

# This Week's Developments

March 14 - 20, 2021

- UK's new foreign policy — Russia is No 1 danger
- UK could respond to cyberattacks with nuclear strike
- US-Russia ties nosedive after Biden-Putin tit-for-tat
- Israel prepares for weeks of fighting in Lebanon
- Iran shows missiles at secret underground base
- Israel experts discover more Dead Sea scrolls

# UK's new foreign policy — Russia is No 1 danger

The Times, March 14, 2021



## EVENT

Britain will treat Russia as a “hostile state” but China primarily as a commercial “competitor”, according to a landmark review of British foreign policy that Boris Johnson will publish on Tuesday. The integrated review of security, defence and foreign policy will set out plans to boost spending on Britain’s offensive cyberwarfare capability to combat Moscow and Beijing. The prime minister last night unveiled plans for a “cyber-corridor” across the north of England bringing together defence and intelligence capabilities with industry and the universities. In a clear sign that the two powers will be treated differently, the document brands **Russia the “biggest state-based threat” that Britain faces** as a result of its frequent aggressive incursions into UK waters and airspace and its willingness to use state-sanctioned murder against dissidents on British soil. The document says tackling climate change is the UK’s “No 1 priority” on the world stage and maps out plans for Britain’s chairmanship of the G7 and COP26 climate summits this year.

## COMMENT

Britain now sees Russia as a hostile state but China as an economic competitor. In fact the UK sees Russia as its principle threat. Relations between Britain and Russia have deteriorated over the last few years due to some extent to the poisoning and murder of innocent citizens using a Russian nerve agent Novichock. Another article this week also said that Russia has repeatedly tried to jam signals in an act of electronic warfare against RAF aircraft taking off from Cyprus. The Bible says there will be a king of the north (Russia) and king of the south (UK/US based in Saudi Arabia) that engage in conflict at the time of the end. The king of the south “pushes” at the king of the north.

## BIBLE QUOTE

“Then at the time of the end, the king of the south will attack [AV says “push”] the king of the north. The king of the north will storm out with chariots, charioteers, and a vast navy. He will invade various lands and sweep through them like a flood. He will enter the glorious land of Israel (Daniel 11:40 NLT)

# Britain could respond to future cyberattack with nuclear strike

The Times, March 17, 2021



## EVENT

Britain could use nuclear weapons against a state that inflicts a devastating attack using “emerging technologies” such as cyberwar and artificial intelligence, according to a landmark review. The UK changed the terms of how it could use or threaten to use nuclear weapons in the future as it warned that states were “significantly” increasing and diversifying their nuclear arsenals. A long-standing policy to cut the stockpile of nuclear warheads was reversed, with a plan to increase them by 40 per cent from 180 to 260 as part of the integrated review of security, defence and foreign policy. Experts and campaigners warned that the “seismic” move would result in Britain losing its leverage to hold others to account, and questioned whether it amounted to a violation of an international treaty. A 100-page report, *Global Britain in a Competitive Age*, stated that the UK would not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear weapon state that was party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which the UK signed in 1968.

## COMMENT

As well as calling out Russia as Britain’s No1 enemy, the UK also announced this week that it reserves the right to use nuclear weapons if there is a threat of mass destruction, such as chemical or biological weapons OR “emerging technologies”. This is taken to mean cyber attacks. On top of this Britain has said for the first time since the Cold War it is going to start increasing the number of nuclear weapons it possesses. It will raise its stockpile from around 180 to 260. Britain again referred to Russia developing new nuclear weapons as a reason for the change. The world is preparing for war. The status quo is changing. Once more nuclear weapon use is being considered by nations...

## BIBLE QUOTE

Proclaim this among the nations: **Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Let all the fighting men draw near** and attack. Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, “I am strong!” Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there.

(Joel 3:9-11 NIV)

# US-Russia ties nosedive after Biden-Putin tit-for-tat

Associated Press, March 18, 2021



**EVENT** U.S.-Russia ties nosedived on Thursday after Russian leader Vladimir Putin shot back at President Joe Biden's description of him as a killer. The back and forth underscored Biden's desire to distance himself from former President Donald Trump's perceived softness on Putin despite actions his administration took against Russia. Although Biden agreed to extend a major arms control deal with Russia, he has been notably cool toward Moscow and highly critical of many of its activities. In taking a tough stance on Russia, Biden has said the days of the U.S. "rolling over" to Putin are done. And he has taken pains to contrast his style with the approach of Trump, who avoided direct confrontation and frequently spoke about Putin with approval. **In an interview broadcast Wednesday, Biden replied "I do" when asked if he thought Putin was a "killer."** Also Wednesday, U.S. intelligence released a report finding that Putin authorized influence operations to help Trump's re-election bid.

**COMMENT** It is extremely rare for one national leader to call another national leader a killer. But that is exactly what president Biden did on Thursday. He also said Putin would "pay the price" for meddling in US elections. This caused a furious response from Moscow who recalled the US ambassador to explain. Putin hit back and said "it takes one to know one" with reference the killer remark. There is talk of an "irreversible deterioration" of ties between the two nations. Biden wants to appear tough on Putin to show how different he is to Trump. With Bible in hand we know there is a provocation from the king of the south with regards Putin (Gog) that causes Russia to react. Russia then descends...

