

Trumpet Weekly

JANUARY 6, 2017

Israeli nationalists wave national flags outside Damascus Gate in Jerusalem's old city.



2017—All Eyes on Jerusalem

Brent Nagtegaal | January 6

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



JERUSALEM

THIS YEAR MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIX-DAY WAR IN which the tiny Jewish state of Israel defended itself against numerous Arab armies simultaneously. Israel not only survived, but by the war's end, it had taken possession of the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria, and the West Bank from Jordan, expanding its territory threefold. At the time, many Jewish leaders and foreign journalists alike recognized this was a miraculous victory.

However, the most symbolic and emotive part of the war for the Jews occurred on the third day when Israeli Army Chaplain Rabbi Shlomo Goren gathered before the Western Wall to blow the shofar at Judaism's holiest site. The solemn blast announced to the world that the Jews had captured the Old City and the

Temple Mount. For the first time in almost 2,000 years, Jerusalem was united under Jewish rule.

But now 50 years on, we must ask: Will united Jerusalem make it to 51?

UNSC Unilaterally Divides Jerusalem

As we enter 2017, more attention is being focused on Jerusalem than any year in recent memory.

On December 23, the United States broke with its traditional role as Israel's protector at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) by choosing *not* to veto a resolution that called Israeli communities in the West Bank illegal and invalid. The resolution, however, has a more sinister aspect than most previous attempts to impugn Israel's claims over the territory it won in the war.

In that resolution, we see the UN taking aim at Israel's control and sovereignty of Jerusalem itself, not just the territory of the West Bank.

Notice the first three points of the resolution. The UNSC (emphasis added):

1. Reaffirms that the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, *including East Jerusalem*, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-state solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace;
2. Reiterates its demand that Israel immediately and completely cease all settlement activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, *including East Jerusalem*, and that it fully respect all of its legal obligations in this regard;
3. Underlines that it will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, *including with regard to Jerusalem*, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations

Why single out Jerusalem in the resolution? Why not just mention the West Bank, or the more general term of the "territories" as in previous resolutions?

Why? Because THE UNITY OF JERUSALEM WAS THE REAL TARGET OF THIS RESOLUTION.

The resolution isn't about settlements in far off regions of the West Bank. The key difference in this resolution to all others is that JERUSALEM ITSELF IS NOW ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK. According to the UNSC, which is the closest thing we have to a world government, Israeli rule over East Jerusalem has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation of International law.

In these three separate instances, the resolution draws specific attention to East Jerusalem, not just the West Bank. East Jerusalem of course is technically part of the West Bank, but all previous negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, such as the Oslo Accords in the 1990s and the Camp David summit in 2000, dealt with Jerusalem as a separate issue from the territory of the West Bank.

The future of Jerusalem wasn't predetermined. The issue of Jerusalem in a final peace deal was to be negotiated separately.

But now, according to the UN—and supported by the U.S.'s decision not to veto—the Israelis not only cannot build or live in Judea and Samaria, but now, any building in East Jerusalem beyond the now invisible 1967 lines is illegal.

The UN has unilaterally divided Jerusalem—and Israel didn't even have a say in it.

Past Precedent

It is true that some Israeli leaders in the past had offered East Jerusalem to the Palestinians in an effort to reach a peace agreement. One of these was former Prime Minister Ehud Barak.

In 1993, the government of Yitzhak Rabin signed the first set of Oslo Accords. They became the new foundation and platform from which Israeli-Palestinian peace would be negotiated. As part of the accords, the future of Jerusalem was declared to be a separate subject for future negotiations. The likelihood of Israel giving up sovereignty of East Jerusalem in a peace deal was highly unlikely. Rabin even declared in his last Knesset speech, one month before he was assassinated in 1995, that Jerusalem must

always remain the united capital of Israel.

However, one of Rabin's own followers, Ehud Barak, would go against Rabin's intentions just five years later.

In 2000, during the waning months of his time in office, Barak offered terrorist and Palestinian Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat the West Bank and East Jerusalem in return for peace as part of the Camp David summit negotiated with U.S. President Bill Clinton. Although Arafat refused, Barak's offer of East Jerusalem signified a huge departure from Israel's negotiating position.

But now the cat was out of the bag: Israel was willing to negotiate away East Jerusalem. Israel had always said Jerusalem would be undivided, but apparently there was division on that position.

As Dore Gold, adviser to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, recounted in his book *The Fight for Jerusalem*, the Israeli public was absolutely furious when it learned that Jerusalem was being offered as part of a peace deal. This led to the largest demonstration in Israel's history, as 400,000 citizens marched to the Old City walls to protest.

At the time, even though Arafat did not accept the deal, some leftist Israeli officials even considered proposing a UNSC resolution where the new parameters for peace including East Jerusalem would be locked in to the new negotiating position of the Israelis. But that didn't happen. There was no security resolution in 2001.

But fast-forward to December 2016, and we now have that Security Council resolution. The international community has unilaterally decided, with U.S. support, that East Jerusalem does not belong to the Jews. East Jerusalem is no longer up for negotiation—it is Palestinian land, and the Jews have no right to it. Jerusalem, according to the United Nations, is not the united capital of the Jews.

Setting the Stage for Fulfilling Bible Prophecy

Why is this important? It would be easy to disregard the UNSC resolution as nothing more than talk. Israel today, especially under the leadership of Mr. Netanyahu, would refuse to concede the Old City and East Jerusalem to the Palestinians. Mr. Netanyahu himself has said as much. If the UN wanted to enforce this resolution, they would have to march member-nations' armies into Jerusalem to force Israel out of East Jerusalem.

Most people would agree that it would be highly unlikely and irregular for the UN to be able to organize itself that way.

