

Earthquakes and Wars Updates Judgement!

Mark 13:7 And when ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars, be ye not troubled: for *such things* must needs be; but the end *shall not be* yet.

8 For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these *are* the beginnings of sorrows.

January 16, 2025

Iranian military introduces sophisticated reconnaissance ship during military drills

Iranian media claims the ship, named Zagros, is outfitted with "electronic sensors," interceptors, and additional cyber and intelligence capabilities.

Retrieved January 16, 2025, from [Iranian military introduces sophisticated reconnaissance ship during military drills | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

January 15, 2025

2.8 magnitude earthquake shakes Richmond, Virginia Tuesday; no damage or injures reported

Retrieved January 14, 2025, from [2.8 magnitude earthquake shakes Richmond, Virginia Tuesday; no damage or injures reported](#)

Firefighters Brace for Increasing Gusts Following Reprieve for LA Area

Retrieved January 14, 2025, from [Firefighters Brace for Increasing Gusts Following Reprieve for LA Area | Newsmax.com](#)

January 14, 2025

Iranian plot to assassinate Jewish official in Azerbaijan foiled

Georgian citizen accused of being offered \$200,00 to gather intelligence and carry out assassination of leader of local Jewish community on behalf of Iran.

Retrieved January 14, 2025, from [Iranian plot to assassinate Jewish official in Azerbaijan foiled | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Sources in negotiations: ' Hamas changed its position - not Israel'

A source familiar with the negotiations responded to Minister Ben-Gvir's concerns regarding the emerging deal, saying that new pressures had forced Hamas to compromise.

Retrieved January 14, 2025, from [Sources in negotiations: ' Hamas changed its position - not Israel' | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Ukraine Launches 'Massive Attack' on Multiple Targets in Russia

Retrieved January 14, 2025, from [Ukraine Launches 'Massive Attack' on Multiple Targets in Russia | Newsmax.com](#)

January 13, 2025

Kremlin: Security Guarantees for Ukraine, Russia Key to Peace Deal

Retrieved January 13, 2025, from [Kremlin: Security Guarantees for Ukraine, Russia Key to Peace Deal | Newsmax.com](#)

Japan Hit by Another Major Earthquake | Real Reason Behind Non-Stop Fear of New Tsunami Explained

A powerful 6.9 magnitude earthquake has struck Japan's Kyushu region, sparking concerns and tsunami warnings for coastal areas. In this video, we explore the reasons behind Japan's vulnerability to frequent seismic activities and how its location on the Pacific Ring of Fire makes it one of the most earthquake-prone regions in the world. Get the latest updates on the aftermath

of this major quake, tsunami warnings, and insights into Japan's geologic risks. Stay informed and prepared as we delve into the science of earthquakes and their global impact.
#JapanEarthquake #TsunamiWarning #KyushuQuake #SeismicActivity #Japan #EarthquakeRisk #NaturalDisasters #Geology #RingOfFire #JapanNews #Earthquake2025
Retrieved January 13, 2025, from [Japan Hit by Another Major Earthquake | Real Reason Behind Non-Stop Fear of New Tsunami Explained | Watch](#)

January 12, 2025

6.2 magnitude earthquake hits Mexico

The US Geological Survey on Sunday said a magnitude 6.2 earthquake struck a region of southwest Mexico.

It was gathered that the tremor was centred eight kilometers from Coalcoman de Vazquez Pallares, a municipality of around 20,000 people which is about 600 kilometres west of the capital Mexico City.

Retrieved January 12, 2025, from [6.2 magnitude earthquake hits Mexico](#)

Tensions Explode: China Threatened as Japan Arms Philippines Near Taiwan

Story by Regtechtimes

The Philippines has initiated a significant move to strengthen its coastal defense by installing Japanese-supplied radar systems which threatened China near the Batanes islands. These islands, located less than 200 kilometers from Taiwan, have gained strategic importance due to rising tensions in the region. The newly installed radars will monitor the Bashi Channel, a crucial maritime passage separating the Philippines from Taiwan. This area is not only a vital shipping route but also a potential evacuation point for Filipinos if a conflict involving Taiwan arises.

Retrieved January 12, 2025, from [Tensions Explode: China Threatened as Japan Arms Philippines Near Taiwan](#)

January 10, 2025

Earthquake rattles San Francisco, Bay Area at magnitude 3.7, USGS says

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 3.7 struck the coast of San Francisco on Friday morning, the [United States Geological Survey](#) reported. The earthquake occurred about three miles northwest of the San Francisco Zoo in the Pacific Ocean, the [U.S. Geological Survey](#) reported, with none to light shaking felt in the area. As of Friday morning, no damage was immediately reported.

Earthquakes with a magnitude of 3 or 4 generally lead to affected residents feeling mild shaking, according to [California State University Long Beach](#). Earthquakes of magnitude 5.4 or less occur hundreds of thousands of times per year, [Michigan Technological University](#) reported.

Retrieved January 10, 2025, from [San Francisco earthquake: Magnitude 3.7 shake recorded in Bay Area](#)

January 9, 2025

Biden to leave decision on Syria sanctions to Trump

US officials say the Biden administration is expected to leave the decision on lifting sanctions against Syrian rebel group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and its leader to the incoming Trump administration.

Retrieved January 9, 2025, from [Biden to leave decision on Syria sanctions to Trump | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Los Angeles Fire: 130,000 evacuated so far, at least five fatalities

Strong winds are driving the massive wildfire in Los Angeles onwards. At least five people were killed and a state of emergency has been declared in California.

Retrieved January 9, 2025, from [Los Angeles Fire: 130,000 evacuated so far, at least five fatalities | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

January 7, 2025

7.1 Western China Earthquake Kills at Least 126 in Tibet

A strong earthquake shook a high-altitude region of western China and areas of Nepal on Tuesday, damaging hundreds of houses, littering streets with rubble and killing at least 126 people in Tibet. Many others were trapped as dozens of aftershocks shook the remote region.

Rescue workers climbed mounds of broken bricks, some using ladders in heavily damaged villages, as they searched for survivors. Videos posted by China's Ministry of Emergency Management showed two people being carried on stretchers by workers treading over the debris from collapsed homes.

At least 188 people were injured in Tibet on the Chinese side of the border, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Retrieved January 7, 2025, from [Western China Earthquake Kills at Least 126 in Tibet | Newsmax.com](#)

January 4, 2025

4.6-4.8 Magnitude earthquake causes panic in grocery store, Yinchuan, China

Retrieved January 4, 2025, from <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/4-6-4-8-magnitude-earthquake-causes-panic-in-grocery-store-yinchuan-china/vi-AA1wWTr3?ocid=msedgntp&pc=ENTPHB&cvid=b60dca5bf6954086ab210fa15c1d8>

Series of Ethiopia earthquakes trigger evacuations

Retrieved January 4, 2025, from [Series of Ethiopia earthquakes trigger evacuations](#)

December 17, 2024

7.3 magnitude earthquake damages US Embassy in Vanuatu

The U.S. Embassy in Port Vila was damaged on Tuesday as a 7.3-magnitude earthquake struck the South Pacific island nation of Vanuatu.

The earthquake struck about 18 miles west of the capital just before 1 p.m. local time, the U.S. Geological Survey said. A series of aftershocks followed, but no tsunami warnings were issued.

Retrieved December 17, 2024, from [7.3 magnitude earthquake damages US Embassy in Vanuatu](#)

Russian nuclear defense general assassinated in Moscow

Commander of the Russian Army's Radiological, Chemical and Biological Defense Unit, General Igor Kirillov, was killed in an explosion in Moscow

Retrieved December 17, 2024, from [Russian nuclear defense general assassinated in Moscow | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

December 16, 2024

US deploys USS Harry S. Truman carrier strike group to the Middle East

CENTCOM announces that the USS Harry S. Truman carrier strike group had entered its area of

responsibility in the Middle East and will "ensure regional stability and security."

Retrieved December 16, 2024, from [US deploys USS Harry S. Truman carrier strike group to the Middle East | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Downtown San Francisco Experiences First Tornado Warning in Recorded History

(CNN) — For the first time in recorded history, downtown **San Francisco** was included in a tornado warning on Saturday as severe storms swept through the city, just one week after a tsunami warning triggered widespread panic in the region.

The National Weather Service in the San Francisco Bay Area did not find evidence of a tornado after a survey. The damage instead was consistent with straight-line winds up to 80 mph "across the Richmond District and Golden Gate Park areas."

Retrieved December 16, 2024, from [Downtown San Francisco Experiences First Tornado Warning in Recorded History | WATCH](#)

December 10, 2024

5.8 magnitude earthquake strikes Nevada; shaking felt as far west as California

Retrieved December 10, 2024, from [5.8 magnitude earthquake strikes Nevada; shaking felt as far west as California](#)

Malibu Wildfire Near Pepperdine University Prompts Evacuations

Retrieved December 10, 2024, from [Malibu Wildfire Near Pepperdine University Prompts Evacuations | Newsmax.com](#)

December 9, 2024

Europe Gears Up for Conflict: NATO Nations on High Alert

Retrieved December 9, 2024 from [Europe Gears Up for Conflict: NATO Nations on High Alert | Newsmax.com](#)

B-52s, F-15s, and A-10s Conduct Massive Anti-ISIS Airstrikes in Syria After Fall of Assad

Dec. 8, 2024 | By Chris Gordon

The U.S. military conducted a punishing series of airstrikes against the Islamic State group on Dec. 8, following the sudden demise of the regime of Syrian President Bashar Al Assad. U.S. Air Force B-52 Stratofortress bombers, F-15E Strike Eagles, and A-10 Thunderbolt II attack aircraft conducted dozens of airstrikes against Islamic State leaders, fighters, and camps in central Syria, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) announced. The aircraft dropped about 140 munitions on more than 75 targets belonging to the militant group, a senior administration official told reporters.

Retrieved December 9, 2024 from B-52s, F-15s, A-10s Conduct Airstrikes Against ISIS in Syria

Syrians Celebrate New Day After Assad's Fall

Syrians flocked to the main square of the capital Damascus on Monday, AFP journalists saw, to mark what many regard as a long-awaited new dawn after the fall of president Bashar al-Assad.

