

Trumpet Weekly

OCTOBER 28, 2016

USS Mason



Houthi Rebels Challenge U.S. Navy in Red Sea

Abraham Blondeau | October 30

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



HOUTHİ REBELS FIRED ANTI-SHIP MISSILES AT AN AMERICAN warship in the Red Sea earlier this month. The Navy responded by firing cruise missiles at Houthi positions and at coastal radar stations. While there was no damage to American warships, the attack showed that Houthi extremists felt capable of challenging the world superpower. While this may seem like a small event in the midst of a chaotic world, this failed attack has international ramifications.

On October 9 Houthis targeted the USS Mason, an American

destroyer operating just north of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait. They attacked again on October 12: This was the 16th anniversary of the attack on the USS Cole, when a boat loaded with explosives rammed into its side. Prior to the attack, the suicide vessel had anchored at Aden, along the Yemen coast. There is a long history of anti-American extremism in Yemen from both Sunnis and Shiites.

There is a two-fold significance to the failed attack on the Mason. First, the Houthi rebels are backed by Iran. Second, even minor attacks around the Bab el-Mandeb Strait could disrupt one

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST SEAMAN ANNA WADE/RELEASED

of the world's key trade routes.

The connection between the Houthi rebels and Iran is very clear, and there is overwhelming evidence that the Houthis are a tool Iran is using in its quest to establish an Islamic caliphate in the Middle East. Some of this evidence includes Iran boasting in 2014 that it controlled four foreign capitals, including the capital of Yemen, which was then controlled by Houthis.

However, further evidence has surfaced. U.S. Vice Adm. Kevin Donegan revealed that four arms shipments from Iran to Houthis in Yemen were intercepted by U.S. Navy and coalition forces. This statement also comes after U.S. Central Command's chief Gen. Joseph Votel said that Iran may have played a role in the missile attacks.

This connection was further amplified when the U.S. responded with its own missile strikes, and Iran then deployed two warships off the coast of Yemen. While the situation did not escalate further, the objective is clear: Iran is using the Houthi proxy to probe and challenge U.S. protection of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

What is Iran's objective? The Bab el-Mandeb Strait connects the Gulf of Aden to the Red Sea, the southern route to and from the Suez Canal. This is one of the most important sea routes in the world. Almost all trade between Europe and Southeast Asia passes through this sea gate. Millions of barrels of oil pass through the strait on their way to Europe, Asia and America. Control of this sea gate would exponentially increase Iran's power, giving it leverage over its regional rival, Saudi Arabia.

While the Houthis are most likely incapable of closing the strait completely, the very threat of anti-ship missiles could disrupt world trade. James Holmes wrote in a Foreign Policy piece titled "[Is the U.S. Navy a Sitting Duck?](#)":

If a coastal foe can menace shipping transiting this narrow seaway, it would disrupt the shortest, most convenient sea route connecting Europe with South and East Asia. Doing so would carry significant economic and military repercussions.

... Houthi antics could drive insurance rates sky-high for merchant shipping, prompting shippers to bypass the danger zone In a sense, then, the Houthis could conscript insurance firm Lloyd's of London as an ally—magnifying their influence while distorting patterns of trade and

military operations.

The nation that will decide the outcome is the United States. The action or inaction of the U.S. Navy will ripple throughout the world. Despite the massive superiority of the U.S. Navy, especially compared to Houthi rebels, it is becoming increasingly ineffective at protecting key sea lanes. What is more, the United States may not be able to afford the cost of maintaining police action for long.

The anti-radar decoys and cruise missiles deployed by the USS Mason cost approximately \$8 million. If similar attacks continue, American responses will continue to be very costly, especially if Washington is required to sustain it for any period of time. Even the low-technology, low-budget Houthis would make the U.S. Navy and the U.S. taxpayer pay a high economic price for protecting this sea lane, even if they never score a single hit.

What further complicates the matter is the Iranian relationship with America. With the signing of the U.S.-Iran nuclear agreement, and the "warming" of relations between the two countries, it is unlikely that America will take any direct military action against an Iranian proxy. The entire danger of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait being threatened is a product of President Obama's strategy to make Iran into an ally. The actions of the Houthis are a clear, direct message to America that Iran is no ally, but an enemy.

If America does not act to end a disruption of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, it could result in another nation acting militarily against the both Houthis and Iran.

There is one final layer to the current situation around the strait. The C-802 anti-ship missiles the Houthis fired are of Chinese origin. Although supplied by Iran, they originated from another American rival. With China deploying much more sophisticated weaponry in the South China Sea, it does not take much imagination to see how much of a threat China poses to another sea gate. If the Houthis pose a threat to the safety of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, how much more of a threat does China pose to trade in the South China Sea?

The challenge posed by the Houthis to the U.S. Navy is just a small taste of the challenge presented in the Pacific and elsewhere around the world. America's ability to protect itself and the world is quickly dissolving. To learn more about the U.S. Navy, please read "[The History and Future of the U.S. Navy.](#)"

MIDDLE EAST

TrumpetDaily

RADIO SHOW

WHILE AMERICA FIXATES ON POLITICAL THEATER,
THE REST OF THE WORLD PREPARES FOR WAR | OCTOBER 28

THE UN'S ATTEMPT TO ERASE 1000 YEARS OF JEWISH HISTORY IN JERUSALEM
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Iran Is Sending Houthis Weapons Through Oman

ACCORDING TO AN EXCLUSIVE PIECE BY REUTERS ON OCTOBER 20, Iran is currently using Oman as a transit point through which to ship sophisticated weaponry to the Houthi militia in Yemen. Yara Bayoumy and Phil Stewart wrote,

Iran has stepped up weapons transfers to the Houthis, the militia fighting the Saudi-backed government in Yemen, U.S., Western and Iranian officials tell Reuters, a development that threatens to prolong and intensify the 19-month-old war.

