO VIDEOS PLAYED IN THE MESSAGE:

Analysis of Dylan Griffith, US Army weapons expert: the Bomb was a JDAM:

https://twitter.com/the_real_fly/status/1714787594465169622?s=61&t=hcaaVCBJZNntMPTMv6OnOw

Additional videos of the explosion:

https://twitter.com/Armaghan asjad/status/1714746246559375435

https://twitter.com/jacksonhinklle/status/1715043209334673593?s=61&t=hcaaVCBJZNntMPTMv6OnOw

Explanation of the minimal structural damage to the hospital – pre-target airburst munition:

https://twitter.com/channel4news/status/1714984738266427532?s=61&t=hcaaVCBJZNntMPTMv6OnOw

https://twitter.com/mo_xv1/status/1714972548977369388?s=61&t=hcaaVCBJZNntMPTMv6OnOw

Gaza City Destruction by Israel's Airstrikes:

https://twitter.com/lucas_gage_/status/1713733711244443716?s=61&t=hcaaVCBJZNntMPTMv6OnOw

II. RELATED ARTICLES

DIRECT THREAT B. PUTIN TO THE USA: "I GAVE AN ORDER FOR A 24-HOUR MIG-31 PATROL WITH KH-47M2 KINZHAL" - TARGET AIRCRAFT CARRIERS IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN....

Putin Warns US - Watch Video

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18/10/2023 - 22:12



Russian President Vladimir Putin made a "surprise" intervention warning the US not to expand the war in the Middle East region in an effort to protect Iran and Syria.

B. Putin revealed that he ordered a 24-hour patrol of MiG-31 aircraft carrying the "game changer" unstoppable Mach 10 Kh-47M2 Kinzhal missile.

It is noted that the Kinzhal's primary target is the American aircraft carriers, in this particular case, in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Earlier, B. Putin was spotted walking around with the nuclear "briefcase" in China. State television showed rare footage of him during his visit to Beijing accompanied by navy officers carrying a so-called nuclear code bag that can be used to order a nuclear strike.

VLADIMIR PUTIN: I ORDERED 24-HOUR MIG-31 PATROL WITH KH-47M2 KINZHAL

Vladimir Putin once again condemns the support of the Biden administration on the Israeli side, stating that " *all these actions lead to further escalation*", while he went even further by issuing veiled threats.

"I ordered the Russian Aerospace Forces to begin permanent patrols in the neutral area of the Black Sea Airspace. Our MiG-31 aircraft are armed with Kinzhal missile systems and will begin patrolling the Black Sea. These missiles have a range of more than 1,000 kilometers. This is not a threat, but an attempt to maintain control of the situation in the Mediterranean"

B. Putin is clearly afraid that the situation could get out of control. Already before Egypt and Jordan threatened Israel not to go ahead with plans to expel 2.3 million Palestinians from Gaza.

THE US IS SENDING FIGHTER JETS TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND A SECOND AIRCRAFT CARRIER TO THE MEDITERRANEAN

A few days ago it became known that the US is sending a second aircraft carrier and its strike force to the eastern Mediterranean "to prevent hostile actions against Israel" and "any attempt to spread the war after the attack by Hamas".

The USS Eisenhower and its escort ships will join the first aircraft carrier deployed to the region since Hamas' deadly attack on Israel on October 7, demonstrating Washington's "ironclad commitment" "to Israel's security" and its "resolute to prevent any state or non-state actor seeking to escalate this war," Mr. Austin said in a press release issued by his services at the US Pentagon.

The US announced on Saturday the deployment of F-15E fighter jets and A-10 jets to the Middle East region.

The movement of warplanes from the 494th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron and the 354th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, respectively, "strengthens the US posture and enhances air operations throughout the Middle East," an Air Force statement said. He did not specify the number of warplanes involved.

STATE DUMA MP: THE US CAN ATTACK IRAN...

"Since the middle of the last century, the United States has, if not provoked, initiated, participated indirectly (as in Ukraine) or directly in most military conflicts around the world, and certainly tried to get the maximum benefit from them.

It is obvious that the current sharp deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, where the power and influence of Washington has recently been greatly shaken, will not be an exception.

In this case, the United States could take advantage of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict to attack its long-time bitter rival Iran," said Viktor Sobolev, a member of the Russian State Duma's Defense Committee.

"The United States can use this conflict as a pretext to attack Iran, which, in one way or another, supports Hamas and those Arab liberation forces that are currently fighting with Israel," Sobolev said . during a press conference at the press center of the Rossiya Segodnya media group.

The MP believes that Russia should make every effort to resolve the crisis in the Middle East diplomatically, although in the current situation this will clearly not be easy.

Sobolev recalled that there are Russian military personnel and military bases of the Russian armed forces in Syria.

If the situation escalates and opens the so-called second front of the Arab resistance forces against Israel in the northern part of the country, the IDF will definitely start hitting the Syrian Arab Republic.

Immediately after the outbreak of the Palestinian-Israeli military confrontation, Damascus expressed its support for the actions of Hamas. The Arab Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted that the response of the Palestinian resistance forces proves the right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent state on their land.