A lightning offensive spearheaded by Islamist rebels ousted Assad from power on Sunday, opening a new chapter in Syria's history after five decades of rule by his clan. The Kremlin on Monday declined to confirm reports that ally Assad had fled to Moscow.

Retrieved December 9, 2024 from [Syrians Celebrate New Day After Assad's Fall | Newsmax.com](#)

SKorea Defense Ministry: Yoon Still Commander in Chief

South Korea's defense ministry spokesman said on Monday President Yoon Suk Yeol still is commander in chief.

Yoon has said he has entrusted his fate to the ruling party after a botched attempt to impose martial law last week prompted calls for him to step down.

Retrieved December 9, 2024 from [SKorea Defense Ministry: Yoon Still Commander in Chief | Newsmax.com](#)

French government collapses in no-confidence vote

The French government has collapsed after Prime Minister Michel Barnier was ousted in a no-confidence vote.

MPs voted overwhelmingly in support of the motion against him - just three months after he was appointed by President Emmanuel Macron.

Opposition parties had tabled the motion after the former Brexit negotiator controversially used special powers to force through his budget without a vote.

It marks the first time the country's government has collapsed in a no-confidence vote since 1962.

Retrieved December 9, 2024 from [French government collapses after no-confidence vote in PM Michel Barnier](#)

December 6, 2024

A powerful 7.0 earthquake strikes off Northern California coast

A powerful earthquake struck off the coast of Northern California at 10:44 a.m. PT Thursday, prompting Gov. Gavin Newsom to declare a state of emergency. Several aftershocks continued to rattle the area off Eureka following the initial quake.

The magnitude of the quake was 7.0. Other aftershocks were lower.

Retrieved December 6, 2024 from [A powerful 7.0 earthquake strikes off Northern California coast : NPR](#)

December 5, 2024

Russia-North Korea defense pact goes into effect

The landmark defense pact, signed this past June by their respective leaders, officially comes into effect following the exchange of ratification documents.

A landmark defense pact between North Korea and Russia, [signed this past June](#) by their respective leaders, has officially come into effect following the exchange of ratification documents, *AFP* reported on Wednesday, citing North Korea's state news agency *KCNA*.

The treaty's implementation comes amid accusations from the United States and South Korea that North Korea has deployed over 10,000 soldiers to support Russia in its war against Ukraine.

Experts suggest that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un is seeking to gain advanced technology and combat experience for his troops in return for this assistance.

The strategic partnership agreement was signed during Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Pyongyang and commits both nations to provide military aid "without delay" in the event of an attack on either country. It also solidifies their joint stance against Western sanctions.

The treaty went into effect on Wednesday, after the ratification documents were exchanged in Moscow by North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Kim Jong Gyu and his Russian counterpart, Andrei Rudenko, according to *KCNA*.

Last month, Russian lawmakers unanimously approved the agreement, which was later [signed into law](#) by Putin. In North Korea, the pact was ratified through a decree issued by Kim.

KCNA described the treaty as a "strong driving force accelerating the establishment of an independent and just multi-polarized world order without domination, subjugation and hegemony."

Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, military cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang has deepened.

Both countries are subject to extensive UN sanctions — North Korea for its nuclear weapons program and Russia for its actions in Ukraine.

Retrieved December 5, 2024, from [Russia-North Korea defense pact goes into effect | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

December 1, 2024

China Vows 'Resolute Countermeasures' After US Arms Sale to Taiwan

China vowed "resolute countermeasures" on Sunday to a recently approved U.S. arms sale to Taiwan, saying it had lodged a complaint over the sale, which it said seriously infringes on China's sovereignty.

The U.S. State Department approved the potential sale, worth an estimated \$385 million, of spare parts and support for F-16 jets and radars to Taiwan, the Pentagon said on Friday.

The sale was announced hours before Taiwan's President Lai Ching-te left on a visit to Taipei's three diplomatic allies in the Pacific, with stops in Hawaii and the U.S. territory of Guam.

Retrieved December 1, 2024, from [UPDATE 1-China Vows 'resolute Countermeasures' after US Arms Sale to Taiwan | Newsmax.com](#)

November 26, 2024

Russia Condemns 'Irresponsible' Talk of Nuclear Weapons for Ukraine

Discussion in the West about arming Ukraine with nuclear weapons is "absolutely irresponsible," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Tuesday, in response to a report in the New York Times citing unidentified officials who suggested such a possibility.

The New York Times reported last week that some unidentified Western officials had suggested U.S. President Joe Biden could give Ukraine nuclear weapons before he leaves office.

"Several officials even suggested that Mr. Biden could return nuclear weapons to Ukraine that were taken from it after the fall of the Soviet Union. That would be an instant and enormous deterrent. But such a step would be complicated and have serious implications," the newspaper wrote.

Retrieved November 26, 2024, from [Russia Condemns 'Irresponsible' Talk of Nuclear Weapons for Ukraine | Newsmax.com](#)

Mexican President Warns About Effects of Tariffs

Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum said Tuesday that she will send a letter to U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, urging dialog and cooperation after his pledge of across-the-board tariffs of 25% on Mexico and Canada.

"To one tariff will come another and so on, until we put our common businesses at risk," Sheinbaum said while warning that tariffs would cause inflation and job losses in both countries.

Trump made the pledge Monday, blaming Mexico for not doing more to halt the arrival of illicit drugs and undocumented migrants via the countries' shared border

Retrieved November 26, 2024, from [Mexican President Warns About Effects of Tariffs | Newsmax.com](#)

November 11, 2024

Strong earthquakes strike Cuba, causing damage and landslides

Nov. 11 (UPI) -- A pair of strong earthquakes has struck off the southern coast of Cuba, inflicting damage and causing landslides.

The first 5.9-magnitude temblor struck at about 10:50 a.m. Sunday local time, followed an hour later by the larger 6.8-magnitude quake, according to [data](#) from the United States Geological Survey.

Retrieved November 11, 2024, from [Strong earthquakes strike Cuba, causing damage and landslides](#)

Southern California Wildfire Forces Thousands to Flee Amid High Winds

Retrieved November 11, 2024, from [Southern California Wildfire Forces Thousands to Flee Amid High Winds](#)

October 31, 2024

6.1 magnitude earthquake rocks Oregon coast

The Oregon coast was rocked by a 6.1-magnitude earthquake Wednesday. The US Geological Survey (USGS) detected the massive tremor at 1:15pm local time, with its epicenter located about 170 miles west of Bandon and 250 miles west-southwest of Salem.

Retrieved October 31, 2024, from [6.1 magnitude earthquake rocks Oregon coast](#)

100 yards from the border: Five killed in barrage on Metula

Hezbollah rocket strikes on agricultural field in northern Israel leave five dead, one seriously injured.

Retrieved October 31, 2024, from [100 yards from the border: Five killed in barrage on Metula | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Senior source to CNN: Iranian response to Israeli strikes to come before US election

US network told Iran's retaliation for Israel's recent strikes in retaliation for Iran's massive missile attack will be 'definitive and painful,' will likely come before Tuesday's presidential election.

Retrieved October 31, 2024, from [Senior source to CNN: Iranian response to Israeli strikes to come before US election | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

US eliminates at least 35 ISIS terrorists in strikes in Syria

US Central Command says the US military carried out a series of air strikes on ISIS camps in Syria this week, killing up to 35 terrorists from the group.

Retrieved October 31, 2024, from [US eliminates at least 35 ISIS terrorists in strikes in Syria | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

October 26, 2024

Operation Days of Repentance: Historic Israeli attack on Iran

Israel strikes military targets in Iran, including missile manufacturing sites and surface-to-air missile arrays.

Retrieved October 26, 2024, from [Operation Days of Repentance: Historic Israeli attack on Iran | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

October 24, 2024

Finland Warns of Hostile Activities by Russia

Finland is experiencing suspicious acts of sabotage and disruption and believes Russia is engaged in broad-ranging influence operations against it and other European countries, Finland's Minister of Interior Lulu Ranne said.

NATO and Western intelligence services, including Finland's, have warned that Russia is behind a growing number of hostile activities across the Euro-Atlantic area, ranging from repeated cyberattacks to Moscow-linked arson — all of which Russia denies.

"We are experiencing disruptions, acts of sabotage, various types of damage, and instrumentalised migration, among other things. This creates a general sense of uncertainty and vagueness about what is true and what is not," Ranne told reporter.

Retrieved October 24, 2024, from [Finland Warns of Hostile Activities by Russia | Newsmax.com](#)

SKorea, Poland Condemn NKorea Troops in Russia

South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol and Polish President Andrzej Duda on Thursday condemned North Korea's dispatch of troops to Russia for its war against Ukraine as a global security threat, Yoon's office said.

The two leaders held a summit and agreed to push to finalize a new contract to export South Korean K2 tanks to Poland by the end of the year, Yoon told a joint news conference with Duda. "We agreed that North Korea's dispatch of troops to Russia is a direct violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and the U.N. Charter and is a provocation that goes beyond the Korean Peninsula and Europe to threaten global security," Yoon said.

Retrieved October 24, 2024, from [SKorea, Poland Condemn NKorea Troops in Russia | Newsmax.com](#)

Iran and Saudi Arabia hold joint naval exercise in Sea of Oman

Saudi spokesman confirms war games; Iran's naval chief, state media indicate joint drills with ex-foe Riyadh in Red Sea, Indian Ocean

Retrieved October 24, 2024, from [Iran and Saudi Arabia hold joint naval exercise in Sea of Oman | The Times of Israel](#)

October 12, 2024

Putin meets with Iran's Pezeshkian, calling for 'new world order' of Russian allies

Russian leader tells Iranian president two countries have similar views on world affairs, as Iran provides Moscow with drones for war in Ukraine, is accused of supplying missiles

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan — Russian President Vladimir Putin met Iran's president on Friday at a time when Tehran is supplying weapons for Moscow's war in Ukraine and concerns are growing over escalating attacks between Israel and Iran and its terror allies.

Putin and Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian discussed the situation in the Middle East on the sidelines of an international forum in the Turkmen capital, Ashgabat, Russian state media said.

