

# This Week's Developments

April 18 - 24, 2021

- Missile from Syria explodes near Israel nuclear reactor
- Jerusalem: Israelis clash with Palestinian many injured
- Chad rebels trained by Russia march on heart of Africa
- Cross our red lines and you will regret it, Putin warns
- Russia to withdraw troops from Ukraine border
- 2020: Europe's hottest year on record - EU scientists
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# Missile from Syria explodes near Israeli nuclear reactor

The Times, April 22, 2021



## EVENT

A missile fired from Syria landed today within 20 miles of Israel's main nuclear reactor at Dimona in the Negev desert. The Israeli Defence Force (IDF) said that the S200 missile was fired in response to air strikes it had conducted in Syria near the border with the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. It exploded in mid-air, with parts landing in the town of Ashalim. The IDF said it was investigating why it had not been intercepted by Israel's own air defences. An "interceptor" missile, which the IDF did not identify, was fired at the incoming missile but failed to hit it. Air defences around Dimona, the heart of Israel's own nuclear weapons programme, have been on high alert in recent days after Iran threatened to attack it in retaliation for an explosion at its nuclear facility near the town of Natanz. That was widely blamed on Israel, an attribution confirmed by intelligence sources to Israeli media. There was immediate alarm when sirens went off in communities around the Dimona site in southern Israel shortly after 1.30am..

## COMMENT

A missile fired from Syria flew 125 miles over Israel before exploding 19 miles away from their nuclear reactor. The defence minister, Benny Gantz, claimed the missile had landed in Israel as a result of errant Syrian anti-aircraft fire. There is suspicion though that Iran might have been behind this. An Iranian newspaper at the weekend called for the Dimona reactor to be targeted to avenge an apparent Israeli sabotage operation at the Natanz nuclear site in Iran a fortnight ago. On Friday night Hamas fired 35 rockets into Israel. Over the last month we have seen the tension building between Iran and Israel as Biden seeks to restore the nuclear agreement. At some point Iran will instruct its proxy armies that surround Israel to launch an all out attack.

## BIBLE QUOTE

"On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a flame that sets a woodpile ablaze or like a burning torch among sheaves of grain. They will burn up all the neighbouring nations right and left, while the people living in Jerusalem remain secure.

(Zechariah 12:6 NLT)

# Jerusalem: Israelis clash with Palestinian many injured

The Times, April 23, 2021



## EVENT

Binyamin Netanyahu's twelve-year rule as Israel's prime minister is in increasing jeopardy as his former protege turned opponent is in talks to head a national-unity coalition and replace his old boss. Meanwhile in central and eastern Jerusalem, amid the febrile political atmosphere, Jewish extremists clashed with police as hundreds of them tried to march towards Palestinian neighbourhoods in the eastern part of the city in what they claimed was a protest over sporadic attacks of Jews by young Palestinians since the beginning of Ramadan month twelve days ago. Near the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem's old city, police fired stun grenades and sponge bullets at young Palestinians demonstrating against the fencing off the area around the gate.

## COMMENT

In Jerusalem, police forces forcibly broke up the flaming street battles that exploded after Israeli youths mobilised late last week to hit back at the Palestinian violence flaring in Jaffa and East Jerusalem and spreading since then to the rest of the city and parts of the West Bank. By Thursday night, some 200 Palestinians, Jews and police officers had been injured in the clashes and scores were pulled in and arrested. Meanwhile Israel politics is once again at stalemate with Netanyahu still unable to form a government. The Palestinians also have elections coming up in a few months – the first in many years. All this uncertainty has brought about a toxic atmosphere. Jerusalem becomes the focus at times like this. “East Jerusalem is the eternal capital of Palestine and is a red line,” the Palestinian presidency said in a press statement on Thursday. We know that Jerusalem is going to become the centre of the conflict. Jerusalem makes the “people round about” (nearby) - eg Palestinians - act as if they are intoxicated....

## BIBLE QUOTE

I will make Jerusalem like an intoxicating drink that makes the nearby nations stagger when they send their armies to besiege Jerusalem and Judah.

