

This Week's Developments

October 8 - 14, 2023 [[> go to Supplemental Slides](#)]

- Babies killed in Hamas attacks as death toll over 1200
- This is a dangerous moment in Israel-Hamas war
- US/UK send navy ships and planes to support Israel
- Putin compares Israel actions to Nazi Germany
- Oil prices rise following Hamas attack on Israel
- Russia-Iran axis is fomenting war in the Middle East
- *Additional & Supporting Articles*

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Hamas slaughtered babies and children in kibbutz massacre

Daily Telegraph, October 10, 2023



EVENT

Hamas killed babies and children in a massacre discovered by Israeli soldiers on Tuesday in one of the last villages to be recaptured from the terrorist group. Dozens of dead civilians were found in the kibbutz of Kfar Aza on Tuesday, with soldiers at the scene comparing the murders to the Nazi pogroms of the Second World War. Many of the victims had their hands bound and some bodies had been burned beyond recognition. The death toll of Israeli civilians rose to over 1000 with more than 100 victims discovered in Be'ri kibbutz, known as a centre for pro-Palestine activists and the Israeli peace movement. "It is not a war. It is not a battlefield," said IDF Major General Itai Veruv at the scene. **"You see the babies, the mothers, the fathers in their bedrooms, in their protection rooms, and how the terrorists killed them was not a war, not a battle. It's a massacre."** Joe Biden, the US president, compared the actions of Hamas to Islamic State and described the group as "pure, unadulterated evil".

COMMENT

The 7th October 2023 (the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles) will be etched in Israel's calendar as one of the most horrific since it was established as a nation in 1948. The unimaginable brutality and sickening violence against babies, women and civilians is so shocking that even the Hamas leadership is trying to distance itself now from what happened. Benjamin Netanyahu has said this is now war and that Hamas will be totally destroyed and removed from the face of the earth. Such was the horror of last weekend's attack and such was the surprise of it that Israel feels no choice but to remove Hamas once and for all. The Bible says this will happen. Psalm 83 says that Israel's surrounding enemies will become like Sisera- he was killed with a tent peg....

BIBLE QUOTE

They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom....., **Do unto them as unto the Midianites; as to Sisera....** Judges 5:26 says **Sisera was killed with a tent peg through his head...** (Psalm 83:4-5+9)

This is a dangerous moment in Israel-Hamas war - and the rest of the world is holding its breath

Sky News, October 13, 2023



We might think we've seen it all before - airstrikes, flattened buildings, funerals, inflamed rhetoric on both sides. But make no mistake, this time is different. **And what happens next is hugely important for the region and the world. It is a dangerous moment.** Black Saturday, as the Israelis call it, has changed everything - for now at least. Rightly or wrongly, Israeli officials believe the threat this time may become existential. That fear will determine what they do next. That may seem over the top. However horrendous and barbaric, the attacks were limited to one small area and Israel is a mighty country with powerful friends. But what happened that day has undermined the mystique of Israel's military superiority. Its deterrence is hugely weakened and that could destabilise the region to the point of much wider conflict. Since its inception, Israel has tried to project strength to survive among neighbours who want to destroy it. But on Saturday, Israeli soldiers were slaughtered in their beds. Videos filmed by Hamas seen across this region show Israelis in uniform begging for mercy, or lying dead.

COMMENT

There is one overriding priority for Israel - to restore the power of its military deterrence. Everything else will be secondary. Its own rules of engagement have changed. It needed something this horrific to make this happen. Zephaniah 2 might be being fulfilled in events we are watching. We read of the day of the Lord's anger. And in that day Gaza is forsaken and Ashkelon a desolation. Woe to the inhabitants of the sea coast – the land of the Philistines (Gaza Strip). They are all destroyed. Zechariah 12 speaks of Israel's nearby enemies being burned up but Jerusalem remaining secure. We are looking for the inner ring war where all Israel's nearby enemies are totally destroyed.