The increased pace of transfers in recent months, which officials said include missiles and small arms, could exacerbate a security headache for the United States, which last week struck Houthi targets with cruise missiles in retaliation for failed missile attacks on a U.S. Navy destroyer.

Much of the recent smuggling activity has been through Oman, which neighbors Yemen, including via overland routes that take advantage of porous borders between the two countries, the officials said.

That raises a further quandary for Washington, which views the tiny Gulf state as a strategic interlocutor and ally in the conflict-ridden region. A senior U.S. administration official said that Washington had informed Oman of its concerns, without specifying when.

"We have been concerned about the recent flow of weapons from Iran into Yemen and have conveyed those concerns to those who maintain relations with the Houthis, including the Omani government," the official told Reuters.

The U.S. and Western officials who spoke to Reuters about the recent trend in arms transfers said it was based on intelligence they had seen but did not elaborate on its

nature. They said the frequency of transfers on known overland smuggling routes had increased notably, though the scale of the shipments was unclear.

Even U.S. officials warning of Iran's support for the Houthis acknowledge intelligence gaps in Yemen, where the U.S. posture has been sharply reduced since the start of the conflict. The sources all declined to be identified because of the sensitivity of the issue.

"We are aware of a recent increased frequency of weapons shipments supplied by Iran, which are reaching the Houthis via the Omani border," a Western diplomat familiar with the conflict told Reuters.

One of those officials, who is familiar with Yemen, said that in the past few months there had been a noticeable increase in weapons-smuggling activity.

"What they're bringing in via Oman are anti-ship missiles, explosives ..., money and personnel," the official said.

Another regional security source said the transfers included surface-to-surface short-range missiles and small arms.

"By further integrating with Oman, Iran is once again endeavoring to fulfill its ambition of dominating the sea-lane from the Persian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea. Trumpet editor in chief Gerald Flurry first drew attention to this strategy in April 2011. Already, Iran has mobilized its terrorist proxies to neighboring Yemen to control the Bab el-Mandeb Strait on the other side of the Persian Gulf at the entrance to the Red Sea. Now, by becoming further entrenched in Oman, Iran seeks to control both sides of the Strait of Hormuz."
—"Will Oman Become Beholden to Iran?," theTrumpet.com, May 9, 2016

Discovered: 'Jerusalem' Scribbled on Seventh Century B.C. Hebrew Papyrus

THE ISRAEL ANTIQUITIES AUTHORITY HAS ANNOUNCED THE DISCOVERY of a rare artifact more than 2,500 years old that bears the word "Jerusalem." The rare papyrus fragment is from the seventh century B.C. and bears an inscription written in the ancient Hebrew language. On October 26, Isabel Kirshner wrote for the New York Times:

Archaeologists interpreted the two lines of text on the papyrus as a concise shipping document reading, "From the king's maidservant, from Na'arat, jars of wine, to Jerusalem."

The antiquities authority, an independent government body, said it was the earliest known source aside from the Bible to mention Jerusalem in Hebrew, and added in a statement that the other place mentioned, Na'arat, appeared in the biblical book of Joshua (16:7). The authority noted that Jerusalem was the capital of the Kingdom of Judah at the

time, known as the First Temple period. ...

The authority's spokeswoman, Yoli Schwartz, denied that the publicizing of the fragment at a news conference here had anything to do with Israel's diplomatic campaign against UNESCO, calling the timing "completely coincidental."

On Wednesday, the United Nations Cultural Organization (UNESCO) approved a resolution that refers to holy sites in Jerusalem exclusively by their Arabic names. The resolution conspicuously omits any Jewish connection to the holy sites, including the Temple Mount, an extremely important landmark in Jewish history and faith. It also represents the complaints of Muslims against Israeli activities in the area, including alleged denial of access, tourist projects and archaeological excavations.

The unveiling of the document had long been planned around an annual archaeology conference scheduled for

Thursday at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where preliminary research findings were to be presented, Ms. Schwartz said.

Israeli politicians nonetheless seized the opportunity to underline what they have called the “absurdity” of recent UNESCO resolutions condemning Israeli actions in and around the East Jerusalem holy site revered by Muslims as Al Aqsa Mosque, or the Noble Sanctuary, and by Jews as the Temple Mount, the location of their two ancient temples. The UNESCO resolutions have referred to the site solely in its Muslim context.

“The discovery of the papyrus on which the name of our capital, Jerusalem, is written is further tangible evidence that Jerusalem was and will remain the eternal capital of the Jewish people,” Miri Regev, Israel’s minister of culture and sports, said in a statement.

“The Temple Mount, the very heart of Jerusalem and Israel, will remain the holiest place for the Jewish people, even if UNESCO ratifies the false and unfortunate decision another 10 times,” she said (ibid.).

On Wednesday, in response to the declaration that the organization is “deeply concerned” by Israeli construction and archaeology in Jerusalem’s Old City, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu recalled the Israeli ambassador to UNESCO for consultations.

Netanyahu also drew attention to the papyrus fragment in connection to the resolution, calling it “a letter from the past to UNESCO.”

After the committee’s vote in Paris, UNESCO’s third in two weeks, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was summoning Israel’s ambassador to UNESCO home for consultations.

Mr. Netanyahu said of the papyrus fragment, “Here is a letter from the past to UNESCO.”

“It is from over 2,700 years ago—Jerusalem,” he added. “In neither Arabic, Aramaic, Greek nor Latin—in Hebrew” (ibid.).

The Israel Antiquities Authority said archaeologists determined the age of the papyrus fragment by paleographic examination of the letters and a radiocarbon analysis.

Eitan Klein, deputy director of the authority’s Antiquities Robbery Prevention Unit, said the document provided evidence of an organized administration in the Kingdom of Judah and of the centrality of Jerusalem as the kingdom’s economic capital.

Prof. Shmuel Ahituv, a biblical scholar, said it also highlighted “the unusual status of a woman” in the administration of the kingdom.