**BIBLE QUOTE** This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I am against you, Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. I will turn you around, **put hooks in your jaws and bring you out with your whole army**—your horses, your horsemen fully armed, and a great horde with large and small shields, all of them brandishing their swords. *(Ezekiel 38:3-4 NIV)*

# Israel Prepares for Weeks of Fighting in Lebanon

Israel Radar, March 13, 2021



**EVENT** The IDF is preparing for a month-long exercise simulating a large war against Hezbollah. As part of the drill, the army will test the complex logistics needed to fight in Lebanon for long weeks, Walla! News reported. For the first three days of combat, infantry forces inside Lebanon will have to rely on their own supplies of munitions, food and fuel, the report said. Soon after, the IDF's vast support network will kick into high gear. This will enable the army to execute large manoeuvres and major operations in Lebanese territory. Israel expects the first phase of the war to be brief but intensive, with a focus on destroying numerous enemy targets. Israeli leaders have warned that the IDF will not hesitate to bomb military assets hidden in civilian areas, including Hezbollah's missile depots and launch sites. The second phase of the war will require the IDF to deploy large forces deep in Lebanon. In this stage, a vast array of transport vehicles and aircraft will supply combat units with the needed provisions, including fresh food, the report said.

**COMMENT** The Israeli army has acquired hundreds of modern trucks to support the war effort, and hundreds more are expected to be delivered in 2021. The IDF is also maintaining a fleet of 3,000 older trucks to maintain the supply chains. Former national security adviser Yaakov Amidror recently called on the IDF to plan for a months-long war in Lebanon. Israel's objective in the next conflict should be the total destruction of Hezbollah and elimination of its military capabilities, Amidror wrote in an article published by the IDF. The Bible says that there is an inner ring war coming around Israel before the outer ring war involving Russia. The inner ring war is when Israel removes the pricking briers of Hezbollah and Hamas. That war is coming soon...

**BIBLE QUOTE** Don't you hear the uproar of your enemies? Don't you see that your arrogant enemies are rising up? They devise crafty schemes against your people; they conspire against your precious ones. "Come," they say, "let us wipe out Israel as a nation. We will destroy the very memory of its existence." Yes, this was their unanimous decision. *(Psalm 83:2-5 NLT)*



# Iran reveals underground 'missile city' as regional tensions rise

CNBC, March 16, 2021



## EVENT

Iranian state TV has aired footage of what it said was a new Revolutionary Guard base, a “missile city” armed to the teeth with cruise and ballistic weapons. Inside the underground facility, the footage broadcast Monday shows what appear to be advanced munitions including scores of missiles lined up along concrete walls. Outside, the base hosts what the Guard said is electronic warfare equipment, including radar, monitoring devices and simulation and disruption systems. “What we see today is a small section of the great and expansive missile capability of Revolutionary Guards’ naval forces,” Guards commander Gen. Hossein Salami said on the broadcast. The state TV broadcast did not disclose the exact location of the base, and its authenticity hasn’t been independently verified, but it is believed to be one of several underground facilities that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard has built along the Gulf coast as tensions with the U.S., Israel and the region rise.

## COMMENT

Iran lacks the advanced air force of some of its regional neighbours like Israel and the UAE so it has instead invested heavily in its own missile development and has one of largest missile programs in the region. This complicates things when it comes to reviving the nuclear deal – Biden wants to ensure any “new” deal encompasses these weapons as well. By airing this “missile city” shows Iran will never compromise in this area. The Bible says that Iran is obsessed with missiles! Jeremiah 51:11 speaks of the Medes (Iranians) making “bright arrows”. Isaiah 13:18 speaks of their “bows” dashing young men to pieces. Bright arrows and bows dashing young men to pieces is a clear reference to latter day missiles. They are bright and dash people to pieces....

## BIBLE QUOTE

“Look, I will stir up the Medes against Babylon. They cannot be tempted by silver or bribed with gold. **The attacking armies will shoot down the young men with arrows.** They will have no mercy on helpless babies and will show no compassion for children.”

(Isaiah 13:17-18 NLT)

# Dead Sea Scrolls discoveries are first ancient Bible texts to be found in 60 years

NBC News, March 16, 2021



**EVENT** A new set of Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient fragments of biblical texts dating back almost 2,000 years and thought to have been hidden during a Jewish revolt against Rome, have been found in an Israeli desert. The Israel Antiquities Authority announced Tuesday that a four-year archaeological project uncovered portions of the Book of the Twelve Minor Prophets, including the books of Zechariah and Nahum. It was the first such discovery in 60 years. Among the recovered texts, which are all in Greek, is Nahum 1:5–6, which says: "The mountains quake because of Him, And the hills melt. The earth heaves before Him, The world and all that dwell therein. Who can stand before His wrath? Who can resist His fury? His anger pours out like fire, and rocks are shattered because of Him."

**COMMENT** The first set of Dead Sea Scrolls to be discovered were found by a Bedouin shepherd in the same area in 1947 and are considered among the most important archaeological finds of the 20th century. 60 years later more scrolls have been found. Interesting that part of the passage found is Nahum 1:5-6. Nahum is a prophecy against Nineveh. Nineveh is first mentioned in Genesis 10:12. It was part of Nimrod's kingdom. See Genesis 10:10. This was the first kingdom of men. We know the kingdom of men in its entirety will be soon replaced with the coming kingdom of God. When this happens the verses of Nahum 1:5-6 will be fulfilled. The mountains will quake, the hills will melt away, the earth will tremble and many people will perish. This is the same language of Ezekiel 38:20 – which happens when Gog invades Israel.

**BIBLE QUOTE** The mountains quake before him and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at his presence, the world and all who live in it. Who can withstand his indignation? Who can endure his fierce anger? His wrath is poured out like fire; the rocks are shattered before him. **The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, but with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh;** (Nahum 1:5-8 NIV)