It is possible, however, that the Palestinians themselves could react to this resolution in an armed uprising and try to simply *take* what the UN has now said already belongs to them. At which point, Israel would need to suppress the violence. That action would put Israel at loggerheads with the international community.

This is important because the *Trumpet* has long forecast this exact scenario we see developing. Pointing to a prophecy in the biblical book of Zechariah, *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry has said for many years that half of Jerusalem will indeed fall into Palestinian hands. In March 2006, he elaborated on [how it would come about](#):

It seems the Palestinians could get East Jerusalem, minus the Temple Mount, without a fight. Zechariah's prophecy implies that there will be an impasse over the Temple Mount—which the Palestinians "resolve" by taking East Jerusalem by force. That is why I believe the conservatives could regain control in Israel. They have a stronger

will to fight for the land they believe belongs to the Jews.

At the time he made this statement, a passive left-wing government was in power. But for this prophecy to unfold, conservatives would have to return to power.

This has since happened.

Mr. Netanyahu will not accept Palestinian control of the Temple Mount or East Jerusalem. Yet buoyed by this resolution and likely further action by the international community in the coming months, the Palestinians could be motivated to make a run for it themselves.

Clearly the UNSC resolution doesn't further the chances for

peace between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Instead it undermines Israel's negotiating position, and actually encourages the Palestinians to fight for the land, which brings into play Zechariah's pivotal prophecy of half of Jerusalem falling.

In 2017, all eyes are going to be on Jerusalem. Zechariah's prophecy of half of Jerusalem falling is not some obscure or relatively unimportant end-time event. Rather, it is a verifiable and highly visible event that sets off a chain reaction of further prophecies leading to the coming of the Messiah. To understand in detail the events to follow the fall of East Jerusalem, please request *Jerusalem in Prophecy* by Gerald Flurry.

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MIDDLE EAST

Trumpet Daily

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Victor Davis Hanson: Why the Sudden Hatred of Israel?

IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT UNITED NATION SECURITY COUNCIL's anti-Israel resolution, which the United States allowed to pass, historian Victor Davis Hanson compares the world's condemnation for Israel with similar situations where the world is silent. In the end, he sees the [world's bias against Israel](#) as the same resurgence of ancient anti-Semitism.

Secretary of State John Kerry, echoing other policymakers in the Obama administration, blasted Israel last week in a 70-minute rant about its supposedly self-destructive policies.

Why does the world—including now the United States—single out liberal and lawful Israel but refrain from chastising truly illiberal countries?

Mr. Kerry has never sermonized for so long about his plan to solve the Syrian crisis that has led to some 500,000 deaths or the vast migrant crisis that has nearly wrecked the European Union. ...

President Barack Obama did not champion the cause of the oppressed during the Green Revolution of 2009 in Iran. Did Mr. Kerry and Mr. Obama become so outraged after Russia occupied South Ossetia, Crimea and eastern Ukraine?

Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power was never so impassioned over the borders of Chinese-occupied

Tibet, or over Turkish-occupied Northern Cyprus. ...

More recently, few nations at the UN faulted the Kuwaiti government for the expulsion of 200,000 Palestinians after the liberation of Kuwait by coalition forces in 1991.

Yet on nearly every issue—from “settlements” to human rights to the status of women—UN members who routinely violate human rights target a liberal Israel.

Partly, the reason for such inordinate criticism of Israel is sheer cowardice. If Israel had 100 million people and was geographically large, the world would not so readily play the bully.

Instead, the United Nations and Europe would likely leave it alone—just as they give a pass to human rights offenders such as Pakistan and Indonesia. If Israel were as big as Iran, and Iran as small as Israel, then the Obama administration would have not reached out to Iran, and would have left Israel alone.

Israel's supposed Western friends sort out Israel's enemies by their relative natural resources, geography and population—and conclude that supporting Israel is a bad deal in cost-benefit terms. ...

Partly, anti-Israel rhetoric is due to herd politics.

Partly, the piling on Israel is due to American leverage over Israel as a recipient of U.S. aid. As a benefactor, the Obama

administration expects that Israel must match U.S. generosity with obeisance. Yet the U.S. rarely gives similar “how dare you” lectures to less liberal recipients of American aid, such as the Palestinians for their lack of free elections.

Partly, the cause of global hostility toward Israel is jealousy. If Israel were mired in Venezuela-like chaos, few nations would care. Instead, the image of a proud, successful, Westernized nation as an atoll in a sea of self-inflicted misery is grating to many. And the astounding success of Israel bothers so many failed states that the entire world takes notice.

But partly, the source of anti-Israelism is ancient

anti-Semitism.

If Israelis were Egyptians administering Gaza or Jordanians running the West Bank (as during the 1960s), no one would care. The world's problem is that Israelis are Jews. Thus, Israel earns negative scrutiny that is never extended commensurately to others.

Mr. Hanson is no doubt right. The Jews have been unfairly and uniformly criticized and attacked more than any people in history. To see the reason behind anti-Semitism as well as its very limited future, read [“The Root Cause of Anti-Semitism”](#) by Stephen Flurry.

Deutsche Welle: ‘Why Is Russia so Interested in Afghanistan All of a Sudden?’

FOR YEARS, RUSSIA MAINTAINED DISTANCE FROM GETTING involved in Afghanistan's internal matters. But according to Deutsche Welle (DW), Moscow has a renewed interest in becoming a powerbroker in the war-torn country.

But a new geopolitical situation is emerging in the region, and it seems that Russia has decided not to remain “neutral” in the protracted conflict wracking the Asian country. The recent tripartite meeting in Moscow involving China, Pakistan and Russia to discuss Afghanistan's security is just one example of Russia's growing interest.