TW IN BRIEF

The ‘last’ Gaza war: Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman said that Israel’s next war in the Gaza Strip will be the “last” one. Lieberman made the comments today during an interview with a Palestinian newspaper. He urged Palestinians to pressure the Hamas militant group in Gaza to put an end to what he called “crazy policies.” Lieberman the next Gaza war would be the last because Israel’s military would “completely destroy” Hamas.

Yemeni airstrikes: Airstrikes resumed in Yemen when a three-day ceasefire expired on Sunday. A coalition led by Saudi Arabia resumed its airstrikes in the rebel-held capital of Sanaa. The United Nations tried to extend the ceasefire to increase the flow of humanitarian aid, but it failed. The Saudi-led coalition is fighting Iranian-sponsored Houthi rebels, and both sides accuse each other

of violating truce agreements. The Yemeni civil war has killed about 10,000 people over a period of 19 months.

Sissy ratings for Sisi: A poll published on October 23 revealed that the approval rating for Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi dropped 14 percent over the course of two months. The poll was conducted by the Egyptian Center for Public Opinion Research. Sisi’s approval rating fell from 82 percent in August to 68 percent this month. According to the poll, price increases have angered many Egyptians. The country’s inflation rate of 14 percent is at a seven-year high. One civil servant told Reuters that prices were rising daily. He said, “This situation will push people to do bad things.” There are rumors that Egyptians will protest over these economic conditions on November 11.

EUROPE

Trumpet Hour

HOUTHI ATTACKS ON U.S., RUSSIA HACKED, DUTERTE WALKS TIGHTROPE, AMERICAN SEGREGATION, AND MUCH MORE | OCTOBER 28

Wallonia Derails Canada Trade Talk

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



A FREE-TRADE DEAL BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND CANADA that was seven to eight years in the making was halted,

not by a small group of nations, not even by an individual nation, but by Wallonia, a region of Belgium. Belgian officials announced

on October 26 that a deal with Wallonia had been reached and the trade deal could probably proceed. But the fact that one of five regions in one of the EU's smallest and least powerful countries could hold a major deal to ransom is adding to the sense that the EU's current situation is unworkable.

"It's crazy. If we allow a regional parliament to block a trade deal that will benefit the whole EU, where does this lead us to?" said the president of the Global Chamber Platform Christoph Leidl. "CETA [Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement] is not just a deal with Canada, it has model character for Europe's future trade relations."

Sander Loones wrote for the *EU Observer*:

Much of Europe cannot understand how a region of 3.5 million inhabitants is threatening to derail an international

trade deal that will save European exporters hundreds of millions of euros each year," wrote. "The Walloon government needs to understand that its decision to oppose CETA could end up having consequences far beyond this single—albeit very important—agreement.

If the EU is like a fleet of ships then it can only travel as fast as its slowest ship, and at the moment great cruise liners are seeing themselves being held back by a rowing boat. How long before they decide to cut the rowing boat loose and dash for the horizon?

The *Trumpet* has long forecast a much smaller, more tightly knit group of nations would immerge out of the EU. Wallonia's attempts to hold the whole of the EU to ransom is increasing the urgency of EU leaders to forge a more efficient system.

Pirates to Take Over Iceland

BRAND-NEW OR FRINGE PARTIES CONTINUE THEIR RISE TO POWER in Europe. The Peasants and Green Union (LPGU) has become Lithuania's biggest party—going from just one seat in parliament to 54. Meanwhile, in Iceland, the Pirate Party seems set to win elections on Saturday. The LPGU was founded by billionaire farmer Ramunas Karbauskis, who has promised to form a technocratic government and to slow the exodus of Lithuanians from their country. The Pirate Party is part of a global movement that began in 2006 that opposes copyright restrictions, encourages file sharing and demands more privacy and less regulation on the Internet.

"Though most of its members skew libertarian to anarchist, the party is officially non-ideological and sets its platform through online polls," wrote Joshua Keating.

Griff Witte wrote for the *Washington Post*: "The rise of the

Pirates—from radical fringe to focal point of Icelandic politics—has astonished even the party's founder, a poet, web programmer and former WikiLeaks activist. But a Pirate Party win would offer a vivid illustration of how far Europeans are willing to go in their rejection of the political mainstream, adding to a string of insurgent triumphs emanating from both the far left and far right."

Witte quotes Ragnheiður Kristjánsson, noting that: "The distrust that had long been germinating has now exploded. The Pirates are riding on that wave. We've had new parties before, and then they've faded. What's surprising is that they're maintaining their momentum."

The rise of the fringe parties shows how fed up so many have become with Europe's mainstream parties, and how they are open even to radical alternatives.

Cold War Between Russia and Europe Heats Up

BALTIC NATIONS ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY FEARFUL OF Russia and are asking for NATO and European help. Paul Wood wrote in the *Spectator*:

Russian tanks rolling into the Baltic states—Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania—once again? It seems a mad idea, but Lithuania thinks it real enough to have reinstated conscription. This is more than just Baltic alarm: Sweden signed a defense pact with the United States in June, and Finland is trying to do the same. A recent Norwegian television drama imagined the country under Russian occupation. Meanwhile, in real life, Russia has formed three new motorized rifle divisions, with more than 30,000 troops, many of them to be sent close to the Baltics. And short-range missiles that can carry nuclear bombs have been delivered to Kaliningrad, the neighboring Russian enclave.

Lithuania's President, Dalia Grybauskaitė, called the missiles' deployment an "open demonstration of power and aggression against not [just] the Baltic states but against European capitals." The Russian military said it was only an exercise. My friend, the Lithuanian army officer, said: "We constantly see Russian forces on exercises close to the border. Most of these activities are offensive in nature: paratroopers conducting airborne assaults, marines in landing operations. When it's combined with aggressive political rhetoric, we take this threat very seriously."