There is another reason why the United States might intervene directly in the Middle East conflict. Given the apparent failure of the Ukrainian campaign, in which tens of billions have already been invested, Biden needs a "winning war" more than ever before the presidential election .

It is unlikely that Washington will decide on a ground operation, but launching missiles and airstrikes against Israel's enemies is a perfectly acceptable and familiar scenario for the United States.

ISRAEL: "LEAVE TURKEY IMMEDIATELY" - THE ISRAELI EMBASSIES IN ANKARA, JORDAN AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES ARE UNDER SIEGE - CHAOS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Arab world has risen - The Middle East is on fire

18/10/2023 - 00:11



Israel has called on its citizens to leave Turkey immediately as there are serious incidents against Israeli diplomatic missions around the world.

In Jordan and Turkey, angry Muslims besiege Israeli embassies and consulates.

Serious incidents are taking place in Amman, Jordan where protesters stormed the compound of the Israeli embassy to express their anger after the attack that killed hundreds of people at a hospital in the Palestinian city of Gaza.

The protesters bypassed the roadblock of the security forces and proceeded towards the embassy premises. Security forces used tear gas to disperse them.

Iran, Iraq and Lebanon along with other Arab and Muslim countries are declaring tomorrow a day of mourning.

The Palestinians also rise up in the West Bank where they demand a change of leadership and the removal of M. Abbas.

ISRAEL'S NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL: LEAVE TURKEY!

Israel's National Security Council issued a statement calling on all Israelis to leave Turkey immediately, raising travel warnings to the highest possible level.

The announcement from Tel Aviv was made known late on Tuesday night and while Recep Erdogan called on the international community to intervene to stop the "*unprecedented brutality*" as he described the Israeli attacks on Gaza.

The National Security Council has issued a travel warning to Turkey and Morocco, citing fears that Israeli travelers will be targeted.

The National Security Council says it is raising the alert for Turkey to 4 and calling on all Israelis in the country to leave as soon as possible.

For Morocco, the threat level is raised to 2 and Israeli tourists are asked to be extra careful.

Palestinian demonstrations in Ramallah and other West Bank cities

Violent clashes erupted in Ramallah, home to the Palestinian Authority, as Palestinian police fired tear gas and stun grenades to disperse angry protesters chanting slogans against President Mahmoud Abbas.

Clashes between protesters and Palestinian security forces broke out tonight in other cities of the occupied West Bank, according to the Reuters news agency citing eyewitnesses.

Anger is overflowing in the Palestinian territories after a hospital in Gaza was bombed in the 11th day of Israeli airstrikes in the besieged enclave.

Authorities in the Gaza Strip, where Hamas has been in power since 2007, said hundreds of people were killed in the shelling of Al Ahli Hospital, with at least 500 feared dead.

ABBAS IS NOT GOING TO THE MEETING WITH BIDEN, ABDULLAH AND SISI ON WEDNESDAY

The Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, is withdrawing from the four-way meeting scheduled for Wednesday in Amman, Jordan, with the participation of the American president, Joe Biden, his Egyptian counterpart, Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and the Jordanian king Abdullah II.

As reported by the Associated Press and then by the rest of the major international news agencies, citing a top Palestinian official, the Palestinian leader canceled his participation in the quadripartite meeting in Jordan, in protest at the deadly Israeli attack on a hospital in Gaza.

The American president's visit has the first objective of expressing US support to Israel, which is retaliating against Hamas.

At the same time, with his presence in the Middle East, Biden will seek to exert pressure on the parties involved, so that the retaliation has the smallest possible civilian casualties.

However, in light of the new developments after the massacre at a Gaza hospital, for which the Palestinians blame Israel, and the withdrawal of Abbas from the quadripartite, Biden's diplomatic attempt to resolve the crisis seems to be falling on deaf ears.

RT ERDOGAN: "UNPRECEDENTED BRUTALITY" - ISRAEL'S POLICIES ARE INHUMANE

The strike on a hospital full of women, children and innocent civilians is the latest example of Israel's policies that are completely devoid of the most basic human values, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said of the Gaza hospital shelling that killed hundreds.

I ask humanity to take action to stop this unprecedented brutality, the Turkish president added.

HAMAS LEADER: HOSPITAL MASSACRE IS NEW TURNING POINT – ISRAEL FULLY RESPONSIBLE

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh said tonight that "the massacre at the 'Baptist' hospital is a new turning point and a flood that will be added to the Al-Aqsa flood."

Haniya called Israel fully responsible for the hundreds of innocent victims.

The leader of the organization in his televised message also said that the Americans who provided unlimited coverage to Israel bear the responsibility for the massacre at the Baptist hospital.

"The enemy has no respect for values, laws, customs or legislation. The enemy is delusional if he thinks these massacres will cover his resounding defeat or induce our people to surrender. The resistance continues and will not stop until the conqueror leaves our land," Haniya also said in his message.