Russia first established contacts with the Taliban leadership in 2007 to discuss the issue of drug trafficking through Central Asian countries that share borders with Afghanistan. Now there are reports that Moscow is again in contact with the Taliban. But this time the Moscow-Taliban contacts are not limited to talks on drug trafficking, according to analysts. Russia, they say, realizes the U.S. policies in Afghanistan have failed, and therefore wants to intervene.

“Russia may have been chased out of Afghanistan several decades ago, but now it appears keen to reenter the scene in a big way,” Michael Kugelman, an expert at the Washington-based Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, told DW.

According to DW, Russia fears that the Islamic State will take root in the country, threatening Russian interests in central Asia. In addition, the *Wall Street Journal* indicated this week that Moscow was getting involved in Afghanistan in an effort to [counteract U.S. influence](#), especially in regard to peace efforts in the country.

Russia and Turkey Push Back at Iran Over Syria

IN JUNE 2015, THE SYRIAN CIVIL WAR WAS NOT GOING WELL FOR President Bashar Assad and his Iranian backers. Realizing they needed serious help, Iran covertly flew Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Cmdr. Qassem Suleimani to Moscow to plead for Russian President Vladimir Putin's assistance. Recognizing the impact to its own strategic interests in the Middle East, such as showing up the United States as well as ensuring the future of its Mediterranean naval port on Syria's coast, Russia obliged Iran by

joining the Syrian fray in late September.

From Iran's perspective, Russia's entrance into the war started paying off immediately. The lethal tandem of Russian jets in the skies combined with Iran's proxies on the ground halted then pushed back rebel fighters. Key territories were taken back, ensuring the survival of the Syrian regime.

However, now it seems that Russia is ready to make a deal with the Syrian opposition on behalf of Assad, while Iran is in

the background trying to hijack any peace deal that constrains further action. In the end, at least according to Middle East Eye writer David Hearst, a new relationship between Turkey and Russia might be [pushing back at Iran](#) in Syria.

Russia's interest lies in closing down the Syrian conflict sooner rather than later. The last thing Putin wants to do is to repeat the mistake George W. Bush made in Iraq or indeed the Soviets in Afghanistan in which both invading forces won the war but lost the peace.

Here Russian and Iranian interests diverge. Russia has never had a problem with Israeli air strikes on Hezbollah's supply lines in southern Syria. Unlike Russia, Iran's motives in Syria are ideological.

Iran is the brains behind Assad's plan to redraw the ethnic map of central Syria. They want to evacuate all Sunnis from their areas between Damascus and the Lebanese border. Iran has brought 300 [Shiite] families from Iraq to repopulate the Damascus suburb of Darayya, which surrendered as an opposition stronghold in August. They have also shipped in [Shiite] families to protect the Zainab shrine.

Iran's planning is strategic, long term and deeply sectarian. Iran pushed for an all-out offensive on Idlib after the fall of Aleppo, arguing, so far unsuccessfully, that the rebels should be given no respite.

According to the Gladstone Institute, the recent three-way talks between Russia, Turkey and Iran indicate that [Iran is already being pushed out of Syria's future](#). Hasmat Alevi wrote on December 29:

The recent three-party conference held in Moscow with the participation of Russia, Turkey and Iran came to a significant end. With mainstream media emphasizing how the U.S. administration was completely sidelined in talks that discussed the future of Syria, a different perspective also sheds light on how Iran was sidelined to an unprecedented degree. ...

The conference outcome makes it clear that Russia enjoys hegemony over Iran in Syria, and that Moscow has imposed its interests and road map on Tehran, leaving the mullahs no choice but to submit to the status quo. This setback of its hegemony seems a major reason why Iran needed to parade Revolutionary Guards Quds Force Gen. Qassem Suleimani in Aleppo: perhaps to boost an iota of morale in its dwindling base of support. ...

Iran may have enjoyed tactical gains in Aleppo. However, Russia apparently has separate, long-term interests in complete dissimilarity from those of Tehran. Russia has conducted secret direct talks with the Syrian opposition. To add insult to injury, Iran—viewing the Obama presidency as a golden era—is also concerned about the incoming presidency of Donald Trump and his administration, who seem to have strong views against Tehran.

While it's unlikely that Assad or Iran will concede dominance in Syria to Russia so easily, biblical prophecy indicates that Iran will lose sway with the future Syrian regime. The Bible clearly foretells a future alliance between Syria and a reformed European empire headed by Germany. It's possible that Russia's incursion into Syria is but a stepping-stone to removing Iranian involvement.

TW IN BRIEF

Russian airpower supports Turkish troops: Turkey and Russia are cooperating more closely in Syria, not only on negotiation tables but also in battlefronts. The latest such cooperation is in the military operation Euphrates Shield initiated by Turkey, with an air strike launched by Russia. Both are targeting Bab al-Salameh, the last extremist-held stronghold north of Aleppo. According to Syrian analysts, Turkey had vainly called on the American-led, anti-terrorist, allied forces for support in Bab al-Salameh last December—as a result, Turkey had to turn to Russia for assistance.

Islamic State attacks Turkish nightclub: About one hour into the New Year, a terrorist opened fire in an Istanbul nightclub killing 39 and wounding 69. The Islamic State terrorist group said on Monday that it was behind the attack. A statement provided by the Islamic State said the attack was carried out by a “heroic soldier of the caliphate who attacked the most famous nightclub where Christians were celebrating their pagan feast.” It also said the attack was revenge for Turkey's role in the Syrian conflict. The attacker was later recognized as a Syrian who had traveled to Turkey with his wife and children to deflect suspicion.