On October 26, NATO head Jens Stoltenberg announced that NATO will send thousands of troops to the Baltics and to Romania next year. The deployments are the biggest military build-up on Russia's borders since the Cold War. The alliance will station four NATO battalions in the Baltic States and Poland, starting

next year. Germany, Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom will each lead a battalion. Germany, Canada, the

Netherlands, Poland, Turkey, the UK and the U.S. will also contribute to a new NATO brigade in Romania.

Germany Calls for Joint EU Defense Fund

GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE CALLED FOR a joint defense budget at a speech in Berlin on October 18. Nick Witney wrote for the [European Council on Foreign Relations](#) that he is highly skeptical of the whole idea, but notes that “as an indicator of how the mood is shifting in Berlin, Schäuble’s intervention is remarkable.” Witney continues:

German support for the idea of closer European defense integration has, of course, long been a given. But not when it comes to money. Germans have tended to believe that only they are truly prudent with public finances, and that talk of common funding is just maneuvering by feckless southerners to tap into German funds, or a ploy by France to get its wealthy neighbor to pay for military adventures in Africa. So when it came to common funding of EU crisis-management operations, for example, the Germans kept their foot on the brake.

The first harbinger of change appeared in the joint paper by the French and German foreign ministers calling for a new European security compact, which appeared just

after the UK’s vote for Brexit. This was followed by a series of other indications, from Brussels, Rome and elsewhere, that European defense is firmly back on the Continent’s agenda. The Steinmeyer-Ayrault paper signaled a German softening on common funding of operations, which has now become Schäuble’s position.

Schäuble pointed out that a joint EU military budget would be several times bigger than Russia’s. The day before this speech, German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said that “Germany is ready to engage ... to take more responsibility. This is the right path, but it will require an enormous commitment of time and money.” She announced that the Schäuble’s finance ministry had agreed to spend an extra €10 billion (US\$11 billion) on defense over the next three years.

The fact that Germany is increasingly willing to put its money where its mouth is, especially where it comes to European defense, marks an important shift in Europe’s push to develop a European military.

Germany Leads Negotiations with Russia

THE LEADERS OF RUSSIA, UKRAINE, GERMANY AND FRANCE agreed Wednesday on a “road map” aimed at reviving the stalled peace process in eastern Ukraine, though details of the plan still need to be worked out by the countries’ foreign ministers over the coming month. German Chancellor Angela Merkel had invited the three presidents to Berlin for the first four-way talks in over a year, insisting that while major progress was unlikely, it was important for talks to continue. Judie Damsy wrote for [Carnegie Europe](#):

By inviting Vladimir Putin to Berlin on October 19 to discuss the continuing conflict in eastern Ukraine and Russia’s bombardment of the Syrian city of Aleppo, German Chancellor Angela Merkel confirmed her pivotal role in the European Union.

There is much disagreement within Germany about Merkel’s relatively hostile stance to Germany, from both the left and the right. However the meeting once again emphasizes that it is Germany that leads all of Europe’s relations with Russia.

Germany Steps Up Military Presence in West Africa

GERMAN CHANCELLOR ANGELA MERKEL TOOK A TRIP TO WEST Africa in early October, drawing attention to Germany’s growing military presence in the region. Mali was one of the first stops. [German-Foreign-Policy.com](#) wrote:

“With the exception of France’s anti-terror unit,” all other operations “are significantly supported and equipped by Germany,” according to a report published on the occasion of Chancellor Merkel’s visit to Mali. “Instructors, reconnaissance, case officers and specialized police experts” from nearly 12 EU countries are demonstrating a “basic transformation of their own activities.” “For the first time” they form “a long-termed European security mission” in a “region bordering on Europe, which had exclusively been an area of France’s influence and interests.”...

France’s waning—and Germany’s growing influence—was reported in detail by a German daily close to the government. Given the fact that Mali, along with numerous other West African countries, uses French as its official language, the region’s “French imprint” remains “decisive” in this respect, the daily writes. However, the training staff “as well as the content of the training” is no longer predominated “today by France.” “In the future, the entire training system of Mali’s army will be based on the European experience and will no longer bear a French imprint,” the author of the report states. “Now the European training approach is beginning also to be applied in Mali’s neighboring countries.” In the training camp Koulikoro, EUTM [European Union Training Mission] Mali is now also training staff officers from Chad, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania. “The

EuCAP [European Conference on Antennas and Propagation] Sahel Mission, under the command of the German diplomat Albrecht Conze,” is preparing its expansion “even more energetically into the neighboring countries.” The increase in troops deployed in West Africa can soon be expected, and Germany will “probably have to mobilize more forces.”

Even beyond Mali, the German government is systematically expanding its military influence. The Bundeswehr has established a military base in Niger, to the east of Mali. Germany will supply Niger’s armed forces military hardware. Germany will also provide military equipment to Chad, situated on Niger’s eastern border, where France maintains an important military base, as it does in Niger. On Wednesday, Chancellor Merkel welcomed Chad’s President Idriss Déby and suggested an increase in support for the war on Boko Haram and an enhancement of business relations. Déby’s visit to Berlin was the first visit of a Chadian president to the Federal Republic of Germany President Déby met with German business leaders to also economically open his country to German influence. ... Germany is trying to increase its influence in the field of military policy because its economic power is currently insufficient for achieving a predominant position in Africa.

[On Friday, October 14,] during her talks with Nigeria’s President, Muhammadu Buhari, Chancellor Merkel will continue her military policy efforts. The focus will also be on war against Boko Haram. So far, primarily French troops have taken part. ... The EU is now, also, expanding its activities in this conflict. In May, alongside the presidents of Niger, Chad and Cameroon, EU representatives participated in a summit held in Nigeria’s capital, Abuja, on combating Boko Haram. ... Similar to Mali, the EU is systematically penetrating France’s traditional spheres of influence in Chad—and is strengthening its positions in Nigeria.