(Zechariah 12:2 NLT)

# Chad rebels trained by Russia march on heart of Africa

The Times, April 23, 2021



## EVENT

Rebels who have pledged to **seize power in Chad** after the death of its president this week were **trained in neighbouring Libya by Russian mercenaries** linked to the Kremlin, officials have said. The Front for Change and Concord in Chad (Fact) fighters were **employed by the Wagner Group**, the paramilitary outfit run by a close ally of President Putin, to work alongside them during the Libyan civil war. Wagner, for its part, has entrenched itself in southern Libya over the past year, after originally being deployed to assist the self-styled **Marshal Khalifa Haftar and his Libyan National Army** in their attempt to capture Tripoli from the UN-recognised government. The group is controlled by Yevgeny Prigozhin, an associate of Putin's. **Russia has capitalised on turbulence in pockets of Africa to re-ignite its influence on the continent**, which had collapsed after the Soviet era. Nowhere was this more evident than in post-Gaddafi Libya, where the Wagner Group, the Kremlin's de facto agents in Africa, have capitalised on links to insurgents in a volatile region.

## COMMENT

Putin uses deception to achieve his aims. The privately-funded **Wagner Group** is said to have **between 5,000 and 10,000 soldiers** spreading chaos around the world, **complete with tanks and artillery**. UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace said the shady group is run by a man known as "Putin's chief" and **shows "how modern warfare is rapidly changing"**. Putin has used the Wagner Group of Russian mercenaries to bring his influence into Libya and now beyond **into the neighbouring nation of Chad**. The **Bible says that Libya will join forces with Russia** when it invades Israel. We see how Putin is bringing this about

## 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)

# Cross our red lines and you will regret it, Putin warns West

The Times, April 21, 2021



**EVENT** President Putin has warned western allies that they will pay a heavy price if they cross a “red line” with Russia as tensions mount over its military build-up on the Ukraine border. His speech today came after satellite images indicated that Russia has deployed vast numbers of troops, tanks and warplanes to Ukraine’s eastern border, as well as Crimea, which the Kremlin annexed in 2014. “I hope no one will think of crossing a red line in relation to Russia,” Putin, 68, said during his annual state of the nation speech. “The organisers of any provocations against our [national] security will regret this as they have never regretted anything before.” He said that **Russia’s response would be “asymmetrical, swift and harsh”**. Putin lashed out at western countries for failing to condemn an **alleged plot to assassinate President Lukashenko of Belarus** as part of a military coup.

**COMMENT** "The organisers of any provocations against Russia **will regret their actions in a way they never have before,**" Mr Putin warned in his annual speech this week. Mr Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov later **described the "red lines" as "our external security interests,** our internal security interests in preventing any outside interference, whether in our elections or other domestic political processes". Last week the US government accused the Kremlin of "malign activity" and expelled 10 Russian diplomats. Russia responded tit-for-tat. Similar hostile exchanges of diplomats took place between Russia and both the Czech Republic and Poland. **Putin feels backed into a corner.** He sees NATO encroaching into Russia’s sphere of influence. Therefore **he is warning he will respond.** **The Bible says he WILL respond** – he will come down like a storm into Israel.

**BIBLE QUOTE** And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, **as a cloud to cover the land;** it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, (Ezekiel 38:15-16)

# Russia to withdraw troops from Ukraine border

The Times, April 23, 2021



## EVENT

Russia will withdraw its forces from Ukraine's borders, it said yesterday, after a massive military build up prompted fears of renewed hostilities in the volatile region. The announcement coincided with substantial military exercises in Crimea, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014. The drills, overseen by Sergei Shoigu, the defence minister, involved at least 60 ships, 10,000 troops and 200 aircraft. The European Union estimates that Russia has amassed 100,000 troops on its border with Ukraine and in Crimea. Satellite images indicate that a large number of fighter jets has also been deployed to the region. Russia denied yesterday that it was preparing to invade Ukraine, saying that it had the right to move its forces within Russia's borders as it saw fit. Shoigu, 65, said that troops and military equipment would return to their bases after the military drills and that the pullback would begin today and be completed by May 1. "I consider the goals of the spot check of readiness to have been achieved. The troops have shown their defence capability," he said.