EUROPE

Trumpet Hour

ALL EYES ON JERUSALEM, GERMANY READY TO SPLIT WITH TRUMP'S U.S., MR. OBAMA'S POST-PRESIDENCY TAKES SHAPE, AND MUCH MORE | JANUARY 6

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Germany Prepares for Split With America

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



GERMANY IS BRACING FOR A DECISIVE SPLIT WITH AMERICA under United States President Donald Trump, according to an article [published by Spiegel Online](#) Thursday. The article includes interviews with anonymous high-ranking German diplomats and other German government sources.

“Doubts are growing inside Angela Merkel’s Chancellery that the incoming American president will mature and become a statesman,” Spiegel Online reported. “The chancellor is preparing for frosty trans-Atlantic relations while at the same time trying to pull Europe together.”

During a meeting after watching one of Mr. Trump’s speeches, “Merkel made her comments in a calm tone of voice, but the extent of her concern was clear to all who attended the pre-Christmas meeting: She is preparing for the worst,” they write.

The article goes on to discuss Ms. Merkel’s famously caveated congratulatory message to the president-elect. “It was the language of a parole officer trying to get her charge back on the right track,” it wrote. “Merkel didn’t just say this publicly—she also repeated it during an hour-long telephone conversation with Trump on November 11. The future president remained friendly but was apparently thoroughly unimpressed.”

The election is adding to a sense of gloom in Germany:

Merkel has been in office for 11 years, and she knows very well just how unstable the world order has become. “Many have the feeling that the world has been turned upside down,” she said at the [Christian Democratic Union’s] annual party conference at the beginning of December. It was a tone that one seldom hears from Angela Merkel. ...

The chancellor is fully aware of what is at stake. If Trump carries out even part of what he promised during his campaign, then the world order as Merkel knows it would be relegated to the dustbin of history. The messages that Merkel’s emissaries have been given by Trump’s people so far haven’t been particularly encouraging. They have reported that the new president will make his decisions based solely on domestic policy considerations. His foreign policy will be dictated by how his decisions will be seen by voters at home.

Trump also has a penchant for dismissing the warnings of his advisers and allies. This creates the additional problem that efforts to coax or even pressure the new president may have the opposite of the intended effect. “To Trump, what matters is not if his decisions are coherent, but how they are perceived,” says one diplomat who represented the German government in Washington. ...

“We have to brace for difficult years in trans-Atlantic relations,” says one high-ranking German diplomat. Even

during his presidency, Barack Obama shifted much of the U.S. focus to China and the Pacific region, largely leaving it to Merkel and the Europeans to deal with the Ukraine crisis. What assistance he did provide came in the form of supporting sanctions against Russia and preventing Congressional hawks from further heating up the conflict by providing U.S. weapons deliveries to Kiev.

Trump has since announced that he wants to remove the tension in U.S. relations with [Russian President Vladimir] Putin. During the campaign, Trump indicated that he no longer felt obliged to NATO’s mutual defense clause. When asked by the *New York Times* whether the Baltic states would be defended against a Russian attack, the then-presidential candidate said in July it would depend on whether they had fulfilled their obligations to the United States.

In both the Chancellery and the Defense Ministry there is hope that not even Trump would dare to shake the pillars of the postwar order.

Spiegel noted that the German authorities respect Mr. Trump’s pick for secretary of defense, Gen. James Mattis. They hope he will change Mr. Trump’s mind on NATO. However, the extra uncertainty is pushing Europe together. Spiegel concluded:

So, what can be done? The recognition is slowly sinking in across the Continent that Europe in the past relied too heavily on the Americans and their military strength. At the EU summit in Brussels on December 15, Merkel and her colleagues agreed to transfer a bit of sovereignty in defense matters that they had spent decades guarding zealously.

More joint military operations are planned, more civilian interventions and possibly even a joint headquarters: Concerns about America’s possible pullback have hastened things that for years had seemed implausible. “I have to say,” Merkel announced after the meeting, “within only a few months, a considerable amount of cooperation has taken shape.” ...

If Europe were to close ranks, then Trump’s election would have at least one positive effect. During his time as secretary of state, Henry Kissinger once famously quipped, “Who do I call if I want to speak to Europe?” It’s possible that the EU may soon finally have such a number—thanks to Donald Trump.

This is exactly what we forecast in our article “[America’s Election and Europe’s New Order](#)” from the January issue of the *Trumpet* magazine.

Beware the Bavarians

ALTERNATIVE FOR DEUTSCHLAND WON’T BE TAKING OVER GERMANY any time soon, wrote senior fellow with the Institute of European Studies David Clay Large for *Foreign Policy*. Instead, the big rise

to watch is that of Bavaria and its party, the Christian Social Union:

The terror attack in Berlin has rekindled the civil war

between northern Germany and the land of lederhosen and Oktoberfest.

It's a testament to the strange contours of Germany's political landscape that, while the physical effects of the December 19 attack on a Berlin Christmas market have been based in the German capital, the center of the political fallout has been located some 360 miles southward. It's too early to know whether the vicious attack, committed by a Tunisian asylum-seeker, will change the trajectory of Germany's anti-immigrant far-right movements. But the attack's aftermath has already produced a consequential divide between northern Germany and the south, whose respective political elites have been engaged in a rivalry that long predates the present migration crisis.

In other words, anyone who wants to understand the political fights that loom in Germany's immediate future should probably spend less time studying the populist Alternative for Germany party (AfD) than the entrenched political establishment of the southern German state of Bavaria—familiar to foreigners as the home of Oktoberfest and lederhosen—and the idiosyncratic culture that sustains its heightening feud with Chancellor Angela Merkel.