Moscow and Tehran signed a \$1.7 billion deal for Iran to export drones to Russia after Putin invaded Ukraine in 2022

Retrieved October 12, 2024, from [Putin meets with Iran's Pezeshkian, calling for 'new world order' of Russian allies | The Times of Israel](#)

September 11, 2024

Russia in Continuous Attack on Norway

Russia reportedly has been using a northern Norway town to experiment with hybrid warfare and influence operations.

Since annexing Crimea in 2014, Moscow's military and intelligence services have been using Kirkenes, located six miles near the Russian border, as "a laboratory," a regional police chief [told The New Yorker](#). Russian hackers have employed phishing scams, ransomware, and other forms of cyber warfare, and alleged tourists have been caught photographing sensitive defense and communications infrastructure.

Norway's domestic-intelligence service (PST) has warned of the threat of sabotage to the country's train lines, and to gas facilities that supply energy to much of Europe.

A few months ago, someone cut a vital communications cable running to a Norwegian Air Force base.

"We've seen what we believe to be continuous mapping of our critical infrastructure," regional counterintelligence chief Johan Roaldsnes, told The New Yorker. "I see it as continuous war preparation."

One journalist in Kirkenes told the outlet that Russia is using the Barents Sea for research and development of new delivery systems for nuclear weapons, "including a subsea nuclear torpedo that could flood a coastal city with a radioactive tsunami, and a nuclear-powered cruise missile with global reach."

"The Kola Peninsula is their strategic security against the West," Roaldsnes told The New Yorker. "The whole Russian plan is that, if things really heat up with NATO, they need to create a buffer," to preserve the capability to carry out nuclear strikes.

"That means the ability to control their closest neighboring territory ... and control access to the waters, to prevent anyone from getting close." European nations acknowledge that their people and infrastructure are under ceaseless attack from Russia. However, each incident falls below the threshold that would require a military response or trigger NATO's Article 5, which states that if one member is attacked, all other members will consider it an attack on all of them.

Every country that borders Russia is preparing for a wider war in the event of a Russian victory in Ukraine, The New Yorker reported.

[CNN last week reported](#) that Russia could wreak havoc with the United States' electronic infrastructure vast network of undersea fiber-optic cables carrying more than 95% of international data.

Two U.S. officials recently told the news outlet that Russia had increased military activity around the cables in the Baltic Sea near Denmark.

Russia clearly sees itself at war with the West.

"That's for sure — we are saying that openly," the Russian U.N. representative recently said, The New Yorker reported.

Russians and proxies have used hybrid warfare, designed to subdue the enemy without fighting. They aim to subvert, sabotage, destabilize, and instill fear.

"They do it because they can do it," an air-traffic controller said of an electronic-warfare attack that imperils civilian aviation. "Then they deny everything, and they threaten you, saying that, if you don't stop accusing them of what you know they're doing, bad things will happen to you."

Retrieved September 11, 2024, from [Russia in Continuous Attack on Norway | Newsmax.com](#)

September 4, 2024

Kremlin warns Washington of 'fatal' miscalculation to let

Kyiv use U.S.-supplied weapons inside Russia

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov on Monday warned the U.S. against the potential “fatal consequences” of allowing Kyiv to deploy U.S.-supplied weapons against targets inside Russia.

“I would like to warn American leaders against miscalculations that could have fatal consequences. For some unknown reason, they underestimate the seriousness of the rebuff they may receive,” Ryabkov said, according to Google-translated [comments carried by Russian state news agency Tass](#). He noted that Russian President Vladimir Putin had repeatedly addressed the topic, giving “a very significant warning, and it must be taken seriously, with the utmost seriousness.”

Retrieved September 4, 2024, from [Kremlin warns Washington of 'fatal' miscalculation to let Kyiv use U.S.-supplied weapons inside Russia \(cnbc.com\)](#)

US Army Smallest Since 1940; Navy, Air Force Down

Retrieved September 4, 2024, from [US Army Smallest Since 1940; Navy, Air Force Down | Newsmax.com](#)

September 1, 2024

VENEZUELA MAKES BID TO JOIN CHINA-LED BRICS – WITH SUPPORT FROM RUSSIA

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov welcomed the interest of Venezuela’s socialist Maduro regime in joining the BRICS

anti-Western bloc on Wednesday in remarks given on the sidelines of the group's foreign ministers' meeting.

BRICS is a China-led trade and security group originally made up of Russia, China, Brazil, India, and South Africa. The bloc agreed to expand in 2023 and as of January 2024 includes Egypt, Ethiopia, the United Arab Emirates, and Iran. Saudi Arabia is reportedly in the process of finalizing its membership.

Retrieved September 1, 2024, from [Venezuela Makes Bid to Join China-Led BRICS – with Support from Russia \(breitbart.com\)](#)

Ukraine's Zelenskiy presses US to greenlight deeper strikes into Russia

KYIV, Aug 31 (Reuters) - Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy increased pressure on the United States to let Kyiv strike military targets deep inside Russian territory after his representatives met senior U.S. officials in Washington on Saturday.

Washington has provided Ukraine with more than \$50 billion worth of military aid since 2022, but has limited the use of its weapons to Ukrainian soil and defensive crossborder operations.

Retrieved September 1, 2024, from [Ukraine's Zelenskiy presses US to greenlight deeper strikes into Russia | Reuters](#)

August 29, 2024

Australian city wakes up to early morning earthquake

Story by Olivia Day For Daily Mail Australia

A minor [earthquake](#) has struck Victoria this morning.

The magnitude 3.4 earthquake was recorded near Hamilton in the state's southwest at 5.09am on Thursday. The quake occurred at a depth of 3km.

Retrieved August 29, 2024, from [Australian city wakes up to early morning earthquake \(msn.com\)](#)

Earthquake hits Greek island of Crete

Story by Associated Press Reporters

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.2 struck off the southern Greek resort island of Crete, authorities said.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage.

The Athens Geodynamic Institute said the undersea earthquake occurred at 7.23pm local time on Wednesday between Crete and the islet of Gavdos. Retrieved August 29, 2024, from [Earthquake hits Greek island of Crete \(msn.com\)](#)

August 28, 2024

MIND GAMES

How China's shadowy 'Brain Warfare' unit is preparing for war with new mind-melting weapons to 'paralyse' enemies

CHINA is gearing up for all-out war by readying a disturbing trove of mind-melting weapons, experts have warned.

It's feared [Xi Jinping's](#) regime could use the [chilling weapons](#) to target [Taiwan's](#) forces in the event of an invasion.

We reported last year on developments inside China's People's Liberation Army which pointed to the [terrifying new tech](#).

Xi's forces are thought to be looking at cognitive and biological weapons - designed to make their enemies fall asleep, impair alertness and damage decision-making.

Now, [China](#) experts have spoken to The Sun about the development of the game-changing weapons - and warned of a "terrible, brave new world".

John Lee, a senior fellow at Hudson Institute and a former national security adviser in the Australian government, said the new weapons are designed to "defeat the enemy's mind".

Retrieved August 29, 2024, from [How China's shadowy 'Brain Warfare' unit is preparing for war with new mind-melting weapons to 'paralyse' enemies | The US Sun \(the-sun.com\)](#)

August 26, 2024

Earthquake reported off the coast of Portugal Monday morning measuring 5.4

Story by Max Hauptman, USA TODAY

An earthquake rattled southern Portugal Monday morning, according to the United States Geological Survey.

The earthquake, which registered a magnitude of 5.4, was recorded at 5:11 a.m. local time off the coast of Portugal, about 32 miles west of the town of Sines. Data from the USGS showed that the earthquake was recorded at a depth of almost 11 miles.

Retrieved August 26, 2024, from [Earthquake reported off the coast of Portugal Monday morning measuring 5.4 \(msn.com\)](#)

US test launches hypersonic nuclear missile capable of reaching Moscow in 30 minutes amid rising threats of WW3

Retrieved August 26, 2024, from [US test launches hypersonic nuclear missile capable of reaching Moscow in 30 minutes amid rising threats of WW3 | Daily Mail Online](#)

August 22, 2024

Earthquake shakes Hawaii's Big Island as storms loom in the Pacific

Story by Christopher Cann, USA TODAY

A magnitude 4.7 earthquake struck the Big Island of Hawaii on Thursday as

officials tracked two rapidly developing storms in the Pacific.

The temblor was reported nine miles south of Fern Forest, a community of about 1,100 people on the southern end of the Big Island of Hawaii, at 12:52 a.m. local time, [according to the U.S. Geological Survey](#).

Retrieved August 22, 2024, from [Earthquake shakes Hawaii's Big Island as storms loom in the Pacific \(msn.com\)](#)

Iran Wants Trump Eliminated by Election Day

The Islamic regime in Iran is trying to assassinate former President Donald Trump, with hopes of doing so by Nov. 5, Election Day.

Multiple governmental sources associated with U.S. allies across the Mideast have informed me of the danger.

In the assessments of several governments, the Iranian regime has made clear it wants to rid itself of Trump — and it believes it must do so by Election Day.

Retrieved August 22, 2024, from [Iran Wants Trump Eliminated by Election Day | Newsmax.com](#)

August 18, 2024

Russian volcano erupts sending ash 5 miles high after region suffers 7.0 magnitude earthquake

Story by Yelena Mandenberg

[Russia's Shiveluch volcano](#) spectacularly erupted after a 7.0-magnitude [earthquake](#) jolted the eastern coastline, the state-run TASS media outlet reported.

"According to visual evaluations, the ash column is rising as high as 8 kilometers (5 miles) above the sea level," declared TASS on Sunday morning local time, noting that the [volcano](#) spewed out lava flows.

"The volcano is approximately 280 miles from the coastal city of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. According to TASS, the Shiveluch volcano has not caused "major damage; nonetheless, "buildings are now being examined for potential damage, with special attention paid to social facilities." TASS indicated that no injuries were reported and did not issue a [tsunami](#) warning, though residents have been forced to evacuate the area after the [earthquake shook](#) the region.