Former Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal has called for protests in front of Israeli embassies around the world following an Israeli attack on a Gaza hospital that killed hundreds of Palestinians, a statement issued by Hamas this evening said.

NETANYAHU: WE DIDN'T DO IT, TERRORISTS FROM GAZA HIT THE HOSPITAL

The Islamic Jihad Movement is blamed by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the bombing of a hospital in Gaza that killed hundreds of people, 200 to 300 according to reports.

"An analysis of the IDF's operational systems shows that a barrage of rockets was fired by terrorists in Gaza, passing close to Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza at the time it was hit.

"Information from multiple sources in our hands indicates that the Islamic Jihad Movement is responsible for the failed rocket launch that hit the hospital in Gaza," Netanyahu wrote on Platform X (formerly Twitter).

Then he made another post:

"The whole world should know: Barbaric terrorists attacked the hospital in Gaza, not the IDF. Those who brutally murdered our children are also murdering their own children."

Egypt, Turkey, Iran, Qatar, Jordan, Canada condemn bombing

Egypt strongly condemns the bombing of a hospital in Gaza by the Israeli armed forces, which claimed the lives of hundreds of Palestinians, according to a statement issued by the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. At the same time, it is emphasized that the international community must intervene urgently to stop such crimes.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called the bombing of a hospital in Gaza "heinous and absolutely unacceptable". Speaking to reporters, the Canadian prime minister condemned the attack saying "it is unacceptable to hit a hospital".

Also, the head of the Arab League today called on the West to intervene immediately to "stop the tragedy in Gaza", after the bombing of a hospital that claimed the lives of hundreds of Palestinians. Ahmed Abul Yait condemned the deadly attack, calling it a "war crime" and warning that the perpetrators would be brought to justice.

Iran's foreign ministry has condemned the Israeli strike on a hospital in Gaza, which killed and injured hundreds of "unarmed and defenseless people".

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar speaks of a "dangerous escalation" of Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip, pointing out that hospitals, schools and urban centers are now being affected.

In Jordan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a statement condemning the bombing of a hospital in Gaza, calling on the international community to protect the Palestinian people and make concerted efforts to end the war.

"SMELL" YOM KIPPUR- JOINT ULTIMATUM OF JORDAN-EGYPT: "ISRAEL TO STOP THE ATTACK ON GAZA- WE ARE FACING A GENERALIZED WAR"

Extremely hostile announcement for Israel - Jordan and Egypt talk about "red lines"

<u>19/10/2023 - 17:07</u>

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The Egypt-Jordan summit on the "Israeli attack on Gaza" has ended, as the two countries characteristically reported.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Jordan's King Abdullah II, in a joint statement, call on Israel to immediately stop all military action.

The announcement is highly hostile to Israel as it speaks of the siege, displacement and collective punishment of Gaza.

The announcement seems to have the form of an ultimatum. Perhaps the two countries have been informed of the involvement of Hezbollah and, by extension, Iran.

The two countries are warning Israel that the threat of a general conflict, a major regional war, is imminent and if this happens, it will plunge the region into a major disaster.

The joint announcement not only shows that Egypt and Jordan have a common position but also that Israel is losing two key allied countries. Especially Jordan.

If we consider the position of the UAE, Qatar, Iran and S.Arabia, Israel is left hopelessly alone without even starting the ground operation.

SISI-ABDALLAH SUMMIT "ON THE ISRAELI ATTACK ON GAZA"

"His Majesty King Abdullah II departs for a short visit to Cairo, during which His Majesty will meet with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El Sisi to discuss ways to end the Israeli offensive on Gaza," the Royal Court said in a post . on social media.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Jordanian King Abdullah II will discuss "the Israeli attack on Gaza" in Cairo today, the two countries announced earlier after canceling their meeting with US President Joe Biden in Amman.

The king was scheduled to welcome US President Joe Biden to Amman, his country's capital, on Wednesday, along with other Middle Eastern leaders.

However, Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority canceled a planned meeting with Biden less than 24 hours before his arrival for the quadrilateral summit.

The cancellation followed the explosion at Gaza's Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital. Palestinian officials accused Israel of hitting the hospital amid its ongoing airstrikes in Gaza.

Egypt, which borders Gaza, and Jordan, which borders the occupied West Bank, signed peace accords with Israel in 1979 and 1994, respectively, ending the war with their neighbor.

The two countries, which have repeatedly mediated between the Israelis and the Palestinians, have been warning for several days against the "forcible movement" of Palestinians to their lands.

JORDAN AND EGYPT: STOP ISRAEL IMMEDIATELY – THE ENTIRE REGION IS ON THE BRINK OF DESTRUCTION

Jordan's King Abdullah II and Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi during bilateral talks in Cairo reaffirmed their common position against policies of collective punishment in Gaza, including sieges, starvation and displacement, the two leaders say in their joint announcement..

The leaders rejected any attempt to forcibly relocate Gazans to their respective countries.

They called for an immediate end to the conflict in Gaza, the protection of civilians, the lifting of the siege and the delivery of humanitarian aid.