That feud has been taking place within Germany's decades-old center-right alliance, between the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and its sister party, the Munich-based Christian Social Union (CSU), which fields candidates exclusively in Bavaria. In the immediate wake of the Berlin attack, before the assailant was even identified (much less killed by vigilant Italian police), Bavarian CSU boss Horst Seehofer declared, "We owe it to the victims ... and the entire population to rethink and re-justify our entire immigration and security policy." Merkel's CDU associates, by contrast, warned against jumping to conclusions and taking rash actions. Merkel herself expressed faith in the

investigation and promised, "We will find the strength to maintain the kind of Germany we want: free, together, and open."

The CSU-CDU standoff, however, is not merely the product of disagreements over immigration policy or sharp divergences in personality between the leading contenders. It is the latest manifestation in a two-century-old battle over leadership of the German region between north and south—or, more specifically, between Prussian Berlin and Bavarian Munich.

The article is well worth a read to anyone interested in German politics. It goes on to give a history of the tensions between Germany's southern power—Bavaria—and its military heart—Prussia. It concludes:

The stakes in this rivalry are thus quite high. The battle is not just over "the soul of the union [alliance]," as one commentator suggested, but over Merkel's ability to retain control in Berlin and, more broadly, over the nature of the German body-politic as it enters a crucial election year full of urgent challenges from within and without. It is highly unlikely that we are going to see a shift in capital location from Berlin to Munich anytime soon, but it may be possible, just possible, that if Merkel and the liberal-democratic policies she upholds fade from the scene, Germans could wake up one fine morning to find themselves governed by a far more folksy, and potentially far more conservative, chancellor, decked out in lederhosen.

The *Trumpet* has long pointed to leading members of Bavaria's CSU as potential strongmen of Germany. World events could soon bring this party and these men to greater prominence. For more on this, read our free e-book [A Strong German Leader Is Imminent](#).

My Struggle Selling More Than Expected

AN ANNOTATED EDITION OF ADOLF HITLER'S *MEIN KAMPF* WAS one of Germany's best-selling works of nonfiction in 2016. Its publisher said on January 3 that it was "overwhelmed" by the sales figures. About 85,000 copies of this edition of Hitler's anti-Semitic manifesto have been sold. The book, originally published in 1925, became a bestseller. By 1945, about 12 million Germans owned a copy.

More concerning is its popularity in Italy. [Euronews](#) reported:

Center-right daily Italian newspaper *Il Giornale*, based in northern Italy, came under fire in November 2016 for giving away free copies of the new *Mein Kampf* edition as a

supplement to the newspaper.

Il Giornale is based in Milan. Like Germany, the city is also seeing a resurgence of populist far-right politics in the form of the Lega Nord.

In December 2016, an Italian Ministry for Education survey to promote reading and measure which books are most popular among pupils, found *Mein Kampf* ranked in the top 10 books in 10 schools.

Alessandro Fusacchia, a ministry official speaking to the *Local*, said he suspects the appearance of the text was a "particularly nasty case" as students were asked to vote for Italian authors published after 2000.

German Police Accused of Racial Profiling

COLOGNE'S CHIEF OF POLICE DISMISSED CLAIMS OF RACIAL PROFILING after officers detained hundreds of men from North Africa. The men were detained as part of an effort to prevent a repeat of sexual assaults during New Year's festivities in the

German city a year ago. The police chief said today that law enforcement had orders to approach potential troublemakers. He added that the officers' actions prevented the escalation of a situation that could have resembled the one in 2015. He said almost

all of the 650 people detained for identity checks in the night from Saturday to Sunday were from North African countries.

The Cologne Police's politically incorrect response marks a major shift for the force that last year didn't want to admit that there was any problem. The shift goes further up to include Germany's political

system. Sigmar Gabriel, chairman of the leftwing Social Democratic Party, called the police's profiling "smart public safety."

"What else should the police do apart from stopping exactly that group of North Africans and preventing them from accessing Cologne's inner city?" he asked.

ASIA

T North Korean Long-range Missile Test? Trump Says 'It Won't Happen'

Jeremiah Jacques | January 7

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



NORTH KOREAN LEADER KIM JONG-UN BROUGHT IN THE NEW Year on Sunday by proclaiming that his nation has "reached the final stage in preparations to test launch" a KN-08 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

In the past, the North has tested short- and medium-range missiles but never a long-range ICBM, which could potentially reach the West Coast of the United States. Such a test would violate international law and, if successful, could pose a nuclear threat to America.

The following day, President-elect Donald Trump took to Twitter to address the North Korean statement. "North Korea just stated that it is in the final stages of developing a nuclear weapon capable of reaching parts of the U.S. It won't happen!" he wrote.

It is somewhat unclear whether Mr. Trump was saying the test itself "won't happen," or if he meant that the North reaching the U.S. with a nuclear weapon won't happen.

If he meant the first, the next few months could prove him wrong. [Pyongyang has repeatedly defied Washington](#) and the international community in its drive to develop nuclear and missile programs. It has conducted test after test in brash defiance of international law and United Nations resolutions. Preventing a future test would be difficult to accomplish without a preemptive military strike or a missile interception early in the test.

Jeffrey Lewis, director of the East Asia Nonproliferation Program told CNN on Tuesday, "North Korea will probably test the KN-08 this year, no matter what Trump tweets."

If Mr. Trump's tweet referred to a test, it could also be viewed as a red line that he might later be bound to, in a situation similar to U.S. President Barack Obama's 2012 red line warning the Syrian government against using chemical weapons.

"I think this could be something that comes back to haunt [Trump]," said James Acton, of the Nuclear Policy Program at Washington's Carnegie Endowment for International Peace think tank. "This was a foolhardy tweet for Trump to send given the enormous challenges of constraining North Korea's nuclear and missile programs."