BIBLE QUOTE

On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves. They will consume all the **surrounding peoples** right and left, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place. **Zechariah 12 speaks of "surrounding" or "nearby" or "round about" peoples who are destroyed and Jerusalem remains intact...this is the inner ring war...** *(Zechariah 12:6 NIV)*

US / UK to send navy ships and spy planes to support Israel

Guardian, October 12, 2023



EVENT

Britain will send surveillance aircraft, two Royal Navy support ships and about 100 Royal Marines to the eastern Mediterranean from Friday to support Israel and help prevent any sudden escalation of fighting in the Middle East. Patrol flights of Poseidon P-8 aircraft and other planes will begin on Friday, Downing St announced, tasked partly with monitoring any efforts to transfer of weapons from countries such as Iran or Russia to Hezbollah in Lebanon. **Within hours of the horrific attack by Hamas, the U.S. began moving warships and aircraft to the region to be ready to provide Israel with whatever it needed to respond.** A second U.S. carrier strike group departs from Norfolk, Virginia, on Friday. Scores of aircraft are heading to U.S. military bases around the Middle East. Special operations forces are now assisting Israel's military in planning and intelligence. The first shipment of additional munitions has already arrived.

COMMENT

The build-up of the US and UK forces in the Med reflects concern that the deadly fighting between Hamas and Israel could escalate into a more dangerous regional conflict. So the primary mission for those ships and warplanes is to establish a force presence that deters Hezbollah, Iran or others from taking advantage of the situation. With Bible in hand we see Tarshish and the young lions (US / Canada etc) moving quickly to try to defend Israel. They may well play some role in defeating Israel's nearby enemies in the inner ring war. When the outer ring war happens (Ezekiel 38) and Russia and Iran invade they will be powerless to stop it. The inner ring war will see Israel win but left weakened. There will be a cry of peace/safety after the inner ring war.

BIBLE QUOTE

In future years **you will invade a land that has recovered from war**, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and **now all of them live in safety.** **Another version says "Israel will be enjoying peace after recovering from war"** That war is the inner ring war! (Ezekiel 38:8 NIV)

Putin compares Israel actions to Nazi Germany

Daily Telegraph, October 13, 2023



EVENT

Vladimir Putin on Friday compared Israel to Nazi Germany as he turned on old ally Benjamin Netanyahu. The Russian president said Israel's blockade of Gaza ahead of an expected ground offensive against Hamas was "unacceptable". Israel has been pounding Gaza with air strikes and artillery, with some 300,000 troops stationed on the border in anticipation for a ground operation. Putin said this was comparable to Nazi forces' siege of Leningrad between September 1941 and January 1944, when at least 750,000 of the city's civilians starved to death. The Russian leader's comments are likely to strain tensions between Moscow and Israel, as the Middle Eastern nation responds to a surprise terrorist attack by Hamas that has killed at least 1,600 people.

COMMENT

As one article put it this week - ***"There was only one real winner last Saturday when war broke out in Israel — Russian President Vladimir Putin."*** We don't know yet how much Putin could have been behind the attacks on Israel by Hamas. We do know Iran would have been behind them and helped and supported them. We also know that Russia backs Iran and helps and supports them - especially since the Ukraine war. We also know that this war will definitely help Putin. As Steve Rosenberg wrote this week (BBC Russia correspondent) ***"Moscow is counting on dramatic headlines from Israel to divert attention from Russia's war in Ukraine. The Russian authorities are also hoping that, as a result of the situation in the Middle East, some Western arms supplies to Ukraine will be redirected to Israel."*** A conflict in the Middle East will stretch US forces which weakens them – which strengthens Putin. A war with Israel is in his interests right now. Gog rises up when rebels (Hamas?) are fully wicked....