"Avoiding the cessation of war and its extension will bring the region to a dangerous situation, to the point of destruction," they argued.

If the Israel-Hamas war does not stop, the entire region will plunge into disaster."

KING ABDULLAH II: ISRAEL WANTS TO CREATE NEW TERRITORIAL SITUATIONS AT OUR EXPENSE!

Two days ago, King Abdullah II of Jordan clarified his country's position as well as Egypt's.

At the press conference after his meeting with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, he stated the following:

"I can speak not only on behalf of Jordan but also on behalf of our friends in Egypt.

This is a red line.

This is the plan of certain of the usual suspects to try to create new de facto situations on the ground. No refugees in Jordan.

No refugees in Egypt.

This is a situation with a humanitarian dimension that must be resolved within Gaza and the West Bank.

And not trying to push the Palestinians and their future onto other people's shoulders."

RUSSIA AND USA SEE REGIONAL WAR: "ISRAEL'S GROUND OPERATION WILL FAIL - LEADS TO IRAN INVOLVEMENT AND USE OF NUKES"!

Statements of shock by American Officials and N. Medvedev

19/10/2023 - 15:07

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An Israeli ground operation in Gaza may fail miserably and develop into a generalized war in the Middle East involving Iran and the use of nukes!

This is the conclusion reached by two top American former officials who show on the one hand that they do not believe that Israel can succeed (at least on its own) and on the other hand they fear the worst.

In fact, the assessment that the region is heading for a regional war was expressed yesterday by the correspondent of NBC News based on information from Israel and Arab states.

It is noted that the sudden intervention of B. Putin pointed in the same direction. That is why the Russian president publicly revealed that he ordered a 24-hour patrol of MiG-31 aircraft with Kh-47M2 Kinzhal targeting American aircraft carriers in the Eastern Mediterranean.

GROUND OPERATION IN GAZA WOULD BE LONG AND WITH HORRIFIC FIGHTING, GENERAL PETRAEUS SAYS

David Petraeus, the former head of the CIA who also served as the top US general in Iraq and Afghanistan, expressed concern about an Israeli ground military attack on the Gaza Strip.

Petraeus, speaking on Politico's Power Play podcast, estimated that a ground attack would take years and involve horrific fighting.

In fact, he warned that the continuation of the bombing campaign by the Israeli Armed Forces "could become Mogadishu on steroids very quickly".

Petraeus referred to this point in the 1993 incident when three US Black Hawk helicopters were shot down in Somalia's capital.

By then, there had been bloody fighting within the city as US forces scrambled to rescue the survivors of the crash.

"YOU WILL SEE SUICIDE BOMBERS, IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES"

According to the American general, the Israelis would face such a reality inside enemy territory, in the event of a ground attack.

"If (Hamas) are as creative in defense as they were in this horrific, barbaric and unspeakable attack, then you will see suicide bombers, you will see improvised explosive devices, there will be ambushes, traps and the urban environment, again, no it could be more difficult," he said.

Petraeus said his personal experience of commanding armies engaged in violent counterinsurgency campaigns should serve as a warning to Israeli forces should they proceed with a ground invasion.

"USUALLY IT TAKES A DECADE"

"It's hard for me to imagine a more difficult setting than this one, and I was the one who commanded forces in a number of major urban operations," Petraeus said.

"You don't win counterinsurgencies in a year or two. It usually takes a decade or more, as we saw in Iraq, as we saw in Afghanistan."

The former army chief said Israel needs a plan to restore basic services, rebuild Gaza and strengthen governance in the region once it considers the battle against Hamas won.

THE POSSIBILITY OF A "NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION" IS OPEN, WARNS A FORMER AMERICAN OFFICIAL

Iran could develop a functioning nuclear bomb in six weeks, a former US Defense Intelligence Agency official has warned in his statements to the US newspaper "Express".

Matt Shoemaker argues that a nuclear "bras de fer" between Israel and Iran is not out of the question if Hezbollah gets involved in the Israel-Hamas war.

"The Israel-Hamas conflict could spark a 'nuclear war' if Iran builds a nuclear bomb," says a former US intelligence official (DIA).

The alarming warning from his lips comes as the Tel Aviv government prepares for a ground attack on Gaza.

"REASONABLE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WAR"

"The threat of nuclear war currently remains unlikely, but it has become a plausible threat in this crisis. Not only because of Iran's nuclear weapons program, but because Israel is a nuclear power," the former US intelligence official (DIA) underlines.

He even recalls that Iran's foreign minister has warned Israel that it will suffer "a huge earthquake" if it invades Gaza.

"Iran would not remain an observer in the conflict," the DIA expert estimates, adding:

"As a former Defense Intelligence Officer and based on information I receive from 2022, some estimate that if Iran were to launch a nuclear program, it could develop a working nuclear bomb within six weeks."

And while Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu is receiving heads of state and government in Tel Aviv to express their solidarity and their willingness to help him in the war zone with defense equipment, there is a widespread fear that in the event of Hezbollah's involvement - the group that backed by Iran, there is a risk of a flare-up on the Lebanese-Israeli border.