If the North perceives the statement as a red line that is later ignored, analysts say it could intensify Kim Jong-un's push against the status quo. Frank Jannuzi, head of the Mansfield Foundation Asia dialogue forum, said in an interview with Reuters: "I worry ... that it only emboldens the North, because they see it for what it is: empty talk. It lays down a red line. ... We don't seem prepared to back up."

To understand the depth of the difficulties Mr. Trump's administration will face, read ["Can He Make America Great Again?"](#)

Follow Jeremiah Jacques

The Philippines' Shift Toward Russia, China Continues

TWO RUSSIAN WARSHIPS ARRIVED IN MANILA ON TUESDAY, MARKING the first ever navy-to-navy contact between the two nations. An antisubmarine craft and an ocean tanker arrived for what Russian officials have called a ["goodwill visit"](#) that will last four days. The Russians will demonstrate their antiterrorism capabilities and hold discussions about the possibility of joint maritime drills between the two sides. The Russians hope to train their Philippine counterparts in combatting terrorism and piracy.

The next day, Russia's ambassador to the Philippines said Moscow is prepared to provide Manila with advanced weaponry, including submarines and aircraft. Russian Ambassador Igor Anatolyevich Khovaev said [Russia is eager to build a warm friendship with the Philippines](#) as Manila continues its drive to diversify its foreign ties. "Russia is ready to become a new reliable partner and close friend of the Philippines," he said, adding that "Russia has a lot to offer, but

everything will be done in full compliance with international law."

Khovaev said the U.S. should not view Moscow's overtures to the Philippines as a threat: "Your traditional partners should not be concerned about the military ties. ... If they are concerned, it means they need to get rid of clichés," he said.

But the Agence France-Presse (AFP) is not so sure the Philippines' shift toward Asian states will not be to Washington's detriment: "The Philippines is seeking a ['strategic shift' away from the U.S. to 'normalize' relations with China](#)," it wrote on Monday.

Manila has been one of Washington's most loyal allies in Asia, but Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has threatened to end the decades-long alliance after the U.S. criticized his bloody war on drugs that has killed over 5,000 people since he took office in June.

His fiery rhetoric against the U.S. has been followed by overtures to China as he has sought to assuage Beijing's concerns over Manila's competing claims to the South China Sea.

The new Philippine ambassador to China, Jose "Chito" Sta. Romana, told AFP the move represented "a strategic shift in our foreign policy." "We were one-sidedly imbalanced in favor of the U.S.," he said. "We are not abandoning our alliance with the U.S. ... We are basically trying to normalize our relations with China."

Beijing claims most of the South China Sea despite competing claims from the Philippines and other Asian countries, but a UN-backed tribunal ruled in July that China's claims had no legal basis in a resounding victory for Manila. Duterte's decision to set aside the territorial conflict in exchange for Chinese investment and aid has given Beijing a boost in its quest for more control over the strategically vital waters.

Writing for IB Times on January 3, Andrew Josef said the Philippines' moves toward Russia and China may mean there is "a larger game afoot."

"Something is amiss in Southeast Asia, and it shouldn't sit well in the Beltway," he wrote.

He continued:

China Cautions Trump Against Escalating North Korea Situation

THE CHINESE LEADERSHIP DOES NOT APPRECIATE UNITED STATES President-elect Donald Trump's propensity to chime in on international issues with tweets they view as impulsive. *Time* wrote on [January 4](#), "For the closeted and choreographed Chinese Communist Party, Trump's impulsive accusations are a growing cause of consternation."

It continued:

China has hit back at Donald Trump's claim that Beijing isn't doing enough to rein in rogue state North Korea, cautioning the U.S. president-elect not to "escalate" an already tense situation on the Korean Peninsula through his liberal use of social media.

On Monday evening, Trump took to Twitter to deny North Korean leader Kim Jong-un's claim that his nation was in the "final stage" of developing a nuclear-armed ballistic missile capable of hitting the U.S. mainland. Trump then followed up with another tweet to say China wasn't doing enough to temper the young despot's belligerence.

It's easy to understand why the Chinese are wooing Duterte. If the Philippines finally agrees to domestically accept China's sovereignty of the Spratly Islands ... there's a high chance that countries like Vietnam will think twice before challenging Chinese claims to the numerous islands in the South China Sea.

Russia's ambitions, however, are a little more ambiguous. There may well be a covert concerted effort by both Russia and China to not so much destabilize the region, but rather restabilize it in their favor, seeing as the incoming U.S. president, Donald Trump, could be increasingly isolationist.

Russia may also fear Trump cutting Southeast and East Asia loose from the U.S.'s protective net, thereby allowing China to move in as lord and savior and exponentially increase its diplomatic and military heft in the region.

Despite assurances from Philippine and Russian officials, Manila's shift away from the United States toward Russia and China represents a loss for Washington. Malaysia also seems to be following the same pattern via China. The question now is which U.S. ally might be next to defect to Washington's rivals?

In response, China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a press briefing on Tuesday that ... "we hope all sides will avoid remarks and actions to escalate the situation."

Mr. Trump is right about China's reluctance to stop North Korea. Ninety percent of the North's trade is with China, and just this week, [China resumed imports of North Korean coal](#) after lifting a ban it had previously placed on them.

"How has the dangerous personality cult that rules over North Korea survived in the modern world for so long? How has such a spiteful, sadistic and emotionally unstable regime been allowed to develop and maintain nuclear weapons? How has a government that proudly commits crimes against humanity—torturing and enslaving tens of thousands—maintained its power for so long? Because mighty China has stood by the Kim dynasty for decades—like a big brother defending his dysfunctional, belligerent younger brother."