BIBLE QUOTE

In the latter part of their reign, **when rebels have become completely wicked**, a fierce-looking king, a master of intrigue, will arise. He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. **Rebels is often used in relation to Israel's nearby enemies – Edom, Moab – they become completely wicked...** (Daniel 8:23 NIV)

Oil prices rise following Hamas attack on Israel

BBC, October 11, 2023



EVENT

Oil prices have jumped on concerns that the situation in Israel and Gaza could disrupt output from the Middle East Brent crude, the international benchmark, climbed by \$2.25 a barrel to \$86.83, while US prices also rose. Israel and Palestinian territories are not oil producers but the Middle Eastern region accounts for almost a third of global supply. Energy analyst Saul Kavonic told the BBC that global oil prices have risen "due to the prospect of a wider conflagration that could spread to nearby major oil-producing nations such as Iran and Saudi Arabia". Mr Kavonic said that about a fifth of global supply would be "held hostage" if passage through the Strait of Hormuz, a vital oil trading route is disrupted. The Strait of Hormuz is crucial for the main oil exporters in the Gulf region, whose economies are built around oil and gas production.

COMMENT

As well as expecting Hezbollah to join the conflict (as the inhabitants of Tyre in Psalm 83) we also expect Iran to create increasing trouble as well. Iran has threatened to lay siege to the Strait of Hormuz. 20% of the entire world's oil supply is shipped through this narrow stretch of water which is bordered by Saudi Arabia and Iran. The turmoil this would cause on the world's energy markets is hard to underestimate. If the Israel conflict gets worse and the surrounding people are dragged in then it is highly possible Iran could inflict damage to the world through besieging this area. Incredibly the Bible says this will happen in Isaiah 21. We read of a treacherous deal being done and then Elam and Media rising up and besieging "the desert of the sea". Elam borders the Strait of Hormuz. The desert of the sea therefore is this area. Iran will besiege and they have said they will do so. Isaiah saw a great time of trouble for the world when this happens.

BIBLE QUOTE

The burden of the desert of the sea. As whirlwinds in the south pass through; so it cometh from the desert, from a terrible land. A grievous vision is declared unto me; the treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth. Go up, O Elam: besiege, O Media; all the sighing thereof have I made to cease.

(Isaiah 21:1-2)

The Russia-Iran axis is fomenting war in the Middle East

Daily Telegraph, October 9, 2023



EVENT Russia and Iran, united by mutual geopolitical, military and economic interests as well as a determination to oppose US influence, have good reason to destabilise the Middle East by enabling Palestinian aggression against Israel at this particular time. Iran wants to disrupt Israel's burgeoning relationships with Arab countries and especially diplomatic normalisation between Israel and Saudi Arabia, which appeared to be drawing closer in the days before this war. That might now be put on hold with Crown Prince Muhammed Bin Salman likely fearful of Arab street protests as Israel is forced to defend its people, probably with a ground offensive into Gaza. For Russia, a key element of Putin's strategy is to wear down the vital Western support that has helped keep Ukraine in the fight, and to open up division among donor nations. Moscow sees violence in the Middle East as an effective way to divert US political bandwidth from the Ukraine war, as well as military resources.

COMMENT The Russia-Iran axis symbolises a growing challenge for the West as emerging totalitarian alliances work to undermine the democratic order. For Russia, a key element of Putin's strategy is to wear down Western support that has helped keep Ukraine in the fight, and to open up division among donor nations. Moscow sees violence in the Middle East as an effective way to divert US political bandwidth from the Ukraine war, as well as military resources. The Bible says that Russia and Iran will be allied against Israel. We can see how everything is aligning as God said it would. Surely current events are what we have been waiting for for so long. We watch to see if the inner ring war develops....