The American official expressed his strong concern about the development of the situation, considering that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will go to another level if the government of Tehran builds a nuclear bomb, comments the American publication.

MEDVEDEV'S BOMBSHELL: THE ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT MAY LEAD TO REGIONAL AND EVEN GLOBAL WAR!

N. Medvedev, deputy president of the Security Council of Russia, advanced a particularly worrying assessment, who argued that the conflict between Israel and Hamas has every chance of developing into a regional or even a global war.

In his article in the Russian newspaper Izvestia, Medvedev speaks of a war without rules.

"There is war again in the Middle East.

A brutal war, without rules.

A war based on terror and the doctrine of the disproportionate use of force against the civilian population," says Medvedev, who admits that Moscow is particularly concerned about developments in the Middle East.

"This new conflict has every possibility of developing into a full regional war," Medvedev asserts, even pointing out that under certain "bad conditions, the world could be faced with a world war."

100 YEAR WAR OR SHORT NUKE

As Medvedev argues, if the conflict in the Middle East is not resolved in a proper and fair way, this war could escalate into a 100-year war or even a short nuclear war.

"The only way to definitively solve the issue is the creation of an independent Palestinian state by implementing all the fundamental political decisions taken since 1947," emphasizes Medvedev, who believes that the current situation cannot hold out any hope.

"Few people are currently interested in the Palestinian cause, pursuing only military goals.

The alternative, however, is significantly worse: a war that will last another hundred years.

Or even worse: a short conflict with the use of nuclear weapons by regional powers with the prospect of intervention by major nuclear powers," Medvedev underlines.

EVACUATE LEBANON AND NORTHERN ISRAEL: US SENDS TOP C4I SHIP TO MEDITERRANEAN - IDF INTENSIVE PREPARATIONS FOR HEZBOLLAH

Green light for broad operation in Gaza

19/10/2023 - 00:25

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The US, after sending the two aircraft carriers and their battle groups, is also sending the USS 6th Fleet's flagship command and control ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) to the Eastern Mediterranean.

USS Mount Whitney departed Gaeta, Italy today to support US operations in the eastern Mediterranean.

Mount Whitney is the most advanced Command, Control, Coordination, Communications, and Intelligence (C4I) ship ever built.

Mount Whitney can transmit and receive large amounts of secure data to and from anywhere on earth via HF, UHF, VHF and SHF (satellite) communication channels.

This technology enables the Joint Intelligence Center and Joint Operations Center to provide the most timely information and operational support available to the US Navy.

The US, after the state-of-the-art USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78) Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, also sent its best command and control ship.

Israeli Ministry of Defense: Start intensive preparations for the Northern front!

A short while ago, Israel's war cabinet approved a broad attack on Gaza.

The IDF announced that it has now drawn up a plan to evacuate all towns in northern Israel that are within 5 kilometers of the border with Lebanon.

Previously an evacuation plan of only up to 2km had been announced, but this has now been increased and approved by the Minister of Defence.

According to Israeli media, Defense Minister Yoav Galant spoke today with senior government officials in a closed-door discussion and said that preparations must be made on the northern front because Hezbollah, according to him, is "ten times stronger than Hamas."

In the discussion, Galant asked senior government officials to act to complete the equipment inventory and complete preparations on the northern front as well.

Executives who attended the meeting came out worried and said that it is necessary to act as soon as possible and complete the deficiencies and preparations.

"So that we don't encounter images like we saw in the south" they said characteristically.

A short time later it became known that the IDF is setting up a field hospital in northern Israel as fears of an all-out war with Hezbollah escalate.

Britain, the US and Saudi Arabia are calling on all their citizens to leave Lebanon immediately

The US, Britain and Saudi Arabia issued a travel advisory asking all their citizens to leave Lebanon immediately.

The US State Department issued a travel advisory on Tuesday warning Americans against traveling to Lebanon.

The US warned American citizens not to travel there and the State Department authorized the departure of non-emergency government personnel due to the "unprecedented security situation" in the country.

At the same time, Saudi Arabia is calling on its citizens to comply with the travel advisory for Lebanon and those in the country to leave immediately.

The Saudi embassy in Lebanon said it was closely monitoring developments in southern Lebanon, "calling on all citizens to observe the travel ban and to leave Lebanese territory immediately for those currently in Lebanon."

Following Hamas attacks on Israel last week, there have been cross-border rocket and missile attacks by Palestinian factions inside Lebanon that have resulted in Israeli retaliation against Hezbollah targets. Hezbollah retaliated and at least ten Hezbollah fighters have been killed, according to the group.

Several other countries have issued travel advisories for their citizens wishing to visit Lebanon in recent days.

IRAN THREATENS ISRAEL: "TIME IS RUNNING OUT" - THE MUSLIM WORLD IS UNITED...

Iran warns Israel that " its time is running out".

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, Iran's foreign minister, sent X (formerly Twitter) a threat to Israel following the bombing of a Gaza hospital, writing:

"Time is running out", as reported by the British newspaper Daily Mail.