In Nigeria as well, EU activities appear to be paving the way for increasing German influence. On Monday [October 17], German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier visited the Nigerian capital, Abuja. Already during the G-7 Summit in Elmau (Germany), where Nigeria attended as a guest, a “support program” had been agreed upon, “with which we can help Nigeria’s security forces in their struggle against Boko Haram,” the foreign minister recalled. He promised to increase Germany’s contribution to the struggle against the jihadi organization. Today, Friday [October 14], Chancellor Merkel has the opportunity to agree on supplementary measures—to enhance Berlin’s military influence in West Africa.

TW IN BRIEF

Calais ‘Jungle’ migrant camp up in flames: Large portions of the makeshift refugee camp in France known as “the jungle” went up in flames on Wednesday, as departing migrants set fire to shelters and tents before police moved in to relocate them out of northern France. Hundreds of French police swooped into

the camp near the city of Calais, where thousands fleeing war and poverty have lived in squalor as they waited for a chance to sneak across the English Channel into Britain. Police are moving migrants to reception centers around France where they can seek asylum.

ASIA

Hacked E-mails Reveal New Russian Plot to Further Destabilize Ukraine

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



CYBERJUNTA, A HACKER OUTFIT BASED IN UKRAINE, CLAIMED ON October 25 to have obtained e-mails from a key aide to Russian President Vladimir Putin, which they say reveal a plan by Russia to further destabilize Ukraine in the months ahead. *Foreign Policy* reported on October 25:

CyberJunta ... released e-mail exchanges belonging to [Vladislav] Surkov, a scan of passports belonging to Surkov and his family, and 22 pages from documents outlining a plan to support nationalist and separatist politicians and to encourage early parliamentary elections in Ukraine, all with the aim of undermining the government in Kiev.

“It is necessary to create favorable conditions for controllable political forces to enter the new parliament,” said a report released by the hacking group. “As a result of fundamental changes in the Ukrainian political situation, it is

possible to achieve the return of the Donbass to Ukraine on Russian terms,” details the alleged plan, referring to the ongoing conflict in eastern Ukraine between government forces and pro-Russian separatists. The report added that the best time to take action would be from November 2016 to March 2017.

Oleksandr Tkachuk, the chief of staff to the head of the SBU, Ukraine’s intelligence service, said on TV Tuesday that experts from the agency examined the documents released by CyberJunta, and believe them to be real. ...

Often referred to as the “gray cardinal” of the Kremlin, Surkov has been a senior official since Putin assumed office in 1999 and is believed to be the architect of the modern Russian political system. Surkov has served as first deputy chief of the presidential administration, deputy prime minister, and most recently as a personal advisor to Putin on Ukraine

and the breakaway republics of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

Surkov is believed to have played a key role in Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 and is on both the United States and European Union's sanctions lists for helping to orchestrate the land grab. He is the Kremlin's lead negotiator on the stalled peace talks in Ukraine.

The Kremlin has denied that Surkov is involved in any scheme to spark unrest in Ukraine, and has said the documents released by CyberJunta are not authentic. Surkov was one of the key players behind Russia's shift away from *Pravda*-style propaganda (i.e. "The truth is what Moscow says it is") and toward RT-style propaganda ("Who can say what the truth really is? Perhaps it is even something quite unexpected, such as this news here"). Yet such

a plan is in the works in the Kremlin, Surkov is surely involved at the highest levels.

"Scripture shows that Russia's resurgence will cause Europe to unite in a way that this world can't even imagine. It will help mold Europe into the seventh and final resurrection of the biblically prophesied Holy Roman Empire. This means that the darkest time mankind has ever seen is extremely close! But it's going to lead to the best news this world has ever experienced: THE RETURN OF THE MESSIAH TO END ALL OF MAN'S SUFFERING. The Bible contains more than a hundred prophecies that tell us that! And yet you hear almost nothing about them."

—Gerald Flurry, "The Ukraine Crisis Was Prophesied," *Trumpet*, March 2014

Duterte's Tightrope

PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE IS IN THE MIDST OF AN Asian tour that presents him with a challenge: walking the tightrope between China and Japan, currying favor with both without upsetting either. Also in the mix is Manila's relationship with the United States. Stratfor explained on [October 27](#):

[D]ays after signing a collection of deals worth \$24 billion during a much-anticipated trip to China, Duterte headed off to Japan, China's longtime rival and the Philippines' largest foreign investor and export market. Over the course of his three-day visit ... Duterte is expected to strike deals worth billions more Tokyo is also on course to enhance its maritime cooperation with Manila But securing support from China and Japan is only half the battle for the Philippine president, and the next part promises to be trickier. Duterte must find a way to build his partnerships with Beijing and Tokyo without alienating the support of either one, while also fending off China's maritime encroachment.

[S]ince Duterte took office, Beijing and Manila seem to have made remarkable progress in mending fences after squaring off over the South China Sea. ... Though it is a marked departure for the Philippines' recent foreign policy, Duterte's stance toward China is not so surprising. He is the latest in a line of Philippine leaders who have tried to strike a balance with the foreign powers in the region, including the United States and China. The Philippines is still a weak state Appealing to multiple powers in the Asia-Pacific region, rather than relying on support from a single foreign backer, will better afford the country access to the resources it needs to achieve these aims. ... [T]he Philippine president will take help where he can get it. ...

Though Beijing and Manila seem to have set aside their dispute in the South China Sea for now, they have not laid it to rest. ... Duterte and [Chinese President Xi Jinping] are walking a tightrope, trying to convince their publics of their efforts toward conciliation without making any significant concessions. ... But Manila can little afford to bank on

Beijing's continued goodwill in this or any future negotiations over the South China Sea.

Until the two countries reach an acceptable settlement on the South China Sea, Manila's alliance with the United States will continue to lend it clout in negotiations. Despite the distaste that he has expressed for Washington, Duterte and his administration have consistently backpedaled so far, emphasizing the importance of the strategic partnership. ...