## COMMENT

Two days after his menacing speech Putin ordered the withdrawal of Russian forces from Ukraine. Putin, however, often says one thing and another thing is the reality. The defence ministry said that they have deployed 10,000 personnel and these troops would return to their permanent bases. However, reports by analysts say the number of troops positioned on the border of Ukraine is around 100,000. The Bible says that Putin is the master of deception – he also talks peace but then brings destruction. We read of this in Daniel 8. Daniel 8 is focused on the works of the original king of the north – Antiochus Epiphanes. But from verse 23 it goes forward in time to talk about the latter day king of north – Gog of the land of Magog, chief prince of Meshech – i.e. Putin....

## BIBLE QUOTE

He will cause a shocking amount of destruction and succeed in everything he does. He will destroy powerful leaders and devastate the holy people. He will be a master of deception and will become arrogant; he will destroy many without warning.

(Daniel 8:24-25 NLT)

# 2020 was Europe's hottest year on record - EU scientists

Reuters, April 22, 2021



## EVENT

Europe experienced its hottest year on record last year, while the Arctic suffered a summer of extreme wildfires partly due to low snow cover as climate change impacts intensified, the European Union's observation service said on Thursday. As world leaders prepared to brandish their plans to fight climate change at a U.S.-led summit on Thursday, EU scientists issued a stark reminder that the impacts of a warmer world are already here. Europe's average annual temperature in 2020 was the highest on record and at least 0.4 degrees Celsius above the next five warmest years -- all of which took place in the last decade, the Copernicus Earth observation service said. "Temperatures are increasing in all seasons in Europe," said Freja Vamborg, senior scientist at Copernicus. Copernicus' temperature records go back to 1950. But last year was also Europe's hottest on record when checked against datasets beginning in 1850, it said.