The quake stirred significant alarm, prompting inhabitants to exit their dwellings. It is home to some 181,000 people within Russia's Kamchatka region. The tremors caused kitchenware to smash and furniture to 'topple,' South Asian News service ANI described.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) identified the quake's epicenter as roughly 55 miles away from Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky at a depth of about 30 miles.

While Russia's agency said they did not announce a tsunami warning, earlier, the U.S. Tsunami Warning System did issue an alert stating, "hazardous tsunami waves from this earthquake are possible within 300km of the epicenter along the coasts of Russia."

According to [The Smithsonian](#), Sheveluch (also spelled Shiveluch) in Kamchatka has had at least 60 large eruptions during the last 10,000 years. A broad 9km-wide caldera truncates the summit breached to the S, and many lava domes occur on the outer flanks.

The lava dome complex was constructed within the large open caldera. Frequent collapses of the dome complex have produced debris avalanches; the resulting deposits cover much of the caldera floor.

"A major south-flank collapse during a 1964 Plinian explosion produced a scarp in which a "Young Sheveluch" dome began to form in 1980. Repeated episodes of dome formation and destruction since then have produced major and minor ash plumes, pyroclastic flows, block-and-ash flows, and "whaleback domes" of spine-like extrusions in 1993 and 2020 (BGVN 45:11)" according to the Smithsonian Global Volcanism Program.

Retrieved August 18, 2024, from [Russian volcano erupts sending ash 5 miles high after region suffers 7.0 magnitude earthquake \(msn.com\)](#)

Multiple Active Shooters Target Air Force Base in San Antonio

Officials at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland (JBSA) said its security officers returned fire on multiple active shooters who fired upon the main gate at the JBSA Chapman Training Annex early Saturday.

The incident occurred Saturday morning around 4:30 am when at least once suspect in a sedan fired at security officers. . San Antonio police were also on the scene, [according](#) to local news outlet KSAT 12.

Authorities did not say if anyone was hurt or how many individuals were involved in the exchange of gunfire. Officials did indicate that the shooters were not known to have any military connections.

"There was no active threat to the installation ... and our security forces responded to mitigate the threat," said JBSA spokesperson Stefanie Antosh to the media. No motive was given for the shooting and Antosh said the suspects did not try to breach the main gate.

Security officials said the main gate was closed for a number of hours but has now reopened.

Retrieved August 18, 2024, from [Multiple Active Shooters Target Air Force Base in San Antonio | Newsmax.com](#)

Lebanon: Nationwide power outage affects Beirut's airport and port

Lebanon's power utility company announces nationwide power outage after last group of production units at the Zahrani Power Plant, which supplies the country with electricity, run out of fuel.

August 13, 2024

Earthquake in Lebanon – A testament to Divine protection

Is this a Tisha B'Av miracle telling our enemies that on this day on which they hoped to attack us, the G-d of Israel is sending them a warning?

Duvi Honig

Published: Aug 13, 2024

Duvi Honig is founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Orthodox Jewish Chamber Of Commerce and J-biz Expo.

On a day that carries deep historical significance, the 9th of Av (Tisha B'Av), a 5.0 magnitude earthquake struck northern Lebanon, as reported by the US Geological Survey. The tremor, which originated 10 kilometers below the Earth's surface, occurred on the very day Iran's proxy, Hezbollah, had vowed to exact retaliation, hoping this day is one of bad luck to the Jewish nation. This is the same way Haman miscalculated by choosing the day Moses died as a day of bad luck to the Jews, also hoping that G-D would let him succeed destroying the Jewish nation on that day.

This timely seismic event cannot be casually dismissed as mere coincidence; it appears to bear the unmistakable Hand of Divine Providence.

One does not need to be a professional geologist to comprehend the destruction potential of a deep underground quake of such magnitude. With minimal surface impact, without a doubt this caused significant physical underground damage as well as a psychological price.

It is not farfetched to conclude that the disturbance below the earth functioned effectively to distract and destabilize, preempting any potential attacks planned for Tisha B'Av with it most likely destroying some Hezbollah underground networks and burying soldiers underground.

ה' ילחם לכם ואתם תחרישן - G-d will fight for you and you will remain silent (Exodus)

Divine Defense Strategy

In a statement, the Israeli military highlighted their evolving strategies for counterterrorism, which include identifying and destroying underground tunnels before addressing threats on the surface. Intriguingly, this earthquake seems almost serendipitously aligned with these proactive defense measures, hinting at a Higher Power intervening on behalf of the Jewish nation.

A Message to Iran and the World

In Jewish tradition, there is a concept of "Mida K'neged Mida," or measure for measure justice. This was exemplified in the Biblical narrative when the Egyptians, who had drowned Jewish infants, were themselves drowned in the Red Sea. The parallels are striking—an enemy seeks to destroy Israel, and in turn, faces sudden, Divine retribution.

Iran's President recently tweeted before his death in Hebrew, boasting that with G-d's Help, using the worlds Bezrat Hashem, they would destroy Israel. However, this assertion appears to have been met with a response from the very Divinity they invoked when striking Israel from the air with hundreds of missiles that were deflected. G-d retaliated in the exact same way by bringing the Iranian president's end with his helicopter crashing and resulting in his death.

So Iran went back to the planning board and thought they could use a day of bad luck for the Jews to succeed in destroying the Jewish Nation; God's intervention seems to have taken the form of this well-timed earthquake, sending a clear message: "With My help? Let Me show you what that means."

This served as a Divine message mirroring the Book of Esther, the story that took place in today's Iran, in which Haman's evil calculations backfired. Iran and other adversaries have historically miscalculated the significance of Jewish mourning days, believing them to be moments of vulnerability. However, they fail to realize the dual nature of these days. Moses died on the 7th of Adar but it was also the day he was born, to become the redeemer of the Jewish nation. Iran chose Tisha B'Av — a day of lamentation for the destruction of the Temples and a day to attack, but this same day also holds the promise of future redemption and the birth of Mashiach.

There is no doubt how a 10 kilometer deep earthquake in the northern border of Lebanon from where the attacks on Israel were to be launched by Hezbollah most definitely created an astronomical underground shake - even possibly destroyed infrastructure and weapons, hindering and even preventing an attack on the Jewish nation.

This modern day miracle serves as an unmistakable sign of G-d's continuous role in the world, protecting His children and thwarting their enemies with a precision that defies human understanding.

This event teaches us a profound lesson: even in our times, Divine protection is ever-present, guiding the fate of nations and ensuring that the Jewish people remain safeguarded against all adversaries.

Let us all unite and thank Hashem for this open miracle and pray for the redemption of the Jewish Nation.

Retrieved August 13, 2024, from [Earthquake in Lebanon – A testament to Divine protection | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Magnitude 4.4 earthquake shakes Los Angeles

Retrieved August 13, 2024, from [Earthquake hits Pasadena, shaking Los Angeles, California | CNN](#)

Regional quake: 5.2M earthquake hits northern, central Israel and surrounding countries

A magnitude 5.5 earthquake struck the Jordan-Syria region on Tuesday, the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) said.

Retrieved August 13, 2024, from [Earthquake of magnitude 5.46 strikes Israel, Jordan-Syria region - GFZ - Israel News - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

August 12, 2024

IDF Captures Strategic Rafah Border Crossing Between Egypt and the Southern Gaza Strip

[CHRIS MITCHELL](#)

Retrieved August 12, 2024, from [IDF Captures Strategic Rafah Border Crossing Between Egypt and the Southern Gaza Strip | CBN News](#)

Turkey announces 'Steel Dome' missile defense system

Newly-announced Turkish multi-technology air defense system has similar name to Israel's 'Iron Dome' system, which has been wildly successful in multiple conflicts.

Retrieved August 12, 2024, from [Turkey announces 'Steel Dome' missile defense system | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Defense Sec. Austin Rushes USS Abraham Lincoln, Missile Submarine to Mideast

Retrieved August 12, 2024, from [Defense Secretary Austin Reinforces Troops in Middle East | Newsmax.com](#)

Jerusalem Post Editor: Harris Poses Existential Threat to Israel

Retrieved August 12, 2024, from [Jerusalem Post Editor: Harris Poses Existential Threat to Israel | Newsmax.com](#)

August 9, 2024

5.3 earthquake recorded live at Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles

On August 7, 2024, a 5.3 magnitude earthquake was

Retrieved August 9, 2024 from [5.3 earthquake recorded live at Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles | Watch \(msn.com\)](#)

August 8, 2024

Southern Japan hit by M7.1 earthquake, tsunami warning issued

Story by IntelliNews

By bno - Taipei Office



Southern Japan hit by M7.1 earthquake, tsunami warning issued

A strong earthquake hit off Japan's southern coast on Thursday evening, 8 August, prompting a tsunami advisory.

Authorities in areas of south and central Japan on the Pacific coast advised residents to avoid the coastline, though there were no immediate reports of injuries or significant damage.

The Japan Meteorological Agency in Tokyo reported that the quake, which occurred at 4:43 p.m. local time, had a magnitude of 7.1. It was centred in waters off the eastern coast of Kyushu, Japan's main southern island in the archipelago, at a depth of about 30 kilometres.

Nichinan city and surrounding areas in Miyazaki Prefecture on Kyushu experienced the strongest tremors.

The agency further said that a 50cm tsunami had already been seen along the southern coast of Kyushu and further east on the nearby island of Shikoku approximately half an hour after the earthquake.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi stated that officials were evaluating potential injuries or damage, but none were immediately reported. He urged residents in the affected region to remain away from the coast.

Shigeki Aoki, an official from the Seismology Department was reported as cautioning that strong aftershocks could occur over the next week by the Associated Press.

NHK public television meanwhile carried stories of shattered windows at Miyazaki airport, not far from the earthquake's epicentre.

NHK also broadcast images of dozens of people gathering at a designated hilltop evacuation site; thousands who failed to act in a similar manner in the 2011 M9.0-9.1 Fukushima earthquake perished in the resulting tsunami in what was the largest earthquake in living memory to hit Japan.

Further south, in Osaki, Kagoshima prefecture, concrete walls collapsed, and a wooden house was damaged, but no injuries were reported.

The Nuclear Regulation Authority confirmed that all 12 nuclear reactors on Kyushu and Shikoku, including three currently operational, remained safe.

