## This Week's Developments

January 28 – February 3, 2024

- US strikes Iran-linked targets in Iraq and Syria
- Binyamin Netanyahu digs in amid advanced talks
- Israel deploys troops to Lebanon border for next stage
- Russia's Wagner mercenaries are returning to Africa
- Israel accuses UN staff of being 'hardened' militants
- WW3 is approaching fast, few are willing to admit why
- Who's fighting who in the Middle East?
- Additional & Supporting Articles

## US launches airstrikes on Syria and Iraq after Jordan attack

The Times, February 2, 2024



#### **EVENT**

The US has launched a barrage of airstrikes on targets in Syria and Iraq in retaliation for last weekend's drone attack on an American base in Jordan that killed three soldiers. In action that was wider than some had anticipated, warplanes, including B1 long-range bombers flown from bases in the US, as well as drones, hit 85 targets. Unlike recent strikes against Houthi targets in Yemen, British forces were not involved in these attacks. President Biden said: "The United States does not seek conflict in the Middle East or anywhere else in the world. But let all those who might seek to do us harm know this: if you harm an American, we will respond." The strikes are likely to be the first of several against Iran-backed militia operating in the Middle East, threatening what some in Washington fear could spark a wider conflagration in the region. The White House and the Pentagon have promised for a week that the US would respond to the attack in Jordan.

#### COMMENT

The strikes by America yesterday follow a drone attack last Sunday that targeted a US military base in Jordan, killing three American soldiers and injuring dozens more. The drone attack was carried out by one of Iran's proxy armies based in Syria and also in Iraq. Some leading politicians in America called for direct strikes on Iran itself. So far the strikes have not been on the origin of the strikes (Iran) but on its pawns on the battle field. We now have a situation within just a few weeks that America is fighting against Iranian proxy forces in Yemen, Syria and Iraq. This could at some point lead Iran to escalate further and eventually bring Hezbollah into the fray as well as Syria. This in turn could lead to the inner ring war. Events are moving fast - the world is on the brink.

#### BIBLE QUOTE

Behold, I will stir up the Medes [Iranian] against them, which shall not regard silver; and as for gold, they shall not delight in it. Their bows also shall dash the young men to pieces; and they shall have no pity on the fruit of the womb; their eye shall not spare children.

(Isaiah 13:17-18)

### Binyamin Netanyahu digs in amid advanced talks

The Times, January 31, 2024



#### **EVENT**

Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister, has publicly ruled out ending the war before destroying Hamas, which began the conflict on October 7 by killing 1,200 Israelis and kidnapping more than 200 hostages. Some of his coalition partners have warned that a deal would end the government. The hardline security minister Itamar Ben-Gvir told Israel's parliament that the country must not bow to international pressure for a ceasefire, threatening to dissolve the coalition if a "reckless" deal goes ahead. "Real leadership looks years ahead, understands the meaning of its actions and doesn't act according to pressure and impulses, not even by such a close friend as the United Sates," Ben-Gvir told the Knesset. "I say this directly: a reckless deal is tantamount to the dissolution of the government." On Tuesday, Netanyahu said: "I hear talk about all kinds of deals. I would like to make it clear: we will not conclude this war without achieving all of its goals. This means eliminating Hamas, returning all of our hostages and ensuring that Gaza never again constitutes a threat to Israel."

**COMMENT** Netanyahu has come under increasing international pressure to end the war but despite that pressure he appears determined to destroy Hamas. There is growing talk of a two state solution which many say would reward Hamas for the attacks. David Cameron, the UK foreign secretary, said Britain was considering formal recognition of a Palestinian state. Israel is increasingly isolated and friendless. Even its closest allies see a vision for Israel that is a divided nation. The Bible says that nations do divide the land. The nations do not recognise that the land is the LORD's and he has given it to his people the Jews.

#### **BIBLE** QUOTE

In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will put them on trial for what they did to my inheritance, my people Israel, because they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land. (Joel 3:1-2 NIV)

## Israel deploys troops to Lebanon border 'for what comes next'

The Telegraph, January 30, 2024



#### **EVENT**

Israel is deploying more troops to the country's northern border with Lebanon in preparation for "what comes next", its defence minister said. More Israeli soldiers will "very soon go into action...so the forces in the north are reinforced," Yoav Gallant announced. Mr Gallant stopped short of saying how many troops will be deployed but it comes soon after the country's army chief, Herzi Halevi, warned that the risk of war on the northern border had become "much higher". Since its invasion of Gaza, Israel has increased the number of soldiers stationed along its border with Lebanon. The Israel Defense Forces have been trading fire with Lebanon's Iranian-backed militant group Hezbollah since the war broke out, raising concerns of a wider conflict. Israeli residents living near the northern border have also been evacuated over safety concerns — tens of thousands have been displaced for months. Worries of a regional war are growing by the day. Concerns that fighting would worsen in Palestinian territories in Israel are increasing as well.