While Biden was traveling on Air Force One to Tel Aviv, the Iranian minister was in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, as part of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation meeting.

Iran's foreign minister has said that "time is running out" for Israel, as many Western leaders try to find a diplomatic way to de-escalate the situation in the war zone.

The message of the Iranian foreign minister, however, echoes the one posted by Tehran's embassy in Syria via X (Twitter) "Time is up" in Hebrew.

However, the Iranian minister's visit to Saudi Arabia after the Gaza hospital bombing shows a remarkable display of unity between the two former sworn enemies.

IRAN ORDERS GENERAL ATTACK ON ISRAEL: US SENDS IDF THOUSANDS OF ARTILLERY SHELLS INTENDED FOR UKRAINE!

20/10/2023 - 00:44

https://warnews247.gr/ektakto-to-iran-edose-entoles-gia-geniki-epithesi-kata-tou-israil-oi-ipa-dinoun-ston-idf-chiliades-vlimata-pyrovolikou-pou-proorizontan-gia-tin-oukrania/

Hundreds of Shiite members of pro-Iranian Kataib Hezbollah militias board buses in Baghdad to be taken to the Iraq-Syria-Jordan border.

From there they will either concentrate on the Golan Heights or move to Lebanon to open new fronts for the Israeli Army.

Israeli media: Iran's state television gives orders for a general attack on Israel!

Tonight, Iran's state TV called on members of the Axis of Resistance to attack Israel from all sides if the Israeli operation is not stopped.

"Iranian television announced to its viewers the plan to attack Israel," Israeli media reported.

"They will be hit from all sides," Iranian television said.

"Shiite militias in Iraq, Syria, Hezbollah in Lebanon and Houthi rebels in Yemen will launch a coordinated attack, including missiles and drones to create a siege of Israel.

"No one will stop the forces of resistance," Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei said on the show.

Iran claims the Houthis have missiles with a range of about 2,000 kilometers (nearly 1,250 miles) and Hezbollah has acquired anti-ship missiles to target Israeli navy ships and Tel Aviv.

Pro-Iranian Iraqi militias have gathered in the Syrian part of the Golan Heights.

"Such an attack could be launched within days if the Supreme Leader's demands to stop Israeli strikes on Gaza are ignored."

In a communication between Iran's army chief, General Mohammad Bagheri, Russia's defense minister, and Qatar's defense minister, Sergei Shoigu, said Israel's ongoing crimes and the help it receives from some in the West may lead others to be forced to join the conflict.

"We are very concerned about a widespread attack on civilians," he said.

Iran's report of a possible multi-pronged attack on Israel comes as US ships and support vessels gather in the region, including the Arabian Gulf and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Shock to Zelensky: US gives Israel artillery shells intended for Ukraine

Good news for Israel and bad news for V. Zelensky and Ukraine. The US has reportedly approved a plan to supply the IDF with at least 20,000 155mm artillery rounds for the M109A5 Dover systems.

Israeli officials have revealed that the US Department of Defense is now planning to divert thousands, if not tens of thousands, of 155mm artillery shells away from Ukraine and instead send them to Israel for the war against Hamas and Hezbollah.

The Pentagon plans to send to Israel tens of thousands of 155mm artillery shells earmarked for Ukraine from the US emergency stockpile several months ago, three Israeli officials with knowledge of the situation told Israeli media.

U.S. officials said diverting shells from Ukraine to Israel would not have an immediate impact on Ukraine's ability to fight against Russian troops.

"However, it is unclear whether US military supplies to Ukraine could be extended if the Israel-Hamas war becomes a wider regional conflict," the Israelis said.

Beginning in early 2023, the US began removing 155mm artillery shells from its ammunition stockpile in Israel to send to Ukraine.

At the time, the Israeli military told then-Prime Minister Yair Lapid and then-Defense Minister Benny Gantz that there was no immediate scenario in which Israel would need an emergency supply of shells.

That all changed on October 7, Israeli officials said.

The ammunition designated to be given to Ukraine was part of a stockpile of US weapons stored in Israel as part of an agreement between the countries. Only US military personnel have access to weapons storage areas.

After the Hamas attack on October 7, the IDF asked the US Pentagon for an ammunition boost.

One of the requests was to take back tens of thousands of 155mm artillery shells to fill depleted US emergency stockpiles in Israel, in case the Israeli military needed to use the shells on short notice, Israeli officials said.

Israeli officials said the US agreed and would send the artillery shells to Israel in the coming weeks.

US INTERCEPTED IRANIAN ATTACK ON ISRAEL WITH DRONES AND CRUISE MISSILES FROM YEMEN – UAVS TARGETED US BASES IN SYRIA AND IRAQ

The Houthi attack was ordered by Iran

20/10/2023 - 01:50

https://warnews247.gr/ektakto-oi-ipa-anachaitisan-iraniki-epithesi-me-drones-kai-pyravlous-krouz-apo-tin-yemeni-me-stocho-to-israil-uav-evallan-kata-amerikanikon-vaseon-se-syria-kai-irak/

USS Carney (DDG-64) Arleigh Burke-class destroyer intercepted three cruise missiles and several drones launched from Yemen aimed at Israel.