Japan, like Taiwan, the Philippines and Indonesia in Asia, is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire and is prone to earthquakes due to its position along a series of seismic faults encircling the Pacific Ocean.

Retrieved August 8, 2024 from [Southern Japan hit by M7.1 earthquake, tsunami warning issued \(msn.com\)](https://www.msn.com)

August 2.2024

Levitical Choir Sings New, Ancient Psalms in Preparation for Rebuilt Temple

Retrieved August 2, 2024, from [Levitical Choir Sings New, Ancient Psalms in Preparation for Rebuilt Temple | CBN News](#)

Iran plans to attack Israel on Tisha B'Av - the Jewish day of disasters, Western intelligence says

Iran reportedly plans to attack Israel on the day of Tisha B'Av, where Jews mourn the loss of the first and second Temples.

Western intelligence sources told Sky News Arabia that they had evidence Iran plans to attack Israel on Tisha B'Av in response to the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, which begins on August 12 and ends on August 13, the site reported on Friday.

Retrieved August 2, 2024, from [Iran plans attack on Israel over Haniyeh death on Jewish day of tragedy - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

Biden and Netanyahu discuss joint U.S.-Israeli military deployment to counter looming Iranian threat Retrieved August 2, 2024, from [Biden and Netanyahu discuss joint U.S.-Israeli military deployment to counter looming Iranian threat | All Israel News](#)

August 1, 2024

300 days of war: Israel preparing for Iranian attack

Israel's Aerial Defense Array is on high alert ahead of expected retaliation for death of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and Hezbollah's second-in-command Fuad Shukr.

Retrieved August 1, 2024, from [300 days of war: Israel preparing for Iranian attack | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

US will help Israel defend itself in Lebanon war, Austin says

“We remain concerned about the potential of this escalating into a full fight. And I don't believe that a fight is inevitable,” US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said.

Retrieved August 1, 2024, from [US to aid Israel if war erupts with Lebanon, says Lloyd Austin - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

July 31, 2024

Texas Just Had More Than 100 Earthquakes In A Week

Retrieved July 31, 2024, from [Texas Just Had More Than 100 Earthquakes In A Week \(msn.com\)](#)

Hamas threatens retribution in Israel and abroad

Hamas's military arm published a statement lamenting and condemning the 'heart-wrenching act of elimination' against Ismail Haniyeh.

Retrieved July 31, 2024, from [Hamas threatens retribution in Israel and abroad | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

July 30, 2024

Earthquake reported near Barstow, California Monday afternoon measuring 4.9

An [earthquake](#) shook Southern California early Monday afternoon.

The earthquake reportedly struck about 15 miles near Barstow in San Bernardino County at 1:00 p.m. local time.

The temblor, which was recorded at a depth of nearly five miles, measured a magnitude of 4.9, according to the [U.S. Geological Survey](#).

Aftershock quakes with magnitudes of 3.5 and 2.7 were recorded in the same area within five minutes from the initial shake, USGS reported.

The quake was felt in across San Bernardino County as well as parts of Los Angeles, Riverside, Kern and Orange counties.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or damage to buildings in the city, Barstow Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Travis Espinoza confirmed to USA TODAY.

Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson said city officials are aware of the earthquake that occurred about 120 miles away.

"As of now, there have been no reports of damage or impacts to our city," he wrote on X (formerly Twitter).

Retrieved July 30, 2024, from [Earthquake reported near Barstow, California Monday afternoon measuring 4.9 \(msn.com\)](#)

Blinken raises concerns over Beijing's 'destabilizing actions' in South China Sea at meeting with Chinese counterpart

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken shakes hands with Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on the sideline of the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting in Vientiane, Laos, on July 27, 2024.

Achmad Ibrahim/AP

Hong KongCNN —

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken expressed concern over Beijing's "destabilizing actions" in the South China Sea in a meeting with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, as the two sought to keep communications open despite a deepening rivalry.

Blinken met with Wang in Laos during a trip to Asia against the backdrop of a fierce US presidential election campaign, which has renewed regional scrutiny over what the world will look like with a new administration in the White House.

The two leaders discussed bilateral, regional, and global issues, US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a statement, adding: "The Secretary made clear that the United States, together with our allies and partners, will advance our vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific."

Retrieved July 30, 2024, from [Blinken raises concerns over Beijing's 'destabilizing actions' in South China Sea at meeting with Chinese counterpart | CNN](#)

July 29, 2024

Magnitude 4.5 earthquake hits Utah; no damage or injuries immediately reported

Story by Gabe Hauari

A 4.5 magnitude [earthquake struck near Cedar City, Utah](#), around 11:30 p.m. Sunday night, according to the United States Geological Survey.

The epicenter of the quake was about 19 miles southwest of Cedar City and about 233 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, according to the USGS. No damage or injuries were immediately reported.

The USGS said the earthquake struck at a depth of about 19.6 kilometers, which is about 12 miles. There was light to moderate shaking felt in the area of the epicenter, with people as far north as Beaver, Utah, reporting having felt it. People as far southwest as Las Vegas reported some weak shaking.

Retrieved July 29, 2024, from [Magnitude 4.5 earthquake hits Utah; no damage or injuries immediately reported \(msn.com\)](#)

2.3 magnitude earthquake hits lower western N. Korea: KMA

Retrieved July 29, 2024, from [2.3 magnitude earthquake hits lower western N. Korea: KMA \(msn.com\)](#)

The Russian Navy Just Sailed Right Into America's 'Backyard' (Again)

Story by Peter Suci

Summary and Key Points: Russian warships, including the training ship Smolny, tanker Yelnya, and patrol vessel Neustrashimy from the Baltic Fleet, docked in Havana, Cuba, marking the second such visit this summer.

Retrieved July 29, 2024, from [The Russian Navy Just Sailed Right Into America's 'Backyard' \(Again\) \(msn.com\)](#)

Turkey's Erdogan Threatens to Invade Israel

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan threatened on Sunday to invade Israel in order to support the Palestinians as the Israel Defense Forces continues to battle Hamas terrorists in Gaza, [The Times of Israel](#) reported.

"We must be very strong so that Israel can't do these things to Palestine," Erdogan said at a political meeting of his Justice and Development Party in Rize. "Just as we entered [Nagorno-] Karabakh, just as we entered Libya, we might do the same to them. There is nothing we can't do. We must only be strong."

The threats from Erdogan, who is one of one of the most bitter critics of Israel on the international stage, comes as the international community is attempting to prevent a larger regional war after Hezbollah launched an Iranian rocket from Lebanon.

Retrieved July 29, 2024, from [Turkey's Erdogan Threatens to Invade Israel | Newsmax.com](#)

July 26, 2024

China Aiming to Replace US as Saudis' Military Partner

By John Rossomando

There was a \$4 billion arms deal between China and Saudi Arabia announced in 2022. The kingdom is reportedly interested in purchasing Chinese J-10 fighter/bomber aircraft. There are plans for it to buy hypersonic missiles and destroyers from China.

Retrieved July 26, 2024, from [China Aiming to Replace US as Saudis' Military Partner | Newsmax.com](#)

July 23, 2024

US states are rattled by a wave of earthquakes up to 5.0 magnitude.

Texas was [hit by three earthquakes on Monday evening through Tuesday morning, with the largest felt 200 miles away from the epicenter.](#)

[Reports of the quakes](#) flooded out of [Texas](#) after the first shook people awake in Hermleigh at 10.38pm, which registered as a 4.9 magnitude - the eighth strongest in the state's history.

At least 1.6 million people as far away as Austin, southern [Oklahoma](#) and [New Mexico](#) experienced the event.

A 4.4 magnitude aftershock occurred less than 10 minutes after the initial [earthquake](#) and residents experienced a 3.1 magnitude in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

Northern Texas, where Hermleigh is located, doesn't sit on any major fault lines, but 250 minor ones extend outward 1,800 miles from the Dallas-Fort Worth area - which reaches the epicenter of Monday's quake.

Retrieved July 23, 2024 from [US states are rattled by a wave of earthquakes up to 5.0 magnitude. \(msn.com\)](#)

Russia Conducts Second Mobile Nuclear Missile Launcher Drill This Month

Russian forces are conducting drills involving Yars mobile nuclear missile launchers, Russian media reported Tuesday, in what would be the second such exercise in less than a month.

Missile launcher crews in the Volga river basin, some 700 kilometers (435 miles) east of Moscow, were set to move over 100 kilometers (62 miles) and practice camouflage and deployment, the Interfax news agency reported.

The drills follow similar exercises in early July in at least two different regions and are taking place less than two months after Russia held tactical nuclear weapons deployment exercises alongside ally Belarus

Retrieved July 23, 2024, from [Russia Conducts Second Mobile Nuclear Missile Launcher Drill This Month | Newsmax.com](#)

Iraq Eyes Drawdown of US-Led Forces Starting September, Sources Say

Iraq wants troops from a U.S.-led military coalition to begin withdrawing in September and to formally end the coalition's work by September 2025, four Iraqi sources said, with some U.S. forces likely to remain in a newly negotiated advisory capacity.

The Iraqi position is being discussed with U.S. officials in Washington this week at a security summit and there is no formal agreement on ending the coalition or any associated timetable yet, the Iraqi sources and U.S officials said.

U.S. State Department spokesperson Mathew Miller told a news briefing that both sides were meeting in Washington this week to determine how to transition the U.S.-led coalition's mission based on the threat posed by Islamic State, adding he had no further details.

Retrieved July 23, 2024 from [Iraq Eyes Drawdown of US-Led Forces Starting September, Sources Say | Newsmax.com](#)

July 11, 2024

Satellite Pics: China Practicing Strikes on Replica US Jets

Satellite images suggest the Chinese Army has been conducting drills in the desert on replica U.S. fighter jets and an aircraft carrier, according to multiple recent reports.

The South China Morning Post (SCMP) was the latest to [report](#) on the images, which seem to show the People's Liberation Army, the military arm of the Chinese Communist Party, has been practicing strikes on fifth-generation U.S. jets.