BIBLE QUOTE And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet:
(Ezekiel 38:4-5)

ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

DebkaFile Review (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence) **TV-7 Israel News** **Watchman Newscast**

2023-10-14 London streets filled by pro-Palestinian demonstrators - 4.0 min - YouTube

2023-10-14 Israel-Palestine war- Israel reeling under pressure as it readies for ground invasion - WION - 4.3 min - YouTube

2023-10-14 Israeli military says it's preparing to expand attacks on Gaza - 4.20 min- YouTube

2023-10-14 Israel ELIMINATES Hamas Terror Leader; To INVADE Gaza by -Air, Sea & Land- - Watchman 34.03 min - YouTube

2023-10-14 Hezbollah fires 30 mortars, IDF hits anti-tank team in latest Lebanon border clashes - The Times of Israel

2023-10-13 Support For Netanyahu Plummet Since Outbreak Of Fighting, Poll Finds - I24NEWS

2023-10-13 Putin is ready to take advantage of Israel-Gaza war, says Steve Rosenberg - BBC News

2023-10-12 Mohammed Deif- The Hamas Mastermind Behind Saturday's Terror Attack - Vantage - 5.35 min - YouTube

2023-10-10 World Bank chief says Gaza conflict is economic shock 'we don't need' - Reuters

2023-10-10 Russia says it's talking to both Israel and Palestinians as Putin blames failure of US policy - Reuters

2023-10-09 Israel-Hamas war forces Biden and Netanyahu into uneasy partnership - Reuters

2013-10-10 Middle East crisis tests limits of China's diplomatic push - Reuters

2023-10-08 Shooting From Lebanon Into Northern Israel, IDF Responds With Artillery - I24NEWS

2023-10-07 World reaction to surprise attack by Palestinian Hamas on Israel - Israel-Palestine conflict News - Al Jazeera

2023-10-07 What to know as conflict erupts between Hamas and Israel after deadly attack, retaliation - PBS NewsHour

2023-10-07 What happened in Israel- A breakdown of how Hamas attack unfolded - Israel-Palestine conflict News - Al Jazeera

2023-10-07 Massive IDF call-up as gunfights continue in towns; 300 Israelis dead, rockets persist - The Times of Israel

2023-10-07 Israel-Palestine Conflict- Iran expected reaction Al Jazeera English - 5.13 min - YouTube

2023-10-07 Israeli settlers storm Al-Aqsa Mosque complex on fifth day of Sukkot - Israel-Palestine conflict News - Al Jazeera

Animated Map - Indo-European migrations - File-Indo-European migrations.gif - Wikipedia

NATO PRESENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE



- Frankish Territory in 481
- Conquests of Clovis 481-511
- Conquests 531-614
- Conquests 714-768
- Conquests of Charlemagne 768-814
- Dependent territories
- Peoples tributary to Charlemagne
- Kingdom of Siagrius in 486
- Visigothic kingdom of Toulouse in 507
- Boundaries of the empire in 814



Carolingian Empire 481-814



2) Gog (Russia) advances on Turkey, Egypt *



RUSSIA ("CHIEF PRINCE" = "PRINCE OF ROSH")

○ TOBOLSK (Tubal)

○ MOSCOW (Meshech)

"LION"
TARSHISH
UK

GERMANY
(LAND OF
MAGOG)

GOMER
European Economic Community

"YOUNG LIONS"
(USA,
CANADA,
ETC)

Gibraltar

TURKEY
(Togarmah)

IRAQ/IRAN
(Persia)