The interception took place while in the Red Sea off the coast of Yemen.

According to reports, the missiles were ultimately aimed at Israel and not the US destroyer.

This means that the Houthis, actually Iranian Guards, launched three missiles at Israel and several drones.

The Houthis do not have long-range missiles to reach and hit Israel.

But Iran has cruise missiles with a range of more than 2,000 km, the Soumar, as well as drones with a range of more than 2,000 km.

Pentagon Press Secretary Brigadier General Pat Ryder confirmed that the USS Carney shot down 3 Land Attack cruise missiles as well as several drones launched by Yemen's Houthi forces over the Red Sea.

We can safely say that this was Iran's first warning shot.

"Their direction was north along the Erythra possibly towards targets in Israel" states the US Pentagon in its update...

The missiles fired by the Houthis were intercepted by USS Carney's SM2 missiles, the official said.

See US update

A US warship intercepted a missile attack on Israel

A US Navy warship operating in the Middle East intercepted multiple missiles off the coast of Yemen on Thursday, two US officials told CNN earlier.

One of the officials said the missiles were fired by Iran-backed Houthi fighters, who are involved in an ongoing conflict in Yemen. At least 3 missiles were intercepted, according to the second official.

The incident comes amid heightened concern about possible Iranian aggression as tensions in the Middle East continue to rise following the Hamas terror attack in Israel. Iran has long been a supporter of Hamas.

The USS Carney passed through the Suez Canal in the Red Sea on Wednesday. The US Fleet Forces Command said in a social media post that it will "help ensure maritime security and stability in the Middle East".

Attack on all three US military bases in Syria and Iraq

Lebanon's al-Mayadeen news network reported that the Al-Tanf base, located in Homs Governorate, was targeted by three drones, but the extent of the damage is still unknown.

Sabereen News, a Telegram news channel associated with Iraq's anti-terror Popular Mobilization units, also reported the incident.

The Al-Tanf base is located 24 km west of the al-Walid border crossing in the Syrian desert, along the Iraqi-Syrian border and the Jordanian-Syrian border.

Meanwhile, according to Sabereen, another base of US forces at the Koniko gas field in the eastern Syrian province of Dayr al-Zawr was also targeted by rockets.

Informed sources said that several explosions were heard at this base, but no party has yet claimed responsibility for these attacks, he added.

The US Al-Asad Air Base in western Iraq was also attacked.

The Pentagon stressed that the US will take all "necessary actions" to protect US troops in Iraq and Syria after the attacks on US personnel.

NATO WAR PREPARATIONS: BRITAIN DEPLOYS 20,000 TROOPS IN NORTHERN EUROPE - SWEDEN-ESTONIA TELECOMMUNICATIONS CABLE TAPPED

https://warnews247.gr/fotia-apo-valtiki-mechri-m-thalassa-i-vretania-anaptyssei-20-000-stratiotes-stin-voreia-evropi-ktypithike-kai-to-kalodio-souidias-esthonias/

Great British military deployment with aircraft carrier, fighters & helicopters

18/10/2023 - 12:47



Britain is deploying 20,000 troops along with an aircraft carrier, helicopters, eight ships and fighter jets across northern Europe in one of the biggest military deployments in its history.

This development comes as the undersea natural gas pipeline Valticconnector, a telecommunications cable connecting Finland and Estonia, was destroyed and a few hours ago it became known that a telecommunications cable connecting Sweden to Estonia was also damaged.

All three are considered - and are - critical infrastructures of NATO.

It is noted that NATO is also looking for ways to strengthen its forces in the Black Sea with the NATO Stolisk mission.

BRITAIN IS DEPLOYING 20,000 SOLDIERS!

Britain plans to boost its military presence in northern Europe to help protect vital infrastructure at a time of growing concern over Russian sabotage operations, Reuters reports.

Britain will send 20,000 soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen along with eight Royal Navy ships and a squadron of fighters and helicopters to help protect critical infrastructure.

It is clear that this great military development of Britain is not intended for "infrastructure protection" but for war with Russia.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met with other leaders on the sidelines of the Joint Expeditionary Force (JEF) summit on the Swedish island of Gotland in the Baltic Sea.

Britain has said it will take part in large-scale exercises in several countries and conduct air policing and polar weather warfare training.

JEF, a defense cooperation group between the Scandinavian, Baltic countries, the Netherlands and Britain, was meeting days after a pipeline and data cable in the Gulf of Finland were destroyed by "external activity", sparking security concerns in wider Nordic region.

"This week, we have seen once again that our security cannot be taken for granted. It is vital that we stand united against those with malicious intent," Sunak said in a statement, adding:

"While Putin has lost significant ground in Ukraine since launching his invasion, allies and partners should not be lulled into a false sense of security.