—theTrumpet.com, July 7, 2015

TW IN BRIEF

Cold War-like tensions: Tensions between Russia and America are surging toward Cold War levels. Various reports claim that Russian President Vladimir Putin is deploying missiles to the province of Kaliningrad. The province borders Poland, Belarus and Lithuania. Meanwhile, the Lithuanian Defense Ministry spokeswoman has said, "The United States was the first to offer additional safety assurance measures to the Baltic countries following the deterioration of the security situation in

the region after the annexation of the Crimea." The *New York Times* reports that the U.S. and its NATO allies will send approximately 1,200 soldiers each to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. U.S. President Barack Obama has also expelled 35 Russian diplomats from America. On top of that, Russia has been the target of repeated accusations regarding the alleged hacking of Democratic National Committee e-mails and the supposed sabotage of the U.S. presidential election.



God's Watchman

Gerald Flurry,
The Key of David | January 8

The Prophet Ezekiel described two end-time watchmen who had a powerful impact on the entire world. Learn the difference between a watchman of the people and a watchman chosen by God.



From Commander-in-Chief to Agitator-in-Chief

WE TALKED ABOUT THIS



PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S POST-PRESIDENCY PLANS HAVE drastically changed. Instead of nurturing the Democratic Party as an elder statesman, he'll be rebuilding it and defending his legacy from a Trump administration.

As British journalist Melanie Phillips pointed out in an article for the *Times*:

The outgoing president is poised to return to his Marxist roots and lead opposition to Trump.

Less than three weeks from now President Obama will leave office. One might assume that, as with his predecessors, he will take a back seat in public life, only surfacing to write his memoirs, rake in a few millions on the lecture circuit, and work on his golf handicap.

This may be to misunderstand him as badly out of office as in it. After Donald Trump's election, Mr. Obama promised distraught Democrats that "next year Michelle and I are going to be right there with you ... and we're going to be busy, involved in the amazing stuff that we've been doing all these years before."

Just vague aspirational waffle? Unlikely. For in his previous life, Barack Obama was a community organizer. It sounds benign enough. Organizing the community surely means doing good works to alleviate the hardship of the poor and disadvantaged? No.

The term "community organizer" has a specific meaning. It was coined by the radical Chicago activist Saul Alinsky, a Marxist who believed in capturing the culture as the most effective means of overturning Western society.

The way to do this, he said, was through "people's organizations" composed largely of discontented individuals who believed society was fundamentally unjust, and who would take their lead from trained community organizers. These organizers, taught Alinsky, should "rub raw the resentments of the people" and "agitate to the point of conflict"

while pretending to be middle-class folk in suits.

During his eight years in office, President Obama constantly incited divisions between social groups. He claimed men victimized women, whites victimized blacks, rich victimized poor, and courts victimized criminals.

As Phillips further pointed out:

The effect of such a climate of agitation extends much further than the Democratic Party. We've already seen it in the violent anti-Trump demonstrations and harassment of Republican voters; the Black Lives Matter riots with their calls for "dead cops" and the lynching of white people; the refusal of athletes to stand for the American national anthem.

This type of rage-driven class struggle comes straight from the pages of the *Communist Manifesto*. As Saul Alinsky's son David noted in a 2008 letter to the *Boston Globe*, "Barack Obama's training in Chicago by the great community organizers is showing its effectiveness. It is an amazingly powerful format, and the method of my late father always works to get the message out and get the supporters on board."

Unless something is done to heal the deep ideological differences in America, the protests and riots currently engulfing America's cities will only escalate as professional agitators fan tensions. As *Trumpet* editor in chief Gerald Flurry writes in his booklet *Great Again*:

Mr. Obama is *not* the person most people think he is. He has a manufactured persona that he wants you to see. It is stunning how much and how often the government of this land is exposed for being deceitful. Everything revolves around *deceit*. Americans have practically come to accept this as a fact of politics today—but it is deeply disturbing and will have dangerous consequences!

Bernie Sanders Announces Anti-Trump Protests

FIVE DAYS BEFORE DONALD TRUMP IS SWORN INTO OFFICE, SEN. BERNIE SANDERS and his allies will be protesting against his agenda.

According to an [AlterNet](#) article by Alexandra Rosenmann:

“On January 15, for the first time in the modern history of the Democratic Party, Democrats are going to be organizing rallies all across this country in opposition to the Republican budget, which calls for throwing 30 million people off of health care, taking their insurance away, ... privatizing Medicare, making massive cuts in Medicaid, and at the same time giving tax breaks to the wealthy,” Sanders told MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow in a January 3 interview.

Sanders, a strong advocate of universal health care on the campaign trail, blasted Republicans for their persistence in attempting to repeal the Affordable Care Act without offering any specific alternatives. Sanders also

praised new Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer as well as Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) for spearheading leadership in the Democratic Party.

Bernie Sanders, an open socialist who stirred up a far-left populist movement of his own when running against Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination, also *encouraged* the protests that erupted immediately after the November 8 election. Dozens were arrested during these protests as people burned an American flag in Salt Lake City, torched a papier-mâché effigy of the president-elect in Los Angeles, threw rocks at police in Indianapolis, and blocked traffic in Miami.

T Kerry Excuses America's Anti-Israel Policy

Kieren Underwood | January 2

WHEN THE UNITED STATES ABSTAINED FROM VETOING AN anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolution on December 23, there was no official explanation as to why. “[F]riends don’t take friends to the Security Council,” Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said. Five days later, U.S. Secretary of State John [Kerry gave the official explanation](#) in a speech over an hour long: “Friends need to tell each other the hard truths.”

For Mr. Kerry, “the two-state solution is now in serious jeopardy,” and the U.S. “could not, in good conscience, stand in the way of a resolution at the United Nations that makes clear that both sides must act now to preserve the possibility of peace.”