INDIA

LIBYA

DEDAN

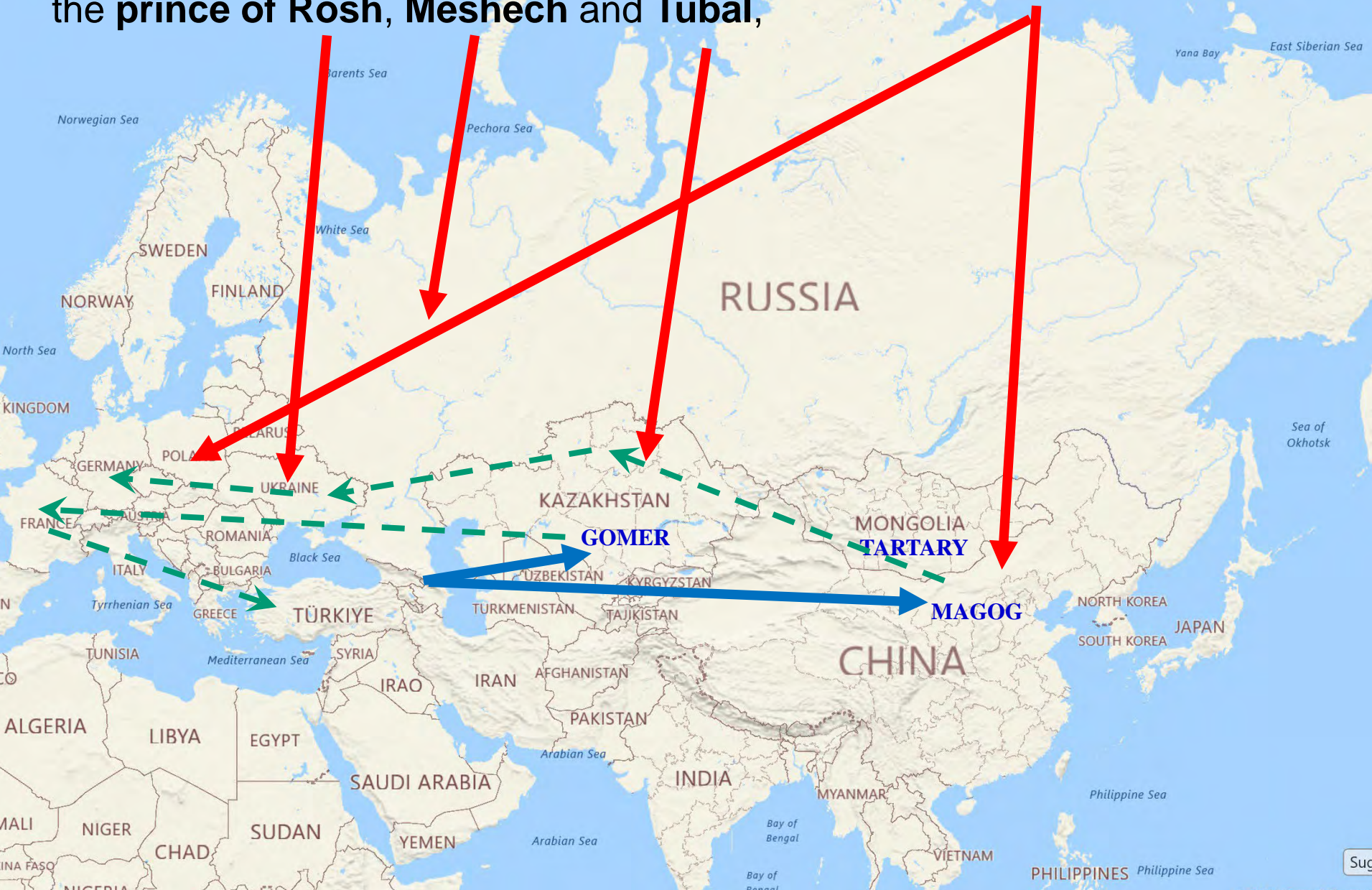
SHEBA

ETHIOPIA

AUSTRALIA

Legend HandOut

"Son of man, set your face toward **Gog of the land of Magog,**
the **prince of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal,**



"Son of man, set thy face against Gog (head), of the land of Magog (China?), prince of Ros (river in Ukraine) Meshech and Tubal (rivers in Russia)"?

Oct 12, 2023 update, Israeli time.