The Kremlin is reinvesting in military capabilities and turning to a reduced number of nefarious and marginalized partners to try to rebuild its power and undermine global stability."

JEF leaders discussed how they can counter Russia's sabotage operations in the region, both through stronger defense cooperation and increased industrial cooperation.

R. Sunak described how accelerating defense industrial cooperation within Europe and across the Atlantic is vital to ensure that nations maintain a technological edge over Russia and protect partners from Russian attacks for generations to come.

That will be done, he said, by sending more than 20,000 troops to the region next year, along with 8 Royal Navy ships, 25 aircraft and an air strike force of Apache, Chinook and Wildcat helicopters.

They will take part in large-scale, multi-country exercises and conduct air policing and polar weather combat training."

Rishi Sunak stated:

"This week, we have seen once again that our security cannot be taken for granted. It is vital that we stand united against those with malicious intent. As the international order continues to be challenged by desperate dictators, rogue states and terrorist organizations - such as Hamas - we must stand with our international friends and partners to defend our values, security and prosperity.

Northern Europe is vital to our national security, so it is more important than ever that we work with our Joint Task Force neighbors to protect our backyard and prevent damaging hybrid threats."

The press release also states that the UK's Aircraft Carrier Strike Group is preparing to deploy in the autumn, underscoring the UK's commitment to the region.

The group is led by the flagship HMS Queen Elizabeth and accompanied by British ships, F35 Lightning II stealth fighter jets and Wildcat helicopters.

The team will lead the UK's contribution to the first phase of NATO's most ambitious post-Cold War military exercise, Steadfast Defender.

The operation will last almost six months and will see 16,000 UK troops deployed to Estonia and Norway.

Sweden: Undersea telecommunications cable connected to Estonia struck

A telecommunications cable connecting Sweden to Estonia was damaged almost at the same time as damage was found to the Balticconnector submarine pipeline and the cable connecting Finland to Estonia earlier this month, Sweden's Civil Defense Ministry said.

The damage to the cable was located outside the maritime waters and the exclusive economic zone in Sweden, Minister Karl-Oscar Bohlin said at a press conference. The cable, despite the damage, remains operational.

"We cannot say at this time what caused the damage. What we can say is that the damage was done during the same period and close to (...) the natural gas pipeline and the submarine cable connecting Estonia to Finland," he added.

European countries and NATO are increasingly expressing concerns about the vulnerability of critical infrastructure around and under the Baltic Sea.

Helsinki recently reported that the damage to the telecommunications pipeline and cable may have been intentional.

In September 2022, explosions occurred that caused a rupture in the Nord Stream undersea pipelines in the Baltic and interrupted the supply of Russian natural gas to Europe.

The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications of Estonia informed that on October 11 it received information about a reduction in the capacity of the communication cable with Sweden in the Gulf of Finland. The damage is located in Estonian waters, about 50 km from the island of Hiiumaa.

On October 16, the newest oceanographic research vessel "Evgeny Gorigledzhan" of the Main Directorate of State Administration of the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation, which is designed to carry out underwater technical work, environmental monitoring of the marine environment and other activities, passed through the Strait of Great Belt on a course from the Baltic Sea to the North Sea.....

19 Oct, 2023 14:06

TRUMP OFFERS TO VISIT ISRAEL

The former president has insisted that the war with Hamas would not be happening if he were still in office

https://www.rt.com/news/585338-trump-visit-israel-netanyahu/



Former US President Donald Trump has said that he may visit Israel in the near future. Trump's statement came after he harshly criticized Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for his apparent failure to predict Hamas' attack on the Jewish state.

"I may, I may go," Trump told reporters outside a courthouse in New York, where he is facing a civil fraud lawsuit.

"But I believe in letting them do what they have to do," Trump continued, "They have to straighten it out. What's happening in Israel is all of those people dead would have never happened... if I were president."

During his term in the White House, Trump oversaw the relocation of the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and the signing of the Abraham Accords, under which Israel normalized relations with Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan, and the United Arab Emirates. Trump often touted his close personal relationship with Netanyahu, and described himself as "history's most pro-Israel US president."

That relationship has since deteriorated. Speaking to Fox News last week, Trump claimed that Netanyahu "was not prepared" for Hamas' surprise attack. "He was not prepared, and Israel was not prepared," Trump said, adding that the Israeli PM "has been hurt very badly because of what's happened."

At a campaign rally in Florida several days later, Trump said that Israel needs to "straighten out" its intelligence agencies, and that Netanyahu "let us down" by declining to participate in the 2020 airstrike that killed Iranian General Qasem Soleimani.

Trump's comments about a potential trip to Israel came a day after President Joe Biden returned from the country. Biden met with Netanyahu in Tel Aviv, where he promised additional military aid to Israel, and cautioned the prime minister not to become "consumed with rage" in responding to the Hamas attack.

Israeli warplanes have been striking Gaza for almost two weeks, killing almost 3,800 Palestinians and wounding more than 12,000, according to the latest figures from the Palestinian Health Ministry. At least 1,300 Israelis have been killed in the same period, according to the Israeli military.