According to Secretary Kerry, the United States could not “stand in the way” of Resolution 2334, which declares Israeli homes in the West Bank and East Jerusalem illegal. But America also wasn’t bold enough to actually vote for it.

Secretary Kerry did make sure to give the appearance of balance: “There is absolutely no justification for terrorism”; Hamas

“refuse[s] to accept Israel’s very right to exist.” Prime Minister Netanyahu countered in his official response:

Secretary Kerry paid lip service to the unrelenting campaign of terrorism that has been waged by the Palestinians against the Jewish state for nearly a century.

What he did was to spend most of his speech blaming Israel for the lack of peace by passionately condemning a policy of enabling Jews to live in their historic homeland and in their eternal capital, Jerusalem.

Israel will likely refuse to comply with the demands on its settlements as long as Netanyahu is prime minister, which means America’s support of Resolution 2334 is mostly symbolic. The method is familiar: Make a change, and say there is no change. Rinse and repeat. You can read more about this in the March 2016 *Trumpet* article “[What Inspires President Obama’s Relationship With Israel?](#)”

Russian Dissident Warns of Trump-Putin Alliance

RUSSIAN DISSIDENT GARRY KASPAROV WARNED THIS WEEK THAT the world could be “entering a very dark age” unless President-elect Donald Trump stands up to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

According to a [Yahoo News](#) article:

In an interview with Yahoo News chief investigative correspondent Michael Isikoff, Kasparov said that Putin and his top aides, including Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, are eagerly anticipating Trump’s presidency because they believe he will cut a “grand bargain” with Russia that will expand its sphere of influence.

“They are all waiting for Trump,” Kasparov said. “They believe Trump will change everything ... and [give] in to all of Putin’s demands—recognizing Russian annexation of Crimea,” as well as undercutting NATO and “sacrificing the Baltic states.”

“I think that’s a crime,” Kasparov added. “Unless the

United States is willing to restore the balance, we are entering a very dark age.”

Editor in chief Gerald Flurry wrote in the February 2017 issue of the *Trumpet*:

Putin is setting a deadly trap for President Trump, just as he did for Barack Obama. ...

America should not even be negotiating with Putin until he stops fighting alongside the world’s worst terrorists. These terrorists are dedicated most of all to destroying America, the Jewish state and anybody else who gets in their way.

The Bible states that we have lost our “natural affection” for human rights and true freedom. If we have any morality left, *how can we cozy up to such murderous monsters?*

The fact that we do, speaks volumes about America and its values!

God commissioned America, Britain and the Jewish state to be champions for freedom throughout the world. That is the Bible's message. How many of America's leaders

ever bring God and His Bible message into the picture—as our forefathers did?

Therein lies our only hope.

Canada Predicted to Drop Off List of Top 10 Economies

A UNITED KINGDOM THINK TANK SAYS THE CANADIAN ECONOMY will soon be overtaken by South Korea. According to an article in *Global News*:

The analysis from the Center for Economics and Business Research, published in cooperation with Global Construction Perspectives, estimates Canada's gross domestic product will be worth \$1.635 trillion next year.

That would put Canada's GDP just ahead of South Korea, ranked No. 11.

But by the end of 2019, the think tank says Canada will be

knocked to 11th spot by South Korea—in current U.S. dollars.

It also forecasts Canada's ranking will drop to No. 12 on the World Economic League Table by 2030—when the United States will drop to No. 2, from the top spot that it has held for decades, by China.

God prophesied in Deuteronomy 28:44 that foreign countries would overtake modern Israel, including the United States and British Commonwealth, financially: "He shall lend to thee, and thou shalt not lend to him: he shall be the head, and thou shalt be the tail."

TW IN BRIEF

Police to charge suspects in Chicago beating: Chicago police arrested four teenagers Wednesday after a gruesome video of a man being beaten and tortured was posted on Facebook Live. The four black assailants shouted racist statements about white people and President-elect Donald Trump as they beat the white victim. Charges are expected soon, Chicago police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said. He acknowledged that the suspects made "terrible racist statements" during the assault, but that investigators believe the victim may have been targeted because he was mentally handicapped. Guglielmi said it's also possible the suspects were trying to extort something from the victim's family.

Chicago's bloody year: The city of Chicago ended 2016 with its highest homicide count in two decades. A total of 762 people were killed in Chicago throughout 2016, more than New York and Los Angeles combined. In 2015, 485 people were killed across the city. The increase in homicides is the largest one-year spike the city has seen in over 60 years. The city also witnessed 1,100 more shooting incidents over 2015. Chicago's police superintendent Eddie Johnson has blamed public anger at police and the city's broken justice system as the main contributors to the increase in violence.

Torrents of new regulations: The administration of United States President Barack Obama issued 3,852 new federal regulations in 2016. That equates to 18 regulations per each of the 211 laws passed by Congress this year. Only President George W. Bush has ever issued more regulations in a single year. Most of that took place immediately after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Federal Register printed a record-setting 97,110 pages in total for the 3,852 federal regulations. Some of the regulations will cost billions of dollars. President-elect Donald Trump has promised to slash two federal rules for every one he imposes. Congressional leaders have made similar promises.

U.S. gun-sales record: Gun sales in America rose to record levels in 2016, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI just revealed that it ran background checks prior to gun sales 27,538,673 times last year. That's 4 million more than the 2015 total and nearly double the total from President Barack Obama's inaugural year. FBI background check numbers exclude guns sold to or given to friends and family members. Analysts speculated that increased gun sales were the result of more terrorist attacks and the possibility of a Hillary Clinton presidency. Clinton had promised to double down on the Obama administration's efforts to impose gun-control measures.



The Most Important Book Since the Bible

Stephen Flurry, *Trumpet Daily* | January 6

And it can be yours—at no cost or obligation to you!

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