Duterte's visit to Japan exemplifies Manila's policy of keeping its options open. ... So far, Duterte's diplomatic agenda and unorthodox approach to politics have enabled him to reap economic concessions from the two Asian rivals while maintaining the negotiating strength that the U.S. alliance structure provides. But this freedom is unlikely to last forever. Powerful stakeholders across the Philippine political spectrum—in particular, the country's military, which is wary of Duterte's efforts to tilt away from the United States—will limit his room to maneuver. Though many Philippine voters in the south share the president's antipathy toward Washington, most of the country still views the United States favorably. Despite his high approval ratings, Duterte may not be able to count on popular support to shield his contentious foreign policy initiatives from military, legislative or judicial scrutiny. Likewise, his popularity will not save him from backlash if he is seen as trading the Philippines' maritime sovereignty for Chinese favor.

However unstable and erratic Duterte's leadership is, his attempts to reorient Manila bode well for China, which could exploit the tension between the Philippines and the U.S. for its own advantage. As America's influence in the Philippines and all of Asia wanes, Russia and China will work to fill the void and steadily bring the Asian nations together into a somewhat unified power bloc. In the longer term, Asia's unification points to the approach of the most hope-filled event in history. To understand more about this sure hope, read [Russia and China in Prophecy](#).

Thailand Teeters Toward Transition

WHEN KING BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ DIED ON OCTOBER 13, FOLLOWING 70 years on the throne of Thailand, he left a power void behind that could fundamentally change the Asian nation. [Stratfor](#) wrote about the development on October 21:

Thailand's royal succession is not going according to the junta's plan. ... Almost immediately after the king's death became public, the leader of the Thai junta, Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha, announced that Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, whom the late king named as his heir in 1972, would take the throne. Despite the crown prince's unpopularity and scandalous reputation, his appointment came as a relief, ostensibly settling the contentious issue of royal succession after years of uncertainty helped to fuel the country's cyclical political unrest. But a few hours later, Prayuth stunned observers by revealing that the crown prince had allegedly requested time to mourn before taking the throne. In the meantime, the chief of Thailand's Privy Council, 96-year-old retired Gen. Prem Tinsulanonda, will serve as regent pro tempore—perhaps for as long as a year.

Though it is not uncommon for a coronation ceremony to be delayed or for a regent to carry out royal duties in the absence of the Thai king, the crown prince's dubious decision to defer accession is unprecedented. The delay has renewed long-held fears of a contested royal succession, which could prove deeply destabilizing for Thailand. The most pressing question—who will assume the throne—will probably be resolved in the coming months, as Prayuth suggested October 18. But the more important details of succession—what degree of power the next monarch will wield, and to the

benefit or detriment of which factions in Thai society—will take much longer to crystallize. The interregnum will shed light on the junta's ability to fill the void as Thailand enters a phase of immense political uncertainty and transition. ...

Thailand's military is top-heavy and extremely factional. With relatively few traditional military threats to occupy its attention, it has historically involved itself in wide-ranging business and political endeavors, attempting 19 coups over the past 84 years. As they rise through the ranks to lucrative positions, officers are expected to reward their cliques (usually composed of former classmates from their days as cadets) with promotions. Under Bhumibol's reign, rival military factions routinely vied for royal endorsement to legitimize their extracurricular pursuits. ...

Still, Thailand's halting royal succession process has exposed the limits of the junta's power and the persistent risk of rifts in the military. In the worst-case scenario, different camps could rally behind rival factions of the monarchy as the junta struggles to fill the void left in Bhumibol's wake and to control Thailand's uneasy political transition. A resolution to the immediate question of the late king's successor will probably emerge in the next few months. But even then, unexpected purges in the military or in firms with ties to the crown, curious legal cases against prominent figures, or unflattering leaks about the crown prince's behavior will signal that all has not been settled behind the scenes.

The power vacuum left by the king's death could shake the nation's foundations and add Thailand to the growing list of countries that are suffering prolonged destabilization.

TW IN BRIEF

China: The least generous country in the world: The Charities Aid Foundation World Giving Index 2016 has named China as the least generous country in the world. The ranking system takes into account monetary donations, helping strangers and volunteer services to measure the overall generosity of the people in 140 countries. In helping a stranger, China ranked 140 out of 140, in giving money, 138 of 140, and in volunteering 138 out of 140.

China's Communist Party raises Xi to 'core' status: China's Communist Party has elevated President Xi Jinping to a new position. According to a communique released by the official Xinhua News Agency, Xi is now the "core" leader of China. While at least seven provincial-level party bosses have publicly proclaimed Xi as the "core leader" of China in the past, this is the first time this title has been bestowed on him by the national Communist Party. While mainly symbolic, the move to bestow Xi with "core" status reflects his status as one of the country's most powerful leaders in decades. The title of "core" leader hasn't been used in China since the retirement of Deng Xiaoping in 1989, and it is widely seen as a

sign indicating a Maoist-style cult of personality.

Russia woos Serbia: Russia's top security official has urged closer cooperation with the Balkan nation of Serbia. The official urged Serbia to sign a memorandum of understanding on security next year. His call is part of increased efforts by Moscow to boost its influence in Belgrade. Serbia is a considered a rare Russian ally in Europe. The nation is also seeking membership in the European Union even though it has refused to join the West in imposing sanctions on Russia.

Putin defends Russian actions in Syria: Russian President Vladimir Putin defended Russia's support for the Syrian army's siege of Aleppo on Thursday. He said the Russian backing was necessary to crush Islamist militants there. Putin said Russia had to choose between "keeping a terrorist nest there or crushing that nest while doing everything possible to minimize civilian casualties." Moscow has denied striking civilians and blamed the United States for failing to persuade American-backed rebels to rupture ties with al Qaeda affiliates.

Further deterioration in India-Pakistan relations: India said it is expelling a Pakistani diplomat in New Delhi after briefly detaining him on espionage charges. The Indian government has given the diplomat two days to leave the country after he was allegedly caught with defense-related documents. The expulsion comes amid heightened tensions between Pakistan and India over the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir.