Business Insider [reported](#) in June the airfield located in the Taklamakan Desert in Xinjiang province appeared to show F-22s, P-8A Poseidon aircraft as well as a U-2 reconnaissance plane, citing satellite images in April. Later satellite images appeared to show F-35 mockups, according to BI and the Turkish-based outlet [Clash Report](#).

Retrieved July 11, 2024, from [Satellite Pics: China Practicing Strikes on Replica US Jets | Newsmax.com](#)

July 9, 2024

PAKISTAN BOMBS AFGHANISTAN, CLAIMING TALIBAN IS 'ACTIVELY PATRONIZING' TERROR ACROSS BORDER

The government of Pakistan confirmed the execution of “intelligence-based anti-terrorist operations” within Afghanistan on Monday, outraging the Taliban, which claimed to have responded by bombing Pakistani military bases “with heavy weapons.”

The relationship between Pakistan and the Taliban-controlled Afghanistan has been tense since the terrorists seized Kabul in August 2021, the direct result of leftist American President Joe Biden’s decision to [extend](#) the already two-decade-old war in Afghanistan beyond the May 2021 deadline set by predecessor former President Donald Trump. A report [published](#) in February 2023 found that Biden left an estimated \$7.2 billion in military equipment in Afghanistan, now believed to be under the control of Taliban terrorists and their allies.

Retrieved July 9, 2024, from [Pakistan Bombs Afghanistan, Claiming Taliban Is 'Actively Patronizing' Terror Across Border \(breitbart.com\)](#)

July 5, 2024 A “Great Swarm” Of Earthquakes Off The Washington Coast Is Raising Concerns That The Cascadia Subduction Zone Could Blow

An area off the coast of Washington state is being shaken by hundreds and hundreds of earthquakes. So is this an indication of potential trouble for the Cascadia Subduction Zone? At this point, there is so much that we don’t know. Scientists are telling us that the quakes are centered around a large underwater volcano. The underwater volcano does not pose a threat at all, but

if an enormous earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone were to trigger a giant tsunami that slams into the west coast, that would be a historic disaster of epic proportions.

The frequency of the earthquakes that we are witnessing off the coast of Washington is extremely alarming.

It is being reported that earlier this month there were [“as many as 200 in a single hour”](#)...

That is a lot of quakes!

According to one of the experts that has been monitoring this area, there were [over 2,000 earthquakes](#) in a single day...

Retrieved July 5, 2024, from [A “Great Swarm” Of Earthquakes Off The Washington Coast Is Raising Concerns That The Cascadia Subduction Zone Could Blow \(themostimportantnews.com\)](#)

July 3, 2024

Cat 4 Hurricane Beryl Kills 6 in Caribbean, Roars Toward Jamaica

Retrieved July 3, 2024, from [Cat 4 Hurricane Beryl Kills 6 in Caribbean, Roars Toward Jamaica | Newsmax.com](#)

July 2, 2024

Report: China Expands Spy Sites in Cuba

China reportedly could be using an increased number of electronic surveillance stations in Cuba to spy on the U.S.

With Cuba less than 100 miles from Florida, four active sites could allow China to conduct electronic eavesdropping operations, according to a [Center for Strategic and International Studies \(CSIS\) report](#).

Military bases and testing sites, not to mention space launch centers, are located in the southeast region of the U.S.

The Cuban sites also provide a highly strategic vantage point near Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, a key U.S. military base in the region.

"These four sites are among the most likely locations supporting China's efforts to spy on the United States," CSIS said.

The sites also "could also bolster China's use of telecommunications networks to spy on U.S. citizens," said Leland Lazarus, an expert on China-Latin America relations at Florida International University, [The Wall Street Journal reported](#).

In its [2024 annual threat assessment](#), the U.S. intelligence community said China is pursuing military facilities in Cuba, without providing details.

The sites mentioned are located near Bejucal, in the hills overlooking the capital city of Havana; El Salao, under construction just east of the city of Santiago de Cuba; Wajay, about 6 miles north of Bejucal; and Calabazar, not far from Bejucal and Wajay.

They all have the ability for signals intelligence (SIGINT), which can intercept signals transmitted by both civilian and military actors.

"Collecting SIGINT is a complex task that requires specialized equipment, namely antennas, optimized for the signal characteristics of their targets," CSIS said.

The CSIS report said the Bejucal and Calabazar sites contain large dish antennas that appear designed to monitor and communicate with satellites, and could be useful for China's space program.

The report added China historically has lacked access to ground stations in North America, and accessing Cuban installations could help close that gap.

The Journal last year reported China and Cuba were negotiating [closer defense and intelligence ties](#), and reached a secret agreement for Beijing to [establish an electronic eavesdropping facility](#) on the island.

During the Cold War, the Soviet Union operated its largest overseas site for electronic spying at Lourdes, just outside Havana, the Journal added.

Retrieved July 2, 2024, from [Report: China Expands Spy Sites in Cuba | Newsmax.com](#)

June 30, 2024

Earthquake rocks upstate New York: USGS

NEW YORK (PIX11) – A 3.4-magnitude earthquake rocked upstate New York early Saturday morning, according to the [United States Geological Survey](#).

It struck around 3:45 a.m. less than 10 miles away from Henderson, which is near Lake Ontario, per the USGS.

Retrieved June 30, 2024 from [Earthquake rocks upstate New York: USGS \(yahoo.com\)](#)

June 28, 2024

Strong Earthquake Triggers Tsunami Warning

Story by Marni Rose McFall

A powerful [earthquake](#) struck near the coast of [Peru](#) early Friday, triggering a tsunami warning for the region and injuring at least five people, according to the country's health ministry. The 7.2 magnitude quake hit just outside Peru's second most populated city, Arequipa, at approximately 12:36 a.m. local time, the strongest in that part of Peru in over 23 years, according to a report from Volcano Discovery. The event prompted the country's National Tsunami Warning Center to issue an alert, indicating a "possible" tsunami, and its U.S. counterpart estimated that waves could reach between one and three meters above tide level along certain parts of Peru's coast. An update from the Peruvian navy's Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation suggested the threat had passed.

Retrieved June 28, 2024 from [Strong Earthquake Triggers Tsunami Warning \(msn.com\)](#)

US Prepping to Evacuate Americans From Lebanon if Needed

The U.S. is purportedly preparing to evacuate Americans from Lebanon if fighting between Israel and Hezbollah intensifies, [reported NBC News](#).

Three U.S. defense officials and a former U.S. official told NBC News the Pentagon moved the USS Wasp, an amphibious assault ship, and Marines from the 24th Expeditionary Unit, which is special operations capable, closer to Israel and Lebanon to prepare to evacuate Americans.

The State Department on Thursday urged U.S. citizens to "strongly reconsider" travel to Lebanon in a travel advisory as U.S. intel indicates a war between Israel and Hezbollah inches closer.

Retrieved June 28, 2024 from [US Prepping to Evacuate Americans From Lebanon if Needed | Newsmax.com](#)

China Condemns US Backing Philippines' 'Provocations'

China urged the United States on Friday to stop tolerating and supporting "provocations" by the Philippines, after Deputy Secretary of State Kurt Campbell expressed concern about Beijing's "destabilizing actions in the South China Sea."

China and the Philippines have recently traded accusations over "dangerous and illegal maneuvers" affecting their respective vessels in the area around the Second Thomas Shoal, a disputed atoll in the busy waterway.

"The United States should stop condoning and supporting the Philippines' provocations and nuisance and take practical actions to safeguard peace and stability in the South China Sea," said Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning.

Retrieved June 28, 2024, from [China Condemns US Backing Philippines' 'Provocations' | Newsmax.com](#)

Russia Drafting 'Big' Treaty With Iran

Russia said it is drafting a "big" treaty with Iran, just one week after Russian President Vladimir Putin signed a treaty with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un upgrading their relationship and pledging military assistance if either one is attacked.

"Now we are working on a treaty — probably you have heard about it, and I ask you once again not to use the formula 'the same as the one with North Korea' — now the work is underway on the big treaty with Iran," Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a press conference on Wednesday.

Russia and Iran signed a 20-year strategic agreement in 2001 that was automatically extended in 2020 for five years, according to Russia's TASS state news agency reports. Both sides also agreed in 2020 to work on a new pact that would replace the old document.

Retrieved June 28, 2024 from [Russia Drafting 'Big' Treaty With Iran | Newsmax.com](#)

June 27, 2024

US warns citizens: Strongly reconsider travel to Lebanon

US warns citizens to 'strongly reconsider' travel to Lebanon, urges US citizens already in Lebanon to avoid 'southern Lebanon, the Lebanon-Syria border area, or refugee settlements.'

Retrieved June 27, 2024, from [US warns citizens: Strongly reconsider travel to Lebanon | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Austin Urges Israel to De-Escalate Tensions on Border With Lebanon

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III urged Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to work to de-escalate tensions with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon during a meeting at the Pentagon this morning, Pentagon Press Secretary Air Force Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder said today.

Retrieved June 27, 2024, from [Austin Urges Israel to De-Escalate Tensions on Border With Lebanon > U.S. Department of Defense > Defense Department News](#)

'Middle East preparing for war': Arab states anticipate coming escalation, fmr. IDF officer says

Col. (res.) Alon Eviatar: 'The main headlines in the Middle East this morning are about preparations for war.'

By 103FM VIA MAARIV ONLINE JUNE 25, 2024 14:29 Updated: JUNE 25, 2024 14:30

Col. (res.) Alon Eviatar was interviewed this past Sunday on 103FM to address the IDF's ongoing [battle against Hamas in Gaza](#) and the potential for an all out war with Hezbollah in Lebanon.

"I think Hamas is marking several important events in the coming days or weeks. The most important thing, above all tactical events and eliminations, is that I think Hamas is aiming to reach a state of real war between Israel and Hezbollah," Eviatar stated.

"The Middle East is preparing for war. From Hamas's perspective, this is what will get it out of its situation in Gaza. From Hamas's point of view, [a war with Hezbollah](#) will end the IDF's military action in Gaza on Hamas's terms. For Hamas, a war with Hezbollah would flank Israel from the North as well," he added.

