



# PROPHETIC TIMES

WEEKLY WORLD NEWS UPDATE

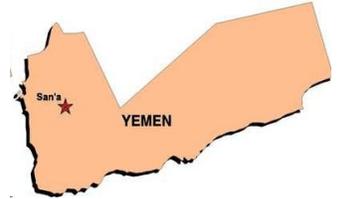
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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## SAUDI JETS BOLSTER US DRONE ATTACKS ON YEMEN: REPORT

*January 4, 2012* AFP reported: "Saudi Arabia has provided fighter jets to assist the United States with its drone strikes against Al-Qaeda targets in Yemen, the London Times reported on Friday.

US drones are backing Yemeni forces combating militants of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). The group's Yemen branch is considered by Washington to be the most active and deadliest franchise of the global jihadist network. The Times cited a US intelligence source as saying that "some of the so-called drone missions are actually Saudi Air Force missions".



US drone attacks in Yemen nearly tripled in 2012 compared to 2011, according to the Washington-based think tank New America Foundation, and for the first time totaled more than in Pakistan last year."

## CHAVEZ: RUMOURS CIRCULATE THAT HE HAS DIED

*January 2, 2013* DailyMail.co.uk reported: "Venezuela's opposition has demanded the government tell 'the whole truth' about the health of cancer-stricken President Hugo Chavez, who has not been heard from in three weeks after undergoing a gruelling operation in Cuba. Officials have acknowledged the usually garrulous former soldier's health is delicate after his fourth cancer surgery in 18 months, but they have offered scant details on his condition despite rumours that he has died.

Ramon Aveledo, head of the opposition Democratic Unity coalition, slammed the government for not keeping its word about keeping Venezuelans properly informed."...Sources at the hospital in Cuba where he is being treated this week told a Spanish newspaper in an induced coma being kept alive by life support he was showing 'very weak' vital signs, adding that doctors could decide to switch off the machines 'at any moment'.

Vice President Nicolas Maduro, whom Chavez last month designated as his heir apparent, said in an interview from Havana that Chavez had recognized the complexity of his post-operative condition."..."

## HOLLANDE'S MILLIONAIRE TAX STRUCK DOWN

*December 31, 2012* EU Observer reported: "French president Francois Hollande suffered a major political blow over the weekend when his flagship policy to heavily tax the very rich was struck down.

The Constitutional Council on Saturday (29 December) ruled that the tax - 75 percent for those earning over one million euros a year - was unconstitutional because it taxed individuals rather than households. The loss of the tax, which would only have applied to around 1,500 individuals, is more politically than fiscally important."..."

## NETANYAHU QUOTES BIBLE TO WARN OF HAMAS COUP IN RAMALLAH

*January 2, 2013* Arutz Sheva reported: "Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu quoted this week's Torah reading, which states, 'Now There Arose a New King Over Egypt' and warned of a Hamas takeover of Ramallah.

At a meeting of the Bible Circle held by the Prime Minister in memory of his late father-in-law, he said, 'Like then, like today. In Egypt, the regime has been replaced, in Syria the regime is being shaken and this could also happen in the Palestinian Authority areas in Judea and Samaria. Everyone knows that Hamas could take over the Palestinian Authority. It could happen after an agreement, it could happen before an agreement, like it happened in Gaza.'

Without mentioning President Shimon Peres by name, Prime Minister Netanyahu referred to the President's remarks on Sunday, when he urged Israel to resume peace talks with PA Chairman Mahmoud Abbas. The President called him a willing peace partner with whom an agreement could be reached.

Netanyahu said, 'Therefore, as opposed to the voices that I have heard recently urging me to run forward, make concessions, [and] withdraw, I think that the diplomatic process must be managed responsibly and sagaciously and not in undue haste. Otherwise a third base for Iranian terrorism will arise here, in the heart of the country. Peace can be achieved only when security is assured.'

On Monday, Peres added to the controversy surrounding his statements on government policy, an area traditionally out of the realm of the President, who is supposed to be above partisan political views, especially during an election campaign."..."

His remarks actually were nothing new, but they attracted more attention than usual because Israelis go to the polls in 20 days to elect a new Knesset."