The region is divided between the two countries but claimed by both. Pakistani and Indian troops have been engaged in daily heavy mortar shelling across the border, causing casualties on both sides. The Associated Press reported that the expulsion was “a sign of increasing tension between the two South Asian nuclear-armed archrivals.”

ANGLO-AMERICA

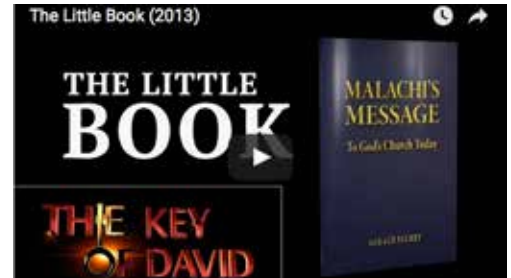


The Little Book

Gerald Flurry,

The Key of David | October 30

The book of Revelation mentions a little book that God would reveal just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. This book has been revealed, and its contents will affect every person on Earth!



The LGBT-Islamist Alliance

Andrew Miiller | October 27

IF YOU ASK A LEFTIST WHAT CAUSES HE SUPPORTS, HE’LL NAME equality, civil rights, worker’s rights, women’s rights and homosexual’s rights. Ask what beliefs he opposes, and he’ll name racism, sexism, homophobia and Islamophobia.

When the average leftist sees homosexuals in the news, he views them not as individuals living an immoral lifestyle; he views them as an oppressed special interest group needing protection from intolerant Christians.

When he sees Islamists in the news, he views them not as individuals under the influence of a toxic ideology, but an oppressed minority fighting against Judeo-Christian imperialism.

Out of 51 Muslim-majority countries in the world 10 punish homosexuality with death. But for some reason this does not affect the leftist’s belief that homosexuals and Islamists are on the same side: united against traditionalist Christianity.

When the leftist reads how Omar Mateen pledged his alliance to the Islamic State before gunning down 49 people in a homosexual nightclub, he agrees with the *New York Times* assessment that Mateen’s Islamist ideology had *no bearing* on the situation. Instead, he places the blame on America’s Judeo-Christian ideas about sexual morality.

Some notable leftists do point out that the political left has some major hypocrisy issues in regard to Islam. If “sexism” is among your political ideology’s cardinal sins, which should you oppose more: men who lead their families according to biblical gender roles, or men who force women into burkas? Most left-wing politicians bend over backward to oppose the former, defending political Islam and attacking Christians as sexist homophobes.

Despite the fact that 87 percent of women in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan have been domestically abused, left-wing sources like the *Huffington Post* argue that “Islam has a culture and history of women empowerment,” while patriarchy

and gender bias are “rampant in Christian culture.” Despite the fact that 800,000 black Africans currently live in chattel slavery to Arab masters in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, sources like AlterNet claim the “future of life on the planet” is really being jeopardized by the “white supremacist ideology” of Christian politicians, like Sen. Ted Cruz (who is Hispanic) and Dr. Ben Carson (who is black).

Such contradictions in the rainbow alliance between radical leftists and Islamic fundamentalists only make sense when you realize both ideologies have the same goal in the short term: end Judeo-Christian culture.

“At first, an alliance between Muslims and atheists might sound a little strange, but the concept is real and one that should be encouraged and sought out,” wrote Mandie Czech for the *Chicago Monitor*. “Both groups are misunderstood, perceived as enemies, and are often persecuted verbally or politically for their beliefs. ... For Muslims, the Koran is very specific that ‘there is no compulsion in religion.’ But it is interesting that many conservative Republicans feel the need to bring Christianity into their work and into law they support and enact.”

Such statements are ironic in that every country in the world today that punishes atheism with death is an Islamic theocracy. America became the first nation to guarantee religious freedom due to a Christian belief that all people are “endowed by *their Creator* with certain unalienable rights and that religion by nature cannot be coerced.”

Former British Labour Party M.P. George Galloway elaborated in 2005 on the Muslim-progressive alliance and how to use it to curb Anglo-American influence:

Not only do I think it’s possible but I think it is vitally necessary, and I think it is happening already. It is possible because the progressive movement around the world and

the Muslims have the same enemies. Their enemies are the Zionist occupation, American occupation, British occupation of poor countries, mainly Muslim countries. They have the same interest in opposing savage capitalist globalization, which is intent upon homogenizing the entire world. ...

Galloway revealed that progressives and Muslims are united not by purity of ideology, but by shared enemies. Those enemies are not political Islam or international socialism but Anglo-American domination. Moderate leftists may express this sentiment in less inflammatory terms, but the idea is widespread that a countercultural alliance is necessary to “fundamentally transform” the culture underpinning Western civilization.

It has become common to hear pundits from the left speak of the U.S. Constitution as an impractical, antiquated document unworthy of the 21st century. A large number of Islamists would agree with this sentiment. Nearly 20 percent of U.S. Muslim respondents in a survey done by the Center for Security Policy said the use of violence was justified to make sharia the law of the land. Roughly 23 percent of British Muslim respondents in a survey done by the Gatestone Institute said sharia should replace British common law in areas with large Muslim populations.

In the short-term, leftists and Muslims are uniting to pull down their enemy. Once that enemy is gone, it is doubtful that their ideologies will be so cooperative. But as the ancient proverbs says, “The enemy of my enemy is my friend.” For now!

 Follow [Andrew Müller](#)

DNC Hires Agitators to Stir Up Election Campaign Violence

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



PERHAPS MORE THAN ANY UNITED STATES ELECTION CYCLE IN recent history, rioting and violence have marked the 2016 election campaign. Many of the brawls that have broken out at the rallies of Donald J. Trump have been blamed on the Republican candidate's inflammatory rhetoric. Mr. Trump has irresponsibly mused about punching disruptors in the face and once even publically offered to pay the legal fees of any of his supporters who beat up a protestor on his behalf. Such rhetoric has certainly further enflamed a tense situation, but a recent video leak has revealed that two Democratic Party operatives actually hired agitators to stir up violence at Trump rallies.