#### **COMMENT**

Israel's army chief Mr Halevi has warned that the risk of war along the Lebanese border has increased. "I don't know when the war in the north is, I can tell you that the likelihood of it happening in the coming months is much higher than it was in the past," Mr Halevi said. October 7<sup>th</sup> showed Israel what the hatred and anti-Semitism can produce if left unchecked. Therefore they are determined this can never happen again. The international community generally believe that peace will come by giving Israel's enemies land and a state. Israel believes that that they have to remove the threat around them once and for all. The Bible says Israel will defeat their nearby enemies...

#### 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.

# Russia's Wagner mercenaries are returning to outflank the West in Africa

The Independent, January 31, 2024

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#### **EVENT**

As the drumbeat of war continues across the Middle East, with clashes in multiple countries raising fears of a wider conflict, the mercenaries of Russia's Wagner Group are once again getting back to action. Eight months after Wagner's march on Moscow ultimately failed; six months after Yevgeny Prigozhin and his senior commanders were blown out of the sky in Vladimir Putin's retribution, the fighters are being recalled to arms with the Kremlin's blessing. The Hamas attack on Israel three months ago has led to combat across land, air and sea around the region, with carnage continuing in Gaza and missile strikes and targeted assassinations in the Gulf, Yemen, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Iran and even Pakistan. In this increasingly incendiary scenario, the former Wagner Group is consolidating its presence in Libya and Sudan, part of a highly volatile region, as well as reinforcing in African states where it has replaced departed Western forces.

#### COMMENT

The Wagner Group is Putin's unofficial personal army which he uses to stir up trouble and gain influence without sending in Russian troops. A key focus for this group of mercenaries is Africa – especially the areas of Libya and Sudan. The Wagner Group has renamed itself as the Africa Corps and shares its name with the Nazi forces which fought in North Africa in the Second World War. The Bible says that Russia will be allied with Libya and Sudan when the final invasion of Israel occurs. In the Authorised version we read that "Ethiopia and Libya" are joined with Russia. In modern versions it says "Cush and Put". Cush refers to the kingdom of Kush which was centred around modern Sudan. The region of Put (west of Egypt) is now Libya. Both are now allied to Russia...



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. 5 Persia, Cush and Put will be with them, all with shields and helmets,

## Israel accuses 190 UN staff of being 'hardened' militants

Reuters, January 29, 2024



#### **EVENT**

An Israeli intelligence dossier that prompted a cascade of countries to halt funds for a U.N. Palestinian aid agency includes allegations that some staff took part in abductions and killings during the Oct. 7 raid that sparked the Gaza war. The six-page dossier, seen by Reuters, alleges that some 190 UNRWA employees, including teachers, have doubled as Hamas or Islamic Jihad militants. It has names and pictures for 11 them. This has prompted at least 10 Western countries to withdraw or temporarily pause funding to the agency, a move the head of UNRWA called "shocking". "Suspension of funds threatens humanitarian work in the region, especially in Gaza," UNRWA Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini said in a statement late on Saturday, urging countries who have frozen funding to "reconsider their decisions" as Gaza faces the risk of mass starvation. Israel has praised the countries that have halted their support to the UN agency, saying it wants to completely stop its operations after the war on Gaza has ended.

**COMMENT** The United States, Australia, Canada, Italy, Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Scotland have halted funding to the UNRWA. We can only presume that Israel's evidence proving UNRWA's involvement in the Hamas terror attack on Israel was overwhelming. UNRWA is the UN organisation that looks purely after Palestinian refugees. All other refugees around the world are looked after by another UN refugee organisation called UNHCR. So why do the Palestinians have their own agency? Most refugees end up assimilated into the nation they end up in. This is not the case with Palestinians. They are kept in a perpetual state of refugee status. UNRWA has been proven to be aligned with the terror group Hamas in Gaza.

#### **BIBLE** QUOTE

But all who devour you will be devoured; all your enemies will go into exile. Those who plunder you will be plundered; all who make spoil of you I will despoil. But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the Lord, 'because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares.' (Jeremiah 30:!6-17 NIV)

# World War Three is approaching fast, and too few are willing to admit why

The Telegraph, January 29, 2024

66 COMMENT

World War Three is approaching fast, and too few are willing to admit why

#### **EVENT**

Are we on the brink of a third world war? In the age of "peak apocalypse", it is easy to laugh off such a question. After all, we already find ourselves on permanent pandemic-watch, are besieged daily by predictions of ecological collapse, and drip-fed a diet of dystopian drama by crude Netflix algorithms. But the risk of a global war has surely not been so high since America was locked in an existential battle against the USSR. What previous world wars teach us is that it is not confident and successful countries that start wars, but corroded and schizophrenic ones that both suffer from grandiose delusions and mortal dread of the future. Today this paradox of the fragile aggressor is playing out not only in Iran, but to an even more terrifying extent in Russia. The Putin regime has spectacularly failed to capitalise on Russia's inbuilt advantages – not least its embarrassment of natural resources – to raise living standards and create prosperity. Much of the Russian population lives on the brink of destitution, and the country is stuck in an oil trap usually reserved for third-world nations.