Retrieved June 27, 2024, from [Gaza war: Hamas longs for escalation between Israel and Hezbollah - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman: US likely unable to assist Israel in war with Hezbollah

Gen. Brown asked Israel to think of how a war would affect the region, as well as the impact it would have on US forces.

Retrieved June 27, 2024 from [Gen. Charles Brown says US will not assist Israel in fighting Hezbollah - Defense News - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

NATO to Offer Ukraine 'Bridge' to Membership

NATO plans to offer Ukraine a new headquarters to manage its military assistance as a sign the alliance is committed long-term to the country's security, The New York Times reported.

The offer is meant to symbolize a "bridge" to Ukraine's eventual membership in NATO, the Times added Thursday.

NATO will extend the offer at its upcoming 75th anniversary summit in Washington next month, officials told the outlet.

Retrieved June 27, 2024 from [NATO to Offer Ukraine 'Bridge' to Membership | Newsmax.com](#)

June 26, 2024

Magnitude 4.1 quake strikes south of Bakersfield: USGS

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (KGET) — A magnitude 4.1 earthquake struck in an area south of Bakersfield on Monday afternoon, according to the US Geological Survey.

The quake struck at around 3:30 p.m. and was centered in an area 8.5 miles northwest of Mettler, [according to data from the USGS](#). The quake's depth was measured at 11.3 km — or about 7 miles.

Retrieved June 26, 2024 from [Magnitude 4.1 quake strikes south of Bakersfield: USGS \(yahoo.com\)](#)

June 18, 2024

Putin Flies Into North Korea With Promise to Back It Against the US

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in North Korea on Wednesday for his first visit in 24 years, vowing to deepen trade and security ties with the reclusive nuclear-armed state and to support it against the United States.

Russian state media showed Putin and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un shaking hands, embracing and talking beside Putin's plane. It touched down in Pyongyang around 2:45 a.m. following a stopover in Russia's far east. The leaders then rode in the same limousine and walked together into Putin's hotel.

The U.S. and its Asian allies are trying to work out just how far Russia will go in support of the North Korean leader, whose country is the only one to have conducted nuclear weapon tests in the 21st century.

Retrieved June 18, 2024, from [Putin Flies Into North Korea With Promise to Back It Against the US | Newsmax.com](#)

June 16, 2024

Six earthquakes hit Southern California in one week. Does that mean 'The Big One' is coming?

Josh Marcus

In recent days, Southern California has experienced one earthquake after another. A 3.6 in Ojai on May 31. Two of a similar magnitude [under the East Los Angeles area of El Sereno](#). Another three quakes [near Newport Beach and Costa Mesa](#). While these quakes were far weaker than historic temblors like [the 6.7 Northridge Earthquake of 1994](#), which caused an estimated \$20bn in damage and killed over

57 people, do they herald the arrival of the so-called Big One in a state sitting on multiple, highly active faultlines?

There's the notorious 800-mile-long [San Andreas](#), which runs from near the Mexico border, east past Los Angeles, then up the coast north of Sacramento. Major quakes occur along the fault every 180 years or so, and the San Andreas hasn't had a majorly powerful one [since 1906](#). The US Geological Survey [estimates](#) it has a 60 percent chance of causing a magnitude 6.7 or greater in the Los Angeles area in the next 30 years.

Of even greater concern is the Cascadia Subduction Zone, which runs from Northern California to British Columbia, Canada. It's [overdue for an even larger quake](#) compared with historical averages.

So, are the recent earthquakes an ominous omen of something larger, or business as usual in a state with [an estimated 35 quakes a day](#)?

Retrieved June 16, 2024 from [Six earthquakes hit Southern California in one week. Does that mean 'The Big One' is coming? \(yahoo.com\)](#)

June 12, 2024

U.S. deploys warships as Russian fleet makes close pass to Florida in approach to Cuba

Michael Wilner, Nora Gámez Torres

Tue, June 11, 2024 at 4:34 PM MDT

The U.S. Navy has deployed warships and aircraft to track a Russian naval flotilla after the Russian vessels sailed less than 30 miles off South Florida's coast on Tuesday, U.S. officials told McClatchy and the Miami Herald.

Last week, Moscow sent [three ships and a nuclear-powered submarine](#) to the Caribbean for what U.S. officials say will be a set of extensive military air and naval exercises — the first of their kind in at least five years.

The drills began on Tuesday in the Atlantic, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a statement, with its hypersonic-capable frigate and nuclear-capable submarine simulating a strike on a group of enemy ships. It is unclear whether the

frigate is armed with hypersonic missiles, but the U.S. intelligence community has assessed that none of the Russian vessels are carrying nuclear weapons.

While the Biden administration has said it is not concerned by the Russian activity, it has nevertheless authorized the deployment of three powerful destroyers and a submarine reconnaissance aircraft to the region, a U.S. Northern Command official told McClatchy and the Herald on Tuesday. “In accordance with standard procedures, we’ve been actively monitoring the Russian ships as they transit the Atlantic Ocean within international waters,” the NORTHCOM official said. “Air and maritime assets under U.S. Northern Command have conducted operations to ensure the defense of the United States and Canada. Russia’s deployments are part of routine naval activity which pose no direct threat or concern to the United States.”

The U.S. deployment includes three guided-missile destroyers — the USS Truxtun, USS Donald Cook and USS Delbert D. Black — as well as a Coast Guard cutter, the Stone, and a Boeing P-8 maritime patrol aircraft.

Retrieved June 12, 2024, from [U.S. deploys warships as Russian fleet makes close pass to Florida in approach to Cuba \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Feds Snare 8 ISIS-Linked Foreigners in Massive Raid

Tajik natives with suspected ties to ISIS were arrested in a coordinated sting operation in New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles, [the New York Post reported](#), citing ICE sources.

A total of eight from Tajikistan with suspected ties to the Islamic State group have been arrested in the United States in recent days, according to multiple people familiar with the matter.

One was heard on tape talking about bombs, sources told the Post.

Retrieved June 12, 2024, from [Feds Snare 8 ISIS-Linked Foreigners in Massive Raid | Newsmax.com](#)

North Korea's Kim Hails Russia Ties as Putin Reportedly Plans Visit

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un hailed the country's expanding relationship with Russia on Wednesday, as reports suggest Russian President Vladimir Putin will soon visit the country for his third meeting with Kim.

Military, economic and other cooperation between North Korea and Russia have sharply increased since Kim visited Russia last September for a meeting with Putin. The U.S., South Korea and their partners believe North Korea has supplied artillery, missiles and other conventional weapons to Russia to support its war in Ukraine in return for advanced military technologies and economic aid.

Kim has been pushing to boost partnerships with Russia and China in a bid to strengthen his regional footing and launch a united front against the United States. During their September meeting at Russia's main space launch site, Kim invited the Russian president to visit North Korea at "a convenient time," and Putin accepted.

On Wednesday, Kim sent Putin a message congratulating Russia on its National Day, according to the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

"Thanks to the significant meeting between us at the Vostochny Spaceport in September last year, (North Korea)-Russia friendly and cooperative relations developed into an unbreakable relationship of comrades-in-arms," Kim said in the message.

Kim's comments came as media reports said Putin is expected to visit North Korea as early as next week. If realized, it would be their third summit meeting. Their first summit happened in Vladivostok in April 2019.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK, citing unidentified diplomatic sources including high-ranking Russian officials, reported Wednesday that Putin is preparing to visit North Korea and Vietnam next week.

NHK said Putin is expected to seek stronger military ties with North Korea as Russia faces a shortage of weapons in its war with Ukraine, while North Korea is believed to want help with space technology in the wake of its recent failure to put a second spy satellite in orbit in late May.

Russian business daily Vedomosti, citing an unidentified diplomatic source, said Monday that Putin will visit North Korea and Vietnam "in the coming weeks." The report quoted Russia's ambassador in North Korea, Alexander Matsegora, as saying that preparations for Putin's visit to North Korea were underway.

Retrieved June 12, 2024, from [North Korea's Kim Hails Russia Ties as Putin Reportedly Plans Visit | Newsmax.com](https://www.newsmax.com/nk-putin-visit/)

June 1, 2024

California And Nevada Have Been Rocked By 945 Earthquakes In Just The Past Week

February 12, 2024

Have you noticed that the state of California has been getting absolutely monkey-hammered by earthquakes lately? According to [the Southern California Earthquake Data Center](#), California and Nevada have been hit by a total of 945 earthquakes within the last seven days. That is a whole lot of shaking! As you can see [from this map](#), southern California has been getting pummeled more than anywhere else. Could it be possible that the [trillions of gallons](#) of rain that were dumped on the region earlier this month have something to do with all of this? As I have discussed [previously](#), scientists have determined that flooding can put an enormous amount of stress on fault lines. And without a doubt we have seen an unusual level of activity along California's fault lines in recent days.

Retrieved June 1, 2024, from [California And Nevada Have Been Rocked By 945 Earthquakes In Just The Past Week \(themostimportantnews.com\)](#)

NATO Allies' Support Grows for Strikes in Russia

Support grew among NATO allies on Friday for using Western-donated weapons to strike inside Russian territory, while NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg downplayed Kremlin warnings of an escalation.

Germany said it had given Ukraine permission to fire German-delivered weapons at targets in Russia, a day after U.S. officials said Washington had partially lifted similar restrictions to allow Ukraine to defend its eastern Kharkiv region, which borders Russia.

Kyiv has the "right under international law to defend itself" against attacks coming from inside Russia, close to the border with Ukraine, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's spokesman Steffen Hebestreit said.

Retrieved June 1, 2024, from [NATO Allies' Support Grows for Strikes in Russia | Newsmax.com](#)

May 30, 2024

The Sun's Magnetic Poles Are Reversing: What Happens if a Solar Storm Strikes Earth?

STEVE WARREN

According to scientists, every 11 years, the sun goes through a cycle where its magnetic poles (North and South) reverse or switch places.

The sun's poles last flipped in 2013, so the next event is on schedule to take place this year, according to [Vox.com](#).

Scientists say there's no need to panic. It's not a sign of the apocalypse. You won't even notice it when the flip happens. But it's not the pole reversal itself that's the main cause for concern.