According to a recent article in the [National Review](#):

Project Veritas's most recent undercover video sting has already resulted in firings (Scott Foval of Democracy Partners) and caused one of Hillary Clinton's key operatives—Robert Creamer—to resign from the campaign. The videos show evidence that Democratic operatives worked directly with the [Democratic National Convention] to incite violence at Donald Trump rallies this year.

In the third video in the series, released this week, cameras caught Creamer and others admitting that planting adult Donald Ducks at Trump rallies to encourage violence was actually Hillary Clinton's idea.

“In the end, it was the candidate, Hillary Clinton, the future President of the United States, who wanted the ducks on the ground so, by god, we will get the ducks on the ground,” said Creamer, adding “don't repeat that to anybody.”

The DNC, the Clinton campaign and Americans United for Change working together to get (and pay for) the Donald Ducks shows that campaign expenses were used illegally.

In the video, the participants admit they purposed a group of activists to attend Trump rallies with a duck ringtone on their phones set to go off at the same time, as well as ordering a thousand rubber duckies with “Donald Duck” written on them to hand out to the press.

In regards to how all of this might reflect on Clinton's people, one operative involved said, “[We're] all part of the old school method where it doesn't matter what the legal and ethics people say, we need to win this [expletive].”

It is hard to believe that in the most prosperous country of the most prosperous era in the world, where free speech—even outright lies—is protected vehemently by the Constitution, rioting and violence is becoming a more popular method of dissent. It is even more unfathomable that key members of a major political would resort to hiring professionals to stir up such violence.

Segregation Returns to America's Universities

IN AN ATTEMPT TO COMBAT “MICROAGGRESSIONS” AND “RACIALLY insensitive remarks,” an increasing number of universities are reverting to racial segregation. Unlike old school “Jim Crow” laws that focused mainly on excluding blacks from white areas, however, these new segregation policies focus on keeping whites out of black areas.

Last September, the University of Southern California honored a request from its Black Student Union and offered to

provide segregated housing as a means of shielding black students from “racially insensitive remarks.” Meanwhile, Columbia University is accepting applications for a no-whites-allowed “Students of Color Leadership Retreat.”

Beyond just racially segregated housing and classes, African-American students on several American college campuses are demanded racially segregated “safe spaces”. Many university officials are now encouraging students to voluntarily segregate

themselves. The president of Northwestern University, for example, has said that it is understandable that black students would not want white undergraduates joining them in a cafeteria. “We all deserve safe spaces,” he wrote, and “black students had every right to enjoy their lunches in peace.”

Minority student demands for racially segregated safe places intensified at the University of California last week, as students literally formed a human-chain to stop white students from getting to class. Brad Richardson wrote for the *Washington Times* on Monday:

Students at the University of California, Berkeley, held a day of protest on Friday to demand the creation of additional “safe spaces” for transgender and nonwhite students, during which a human chain was formed on a main campus artery to prevent white students from getting to class.

The demonstrators were caught on video blocking Berkeley’s Sather Gate, holding large banners advocating the creation of

physical spaces segregated by race and gender identity, including one that read “Fight 4 Spaces of Color.”

Protesters can be heard shouting “Go around!” to white students who attempt to go through the blockade, while students of color are greeted with calls of “Let him through!”

Students turned away by the mob are later shown filing through trees and ducking under branches in order to cross Strawberry Creek, which runs underneath the bridge.

The buzzword motivating these protests and calls for “safe spaces” is “microaggressions.” By definition, a microaggression is a small action or word choice that seemingly has no malicious intent, but is thought to have a deeper offensive meaning. In a list of offensive statements presented to deans and department chairs at the 10 University of California system schools, these microaggressions were included: “America is the land of opportunity” and “I believe the most qualified person should get the job.”

TW IN BRIEF

U.S. abstains from Cuba U.N. vote: The United States abstained for the first time in 25 years Wednesday on a U.N. resolution condemning America’s economic embargo against Cuba, a measure it had always vehemently opposed. The U.S. was joined in abstaining by Israel, the only other country to vote against the embargo resolution in the General Assembly last year. When the vote—191-0 with two abstentions—was shown on the electronic board, diplomats from the 193 U.N. member states burst into applause. U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power announced the abstention just before the vote saying that the U.S. policy of isolation toward Cuba has “isolated the United States, including here at the United Nations.”

U.S. and S. Korea trying to increase sanctions on N. Korea: Deputy foreign ministers from Japan, the United States and South Korea have agreed to step up pressure on North Korea as they stick to their goal of persuading the communist state to abandon its nuclear weapons. Their pledge on Thursday in Tokyo comes just two days after U.S. National Intelligence director James Clapper publicly called the goal a “lost cause.” He

said the best hope is capping its capability instead. The officials made clear that North Korea now poses a new level of threat that requires a broader international pressure and tougher sanctions.

Election prediction master still picking Trump: A political science professor who has accurately called the results of the last five presidential elections still asserts that Republican Donald Trump has an 87 percent chance of defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton. Clinton is ahead in most of the recent polls. “It usually turns out that the candidate who does better in his party’s primary beats the other guy who does less well,” Helmut Norpoth said. He claimed Trump’s margin of victory in New Hampshire and South Carolina compared to Clinton’s was crucial to his model. Norpoth’s other factor is the “swing of the pendulum,” which makes it far more likely for a change of government if one party has been in power for two terms. A confidential memo allegedly obtained from a Democrat Super PAC called Correct the Record reveals a plan to “barrage” voters with high-frequency polls that show Clinton ahead in order to “declare election over.”



Is Big Government the Solution—or the Problem?

Stephen Flurry, *Trumpet Daily* | October 28

Six thousand years of failed governments prove man is unable to rule.

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