Front #1. On Wednesday, the fighting on the ground within the Israeli borders took place only on Zikkim Beach not far from Ashkelon. The distant rocket attacks from Gaza remain constant but sporadic. Rishon LeZion was attacked on Wednesday again. This morning, the rockets were fired as far as Ariel in the West Bank and Herzliya north of Tel Aviv. Currently, the shelling and rocket attacks within 15 km of the border are still taking place regularly. The Israeli army secured the border with Gaza but did not yet cross the border into Gaza. Among Israeli hostages who were taken to the Gaza Strip, 81 were identified. The number of missed persons was currently reduced from 130+ to 100+. Kibbutz Kfar Aza, 5 km from the border, was inspected after being retaken. Out of 700 settlers, 200 were killed, all civilians (TV report).

Front #2. The situation on the northern border (Hizballah in Lebanon) remained tense. Wednesday evening, several drones crossed the Lebanese border into Israel and were neutralized. The open war with Lebanon has not started yet, but several northern settlements were partially evacuated. Artillery duels took place across the border. The border with Syria also requires attention now because some nongovernmental fighters opened fire across the border.

Front #3. Several military operations took place inside Judea and Samaria, including the cities of Hebron and Nablus. The main fighting took place in Jenin. The fighting goes not against the Palestinian Autonomy but against the HAMAS groups and cells residing there. In general, the situation at the West Bank is controlled.

Home Front & ecclesia. Israeli citizens rushed to supermarkets, but the food supply remained adequate except for bottled drinking water. According to permanently updated official reports, the number of Israeli wounded people in hospitals was reduced from 3000 to 442; of them, 105 are in serious condition. The rest were slightly wounded or in a state of shock, and were discharged. Dead: 1300+ and counting, including 189 soldiers. All schools, and universities remain closed, but some kindergartens were reopened to let people go to work. Some of the businesses, including my private international school and those where Ashdod B&S work are also closed. The whole first semester (September – December) was cancelled at my school, and all American students returned back to the USA. To the moment, there are no casualties among B&S of the Israeli ecclesia and no missed persons. All B&S residing in Ashdod gathered together in one home with the best bomb shelter.

Love in the Lord, Michael



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Terrorist infiltration: Maaleh Ephraim

13/10/2023 - 21:36:44

12 Comments



Terrorist infiltration: Beitar Illit

13/10/2023 - 21:18:02

3 Comments



Rockets Attack: Ashdod - Gimmel, Vav, Zain

13/10/2023 - 21:04:04

4 Comments



Rockets Attack: Ashdod - Het, Tet, Yod, Yod Gimmel, Yod Dalet, Te*

13/10/2023 - 21:03:13

1 Comments



Rockets Attack: Ashdod - Alef, Bet, Dalet, Heh

13/10/2023 - 21:03:13

1 Comments



Rockets Attack: Kissufim

13/10/2023 - 21:01:34

4 Comments



Rockets Attack: Nir Galim

13/10/2023 - 21:00:58

1 Comments



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Rockets Attack: Ashdod - Het, Tet, Yod, Yod Gimmel, Yod Dalet, Te*