#### **COMMENT**

This week saw a flurry of headlines in the UK press about being on the brink of World War 3. In the Daily Telegraph (a British daily conservative broadsheet newspaper) there was this headline – "As war creeps closer to Armageddon, the end of days doesn't seem so far away". Then under that headline it read "Fighting on two fronts, Israel is on edge. Its inhabitants feel a sense of foreboding – and some believe the 'third war' has already begun." Even the secular press can see something is about to happen. The world is on the brink of World War. Israel is at the epicentre. It is the exact picture given in the Bible - we are in the very last days that herald the return of Christ..

#### BIBLE QUOTE

For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. ....And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem

(Zechariah 14:2+4)

### Who's fighting who in the Middle East?

The Globe & Mail, February 03, 2024



#### **EVENT**

The Israel-Hamas war is pulling in an ever-growing number of countries and armed groups. Much of the Middle East is aflame, with the fires of war burning far beyond the borders of Israel. Fears have grown that it might grow together into a single inferno. The belligerents and their backers: Israel - responded to the Oct. 7 attacks – with a furious assault on the Gaza Strip, vowing to destroy the militant group and bring home the hostages. Some 120 days later, 27,000+ Palestinians reportedly killed, the top leaders of Hamas presumed to still be alive. Mr. Netanyahu knows his time in the Prime Minister's Office is likely to end soon after the shooting does. Hamas - Despite all the death and destruction, Hamas appears to be more popular among Palestinians than it was before Oct. 7. Palestinian Authority - likely to play a crucial role in whatever follows the war in Gaza. United States - now finds itself involved (along with Britain) in a bombing campaign targeting the Iranian-backed Houthi rebels; that campaign has expanded to include targets in Iraq and Syria on Friday. This year's U.S. election hangs over everything. Iran - seems on the verge of a major confrontation with the U.S., Israel or both. All sides are warning the others not to cross their "red lines," though it's increasingly unclear just where those are. Caught in the middle: Lebanon, Yemen, Jordan, Egypt, Syria / Iraq, Qatar. Other players: Saudi Arabia, Russia, Turkey, China

#### COMMENT

The conflict in the Middle East has been described as an inferno; and we've all seen the photos coming out of some of the past year's forest fires showing a fire tornado where the intense heat has created its own weather system. At the center of this political tornado is the little Israel - the apple of God's eye. It is a national vortex drawing into its center all the nations immediately surrounding it and reaching far out into the periphery. Daniel says that God rules in the kingdoms of men - and we see that here. The energy behind the inferno is none other than the financial, political and religious influences described in Rev as the spirits like unto frogs drawing the nations to Armageddon.

#### BIBLE QUOTE

"... the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will... And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon (political influence), and out of the mouth of the beast (financial influence), and out of the mouth of the false prophet (religious influence). ...they go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

Dan 4:17; Rev 16:13-14

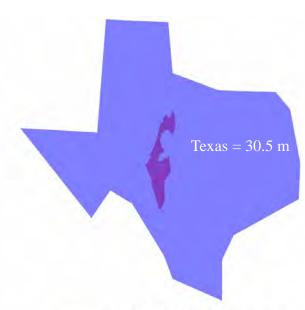
- 2024-02-03 Who's fighting who in the Middle East- Where key players currently stand
- 2024-02-01 IDF FLOODS Hamas Terror Tunnels With -Atlantis- BATTLE STRATEGY Tech 11.30 min YouTube
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of Ros (river in Ukraine) Meshech and Tubal (rivers in Russia)"?

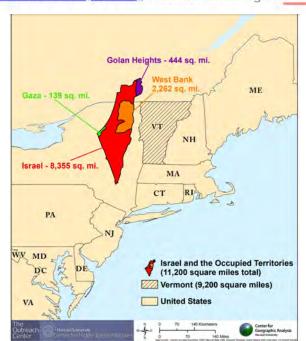


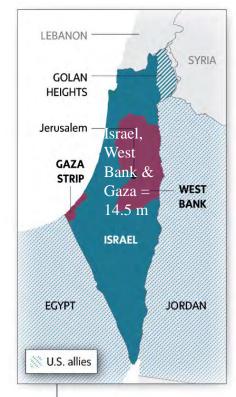
Texas (US) is 34 times as big as Israel



Sask = 1.25 m

Saskatchewan (Canada) is 31 times as big as Israel







The entire area is smaller than the slice of California from San Diego to Fresno.

Inited Nations, OpenStreetMap, Times reporting