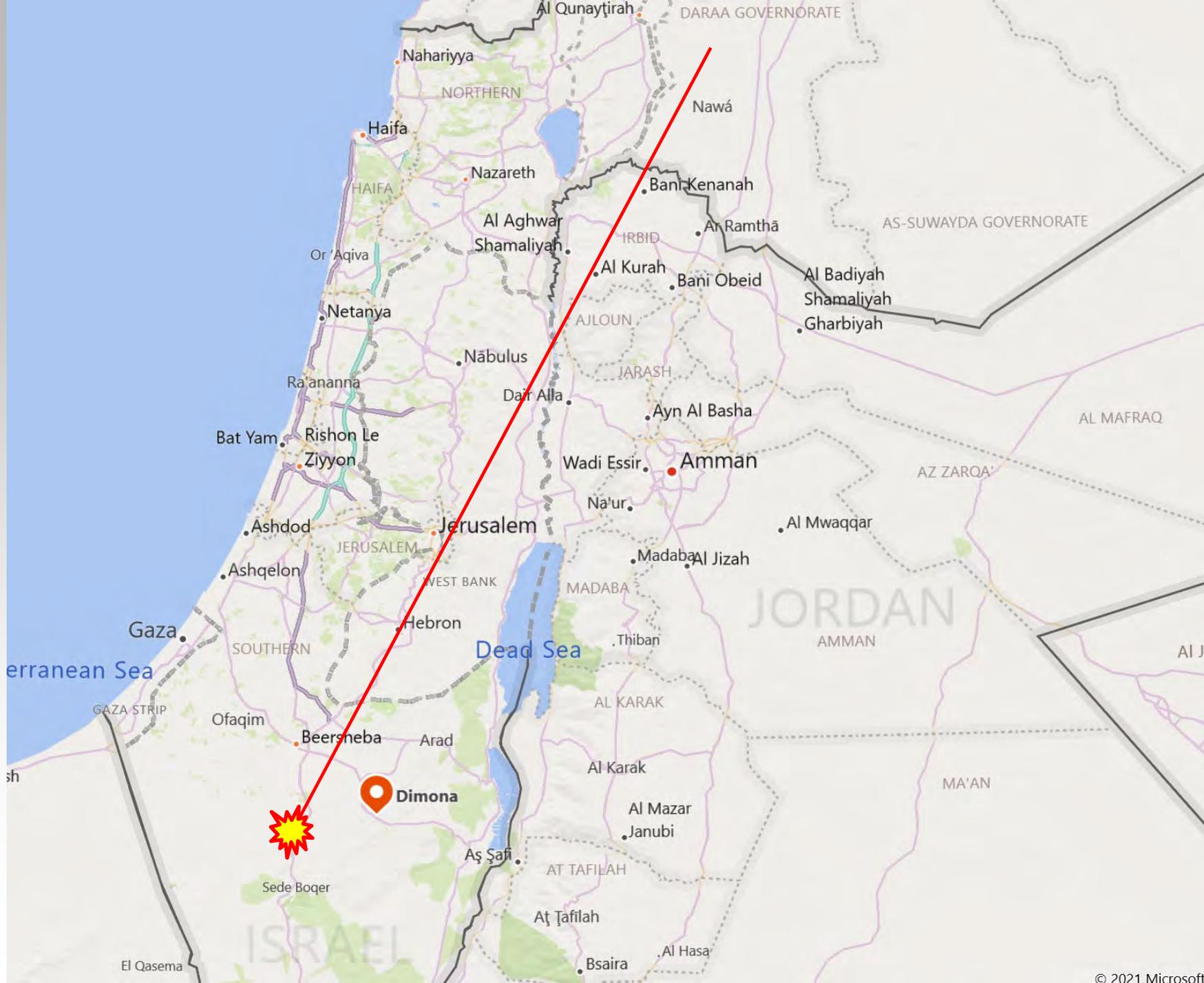
## COMMENT

Globally, Copernicus Earth said 2020 was one of the world's three hottest years on record, confirming findings released this week by the World Meteorological Organization. The average temperature in Arctic Siberia last year broke records by a large margin at 4.3 degrees Celsius above the 1981-2020 average. The physical earth itself is warning mankind that all is not well. The planet is laden down with sin, corruption and godlessness. Mankind is slowly but surely destroying the earth. We know if Jesus Christ did not intervene by returning to the earth that mankind would one day destroy every living creature on it. We are told this in Matthew 24. No flesh would be saved during the coming time of trouble. But thanks be to God – Christ WILL return...

## BIBLE QUOTE

For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

(Matthew 24:21-22)





### Tweet



**Israel Defense Forces** @IDF

Recap of last night:

- ▲ 36 rockets fired from Gaza
- ▲ 6 rocket interceptions by the Iron Dome Aerial Defense System
- ▲ 1000s of Israelis kept awake in fear for their lives

And most importantly:

- ▲ 24/7 protection of Israel

12:46 AM · 2021-04-24 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

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**Lukman Sulistyo** @tyoman · 18h  
Replying to @IDF

you guys will fear forever until you go



**Lukman Sulistyo** @tyoman · 18h  
Replying to @IDF

you guys will fear forever until you go away from #Palestine land. my respect to People at #Gaza .

13 replies 34 likes



**Purpleheart** @Purpleheart0 · 18h  
Replying to @IDF

The Lord will appear above his people; his arrows will fly like lightning! The Sovereign Lord will sound the ram's horn and attack like a whirlwind from the southern desert. On that day the Lord their God will rescue his people, just as a shepherd rescues his sheep.

1 reply 8 likes

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**dinglerec** @dinglerec · 18h  
Replying to @IDF

Thank you Mr Biden for funding Palestinian terror.

4 replies 5 likes

[Show replies](#)



## ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

This Week's **DebkaFile Review** (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence)

Alexei Navalny ally says Biden must sanction Putin's associates

Russian troops start pulling back from Ukrainian border - ABC News

Pope Francis Calls For Using COVID to Re-Direct World Onto 'New Path' Toward Economic Revolution

Israel May Have Destroyed Iranian Centrifuges Simply by Cutting Power

Iran to enrich uranium to 60% after 'wicked' nuclear site attack - BBC News

Water fight- Israel turns off Jordan's water supply amid drought and 'personal frictions' — RT World News

Iran and China sign 25-year cooperation agreement - Reuters

Iran blamed as Israeli-owned ship said hit by missile near Oman - The Times of Israel

Navalny Joins the Ranks of Russia's Religious Dissidents - The Moscow Times

What Does China's Latest Five-Year Plan Mean for Russia- - The Moscow Times

The revolt of the public- Martin Gurri on a world without trust - Vox