13/10/2023 - 21:03:13

1 Comments



Rockets Attack: Ashdod - Alef, Bet, Dalet, Heh

13/10/2023 - 21:03:13

1 Comments



Rockets Attack: Kissufim

13/10/2023 - 21:01:34

4 Comments



Rockets Attack: Nir Galim

13/10/2023 - 21:00:58

1 Comments



Rockets Attack: Zikim

13/10/2023 - 21:00:13

2 Comments



Rockets Attack: Ashkelon Southern Industrial Zone

13/10/2023 - 21:00:07

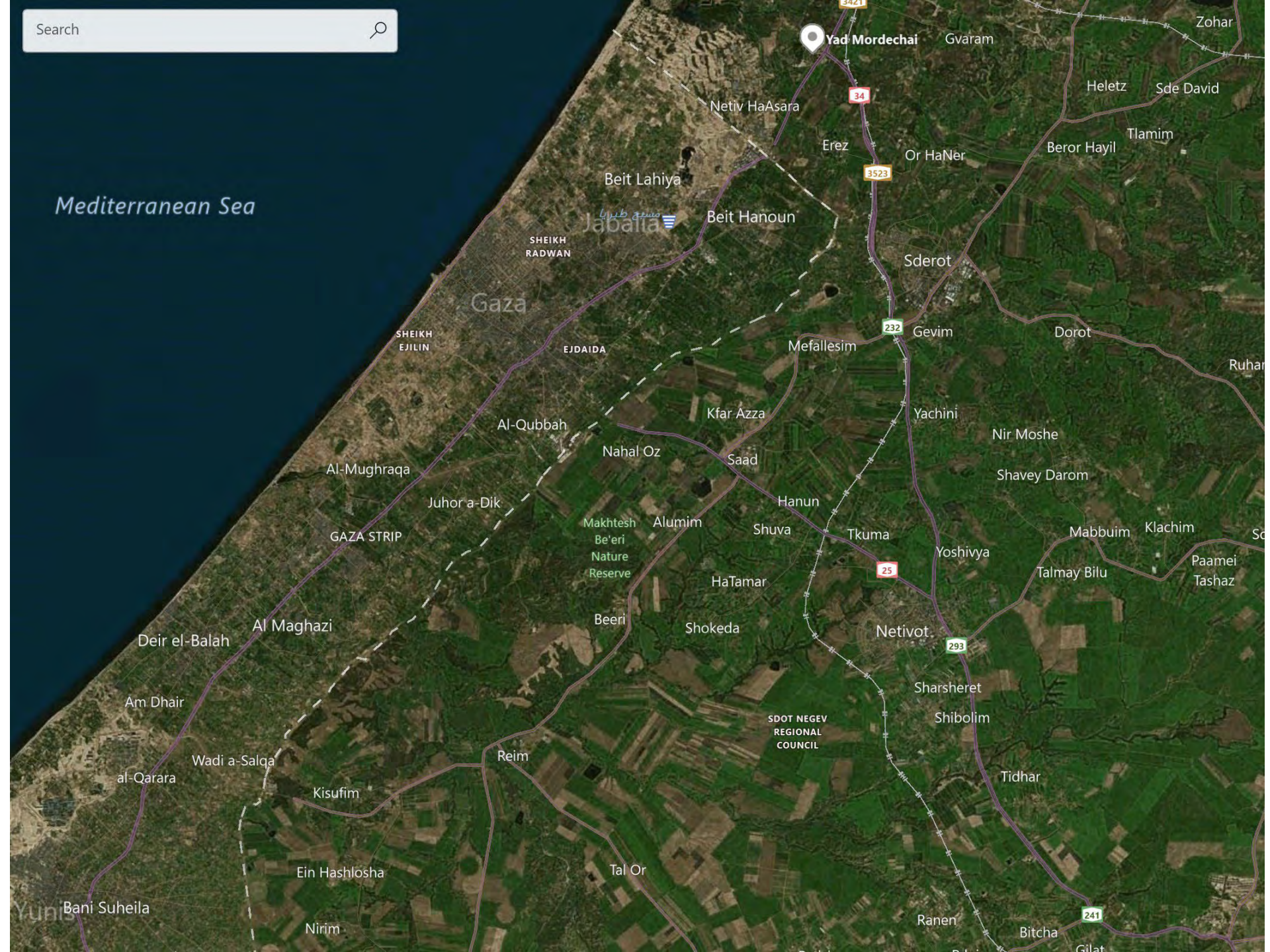
1 Comments



Search



Mediterranean Sea



This Week's Developments

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- "Axis of Evil" - Iran, Russia & China
- Russia can gain from Middle East turmoil - but it could backfire