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## **MORSI AIDE: ISRAEL WILL CEASE TO EXIST WITHIN DECADE**

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*January 2, 2013* Israel National News reported: "Deputy head of the Muslim Brotherhood's political arm in Egypt, the Freedom and Justice Party, announced Tuesday that Israel would cease to exist by the end of the decade.

Essam el-Erian, who serves an advisor to Egyptian president Mohammed Morsi, had attempted to dispel a recent controversy over comments he made in an interview last week, in which he invited Egyptian born Jews to return to the country.

In an interview with the Saudi-backed newspaper Al-Sharq al-Awsat, Erian said that the 'ideology of Zionism' had ended in failure and denounced Israel as 'Palestine's occupiers.'

'Jewish occupiers of the territory of historic Palestine are an obstacle to the Palestinians' right of return,' he said. 'Anyone who can read the future can see that this project has a decade, less than a decade to go, and it is our faith that the people of Palestine can then return to Palestine.'

'There will be no such thing as Israel,' he continued, 'instead there will be Palestine which will be home to Jews, Muslims and Druze and all the people who were there from the start.'

'Those who want to stay will stay as Palestinian citizens. Those who conquered Palestine will have to go back to their countries,' he added. All but a handful of the Egyptian Jewish community, which once amounted to a approximately 80,000, left the country after the Israel-Egypt wars of 1948, 1956 and 1967- the majority of whom returned to Israel."

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## **NETANYAHU: WE'RE BUILDING A DIGITAL IRON DOME**

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*January 1, 2013* The Jerusalem Post reported: "Israel is building a 'digital Iron Dome,' Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said at the opening ceremony of a new national program to train young people for cyberwarfare Tuesday.

'Israel's vital systems are under attack from Iran and other elements. This will only increase as we enter the digital age,' Netanyahu stressed, speaking at the Ashkelon Academic College.

'We are bolstering our ability to deal with these threats via the Israel National Cyber Bureau (INCB) that we established,' the prime minister added.

'To the outstanding pupils that are studying in the special program, I say: 'You are the future interceptors for the State of Israel.' We are one of the world's leaders in the field of cybernetics and we must maintain this position....'"

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## **IRAN BLASTS OBAMA FOR LATIN AMERICA LAW**

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*January 01, 2013* Agence France Presse: "Iran on Tuesday blasted US President Barack Obama for enacting a law aimed at countering Tehran's alleged influence in Latin America, saying it was an overt intervention in the region. "It is an overt intervention in Latin American affairs... that shows they are not familiar with new world relations," Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast told reporters. The United States, he said, "still lives in the Cold War era and considers Latin America as its back yard". "We recommend that they respect the nations' right in today's world... world public opinion does not accept such an interventionist move."..."



Mehmanparast said Tehran's relation with all nations, in particular with Latin American countries, was "friendly" based on "mutual respect and interest".

On Friday, Obama enacted the law which through a new diplomatic and political strategy to be designed by the State Department is aimed to counter Iran's alleged influence in Latin America. The Countering Iran in the Western Hemisphere Act, passed by lawmakers earlier in 2012, calls for the department to develop a strategy within 180 days to "address Iran's growing hostile presence and activity" in the region.

The text also calls on the Department of Homeland Security to bolster surveillance at US borders with Canada and Mexico to "prevent operatives from Iran, the IRGC (Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps), its Quds Force, Hezbollah or any other terrorist organisation from entering the United States".

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## **IRANIAN NAVY TESTS SHORT RANGE CRUISE MISSILES IN VELAYAT 91 DRILLS**

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*December 31, 2012* The Fars News Agency reported: "The Iranian Navy test-fired the smart short-range coast-to-sea and sea-to-sea 'Nasr' (Victory) cruise missiles on the fourth day of its exercises underway in the country's Southern waters. During the drills on Monday, the advanced Nasr cruise missile tested by the naval forces hit and destroyed the target with high precision.

The smart Nasr missile is viewed as a good complement for Iran's coastal defense units which are equipped with various types of missiles and artillery systems. Military experts believe that Nasr increases the Navy's targeting capabilities in any possible confrontation with those enemy vessels infiltrating the country's territorial waters. 'Nasr 1' cruise missile is capable of destroying 3-ton weighted vessels."..."

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