- *Additional & Supporting Articles*

Map 1

Map 2

Map 3

“Axis of Evil” - Iran, Russia & China

The Telegraph, October 13, 2023



EVENT

There is a de facto axis today, and it is not necessary for these purposes to debate here exactly how evil its component parts may be. All that needs to be understood is that the axis – Russia, China and Iran – shares an overwhelming interest in weakening, indeed supplanting, the West. Putin's Russia wants to rebuild its empire. Xi's China wants to fasten each Belt and construct each Road until it controls the world. Khamenei's Iran wants to assert itself as the champion of true Islam, defeat the Great Satan (the United States), Little Satan (us - the UK) and dominate the Middle East. So far this century, the axis has watched the West, and licked its lips. It has perceived debt, division, decadence and drift. But the West has not definitively prevailed in these conflicts. Our divisions continue. Our attention span is as short as ever. Our deficits are large, our defenses are small, our energy supplies are still insecure. This remains a good time for the axis to make trouble. The Hamas massacres were dated to mark the 50th anniversary of the Yom Kippur war. The frenzy of last week's attacks was fanatical but not undisciplined. Arguably, Hamas has a better chance [to make trouble] this time than did its 1973 predecessors.

COMMENT

The arena of influence (AKA the 3 frog spirits) is operating in a very complex world of finance, politics, and religion, but we need to remember, that complex does not mean uncontrolled. The Supreme Deity is in full control of all. That does not mean that He supports, much less causes, these horrific events. He has granted the privilege of free will and choice to those created in His likeness. From the time of Adam & Eve onwards God views with sadness the terrible choices made by man, but nonetheless allows it and works with it to further His will and His purpose. This tri-axis of evil has been remarkably foretold in scripture to be asserting its ugly head in the time of the end, focusing upon his people before it comes to its decisive end at Christ's return.

BIBLE QUOTE

They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee...

(Psalm 83:4-5)

Russia can gain from Middle East turmoil - but it could backfire

Sky News, October 13, 2023



EVENT

Russia's response to this week's violence in Israel and Gaza has been conspicuously muted as it weighs up its competing alliances and interests in the region. Moscow did not openly condemn the violence meted out on Israel last weekend by Palestinian militant group Hamas, which is backed by its ally Iran, but was wary to alienate its Israeli partners, too. Russia stands to benefit from the turmoil in a number of ways, analysts say, given that it distracts and dilutes Western focus on Ukraine. Major oil producer Russia also stands to benefit from a rise in crude prices amid instability in the Middle East, given that the conflict has the potential to draw in neighboring territories. "The Russians also see this as an opportunity to act as a diplomatic player in the region," noted Samuel Ramani, a geo-political analyst. "They have already engaged with Lebanon on preventing a spillover of the conflict and the opening of a second front. Russia benefits from a localized and protracted conflict between Israel and Hamas that's confined to Gaza, but if diplomatic efforts fail, there is every chance that the violence could engulf the wider region." That could pose a big challenge for Russia. Russia has military bases in Syria and Western intelligence strongly suggests it has turned to Iran for weaponry for use in Ukraine.

COMMENT

To many analysts these events appear to involve a rather tangled mess of geopolitics, especially in the absence of the "true north" guidance provided by God to all those who have ears to hear and eyes to see. These entanglements and complexities can get straightened very quickly in the ensuing polarization that takes place in the aftermath of this initial conflict and violence. The "true north" polarization results in the revealing of the K of N coalition as Russia - & Ukraine, for that matter - occupies Syria & lines up with China, Iran, Iraq, drawing in also Turkey, and much of Europe and N Africa - AGAINST Israel and its K of S supporting coalition of nations. The past week and that to come could be a watershed event. Don't let us be blindsided by apathy regarding OUR sources of "intelligence"!

BIBLE QUOTE

Son of man, set thy face toward Gog, of the **land of Magog (China/Russia)**, the prince of **Rosh (Ukraine)**, **Meshech**, and **Tubal (rivers of Russia)**, and prophesy against him, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD: Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, prince of **Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal, Persia, Cush (Ethiopia)**, and **Put (Somalia)** with them; **Gomer**, the house of **Togarmah** - Eze 38:2-6 RV