With the sun's surface growing more active, serious anomalies can happen. While that's great news for amateur astronomers who are set to see some amazing solar fireworks through their telescopes, it could be bad news for power grids and communication satellites circling the Earth.

There's already intense magnetic activity now happening on the sun's surface that marks a kind of lead-in that comes before the poles' reversal.

"We are indeed seeing the sun more active than it's been in probably something like 20 years," Paul Charbonneau, a solar physicist at the University of Montreal, told [Vox](#).

It's during these peak periods of solar activity that the sun's fireworks grow larger.

"When the magnetic energy content of the sun is a lot larger, that's when you tend to get more solar flares, more {coronal} mass ejections — more fun stuff," Charbonneau said.

It's these Coronal Mass Ejections (CME) that hurl charged matter out across the solar system like a giant shotgun, resulting in a potentially disruptive solar storm.

Grid Operators Have Been Watching

As CBN News reported in December 2021, grid operators in some regions of the country have been heeding warnings to prepare for solar storms and sunspots blasting particles into space.

William Murtagh's group at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) maintains a direct line with all the electric companies in the event of a geomagnetic eruption.

"When we see one of these large eruptions occurring in the sun, what we call Coronal Mass Ejection, coming towards Earth, we initiate this hotline call and we make communication with essentially the entire grid, owners and operators across the nation," Murtagh, who serves as program coordinator at NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center, told CBN News.

Researchers with the U.S. Geological Survey released a map in 2020 showing grid systems in the Midwest and Eastern Seaboard that are particularly vulnerable to solar storms.

Murtagh says electricity operators are now constantly assessing areas of vulnerability. "If there's vulnerability in certain equipment, maybe they can modify that equipment, the manufacturing of that equipment, to make it hardened, to make it better protected against a geomagnetic storm," Murtagh said. "There are many different actions they can take to ensure that the grid stays up and running during these big geomagnetic storms."

On July 23, 2012, an eruption on the Sun sent giant particle clouds hurtling through space at 6.7 million miles per hour, missing Earth but passing straight through a satellite in its path. Scientists say that extreme solar storm is believed to have been the most powerful in at least 150 years.

Dr. Doug Biesecker is a solar physicist with NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center. He said what keeps him up at night about space weather is missing the forecast of the one in a 100-year surface storm on the sun.

"The sort of storm that would cause a widespread power outage. You know you could imagine maybe the entire Northeast losing power for at least a few hours if not for a day or more," Biesecker said.

The Largest Solar Storm on Record Struck Our Planet in 1859

In 1859, one of these solar eruptions hit Earth. Now known as the "Carrington Event," it's the largest geomagnetic storm on record.

The technology of the day was the telegraph, and telegraph operators were able to disconnect their batteries and use the electricity caused by the solar storm to run their systems. But it also caused fires at some telegraph stations.

That storm had such an impact on Earth that the so-called Northern Lights could be seen from the equator.

Analysts say a direct hit by an extreme CME like the one in July 2012 could be catastrophic, leading to widespread power blackouts.

[READ Experts Warn Cyber Hackers, EMP Attacks and Solar Storms Could Annihilate Our Electric System](#)

A study by the National Academy of Sciences reported the total economic impact could be more than \$2 trillion -- 20 times greater than the cost of Hurricane Katrina.

In today's technology-driven world, the solar superstorm could have done serious damage to homes on Earth and continued traveling up into space.

It could have disrupted spacecraft, satellite communications, GPS, airplane flights, and the power grid, which could have knocked out power to everything from businesses to houses.

"Without the electric grid, well, of course, there's no power. There's also no water; there's also no communications, no transportation, no medical care," Dr. Avi Schnurr, CEO and president of the Electric Infrastructure Security Council explained.

"The financial system would be down," he continued. "The environmental effects would be catastrophic at a level that we've never seen before."

In addition, it could take years to repair multi-ton transformers.

Comparing the 2012 solar storm to the blast from the sun in 1859, University of Colorado scientist Daniel Baker said, "The only difference is, it missed."

Opportunity to Study, Better Understand Our Star

But scientists see opportunity during this time of heightened solar activity. They want to study the sun to learn how to better predict space weather, according to [Vox](#). Predicting weather in space, like meteorologists do on the earth, would lead to safer space travel. NASA has targeted September 2025 for Artemis II, the first crewed Artemis mission around the Moon, and September 2026 for Artemis III, which is planned to land the first astronauts near the lunar South Pole. Artemis IV, the first mission to the Gateway lunar space station, remains on track for 2028.

The next goal will be sending humans to Mars

Retrieved May 30, 2024, from [The Sun's Magnetic Poles Are Reversing: What Happens if a Solar Storm Strikes Earth? | CBN News](#)

Chinese media warning about 'World War' with NATO countries

Charge Western alliance pushing public to support expansion of Russia-Ukraine conflict

By [Bob Unruh](#)

An editorial from the propaganda department of the Chinese Communist Party is openly speculating, even warning, about a coming "World War" with NATO.

It was a piece called, "NATO is pushing the Russia-Ukraine conflict toward a 'world war,'" that was published in the Global Times, an English-language publication run by the Chinese Communists.

The commentary cited comments by NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg during a recent visit to the U.S. about NATO's "readiness."

[According to a report from Newsweek](#), that article said the Russia-Ukraine conflict could grow into a "world war."

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[they break! Take just 30 seconds and sign up for WND's Email News Alerts!](#)

The report said tensions have been high between Russia and NATO, especially after NATO last month announced its largest ever military exercise, called "Steadfast Defender 2024."

Those events started late last month and are scheduled to run through May, and they are supposed to involve some 90,000 members of militaries from 31 NATO nations, plus Sweden.

Being "tested," the report said, is the allies' ability to move forces quickly and stage defense procedures.

The report said, "Military analysts have speculated Steadfast Defender is meant to prepare alliance members for the potential of a future Russian invasion on NATO territory."

While the announcement of the plan did not mention Russia, the regime of Vladimir Putin is viewed as a major security threat to NATO.

The propaganda piece charged that the NATO chief's visit "is not just about NATO seeking funds."

It continued, "This is a clear preparation of public opinion to expand the Russia-Ukraine conflict into a world war."

The propaganda continued, "This strategic adjustment by NATO may enhance its internal cohesion in the short term and continue to maintain its position as the world's most powerful military force held by the U.S. and the West. However, in the long term, it may lead to more divisions and confrontations globally, profoundly affecting international relations and the security environment around China."

Newsweek said it sought comment from NATO and the Russian foreign ministry.

The editorial comes only shortly after Russia's former president, Dmitry Medvedev, said on social media that there was a potential for a "big war" with NATO>

He called those who organized the NATO alliance's exercise as "Western politicians who have s--- their pants and their mediocre generals in NATO."

Retrieved May 30, 2024, from [Chinese media warning about 'World War' with NATO countries | WND](#)
| by [Bob Unruh](#)

May 22, 2024

Two sets of earthquake swarms have hit California. What's going on along the Mexico border?

Rong-Gong Lin II

Another earthquake swarm has been rumbling along the California-Mexico border.

More than two dozen quakes greater than magnitude 2.5 have occurred since just after midnight Saturday, with epicenters about 175 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles and 100 miles northeast of San Diego, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

They have occurred largely along farmland between the towns of Brawley and Imperial in Imperial County. The largest quake was a [magnitude 3.9](#) that struck at 4:05 p.m. Saturday, bringing light shaking to the Imperial Valley as well as south of the border and rattling Mexicali.

Good afternoon Southern California, did you feel the magnitude 3.9 quake about 3 miles southwest of Brawley at 4:05 pm? The [#ShakeAlert](#) system was activated.

See: <https://t.co/sL7erY6pkl> [@Cal_OES](#) [@CAGeoSurvey](#) pic.twitter.com/4xcOe8h9N

— USGS ShakeAlert (@USGS_ShakeAlert) [May 18, 2024](#)

An even larger earthquake — a [magnitude 4.1](#) — occurred at 5:17 a.m. Monday about 28 miles northwest of the swarm that began Saturday.

The epicenter of that quake was in a remote desert area east of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, and weak shaking was felt as far away as San Diego, parts of Orange County, Temecula, the Coachella Valley, El Centro and Holtville.

Good morning Southern California! Did you feel the magnitude 4.1 quake about 11 miles southeast of Ocotillo Wells at 5:17 am?

The [#ShakeAlert](#) system was activated.

See: <https://t.co/1eUtU9cTe2> [@Cal_OES](#) [@CAGeoSurvey](#) [@USGS_Quakes](#) pic.twitter.com/9VQm00N1pJ

— USGS ShakeAlert (@USGS_ShakeAlert) [May 20, 2024](#)

A separate swarm of earthquakes occurred a week ago, about 40 miles southeast of the most recent quake activity. [Last week's swarm](#) occurred about 18 miles southeast of Mexicali in Baja California, with the largest a magnitude 4.2 that was felt as far away as El Centro in California and Yuma, Ariz.

Earthquake swarms are [common](#) in the Imperial Valley.

Swarms have happened [many times](#) in this part of California without being followed by a major, damaging earthquake.

Nonetheless, scientists typically pay close attention to the area, where there are many faults. And there have been moments of greater concern in recent years.

In 2016, as an earthquake [swarm](#) topped out with a magnitude 4.3 quake in a different part of the region — directly beneath the Salton Sea, just south of where [the mighty San Andreas fault ends](#) — scientists issued a rare [warning](#) advising of an elevated risk for a big San Andreas fault earthquake.

That series of quakes was [concerning](#) “because that 2016 swarm was so close to the known San Andreas fault, which has been building up a lot of stress over the past 300 years,” said Clara Yoon, a seismologist with the USGS' Pasadena office.

But this last weekend's earthquake swarm occurred farther south, away from the San Andreas, Yoon said.

The southern San Andreas fault — which stretches from the Salton Sea through Los Angeles County to Monterey County — is [capable of rupturing in a magnitude 8.2 earthquake](#). The last megaquake to occur on that fault was in [1857](#), when an estimated magnitude 7.8 earthquake hit between Monterey County and the Cajon Pass in San Bernardino County. In 2020, another swarm of quakes close to the Mexican border [attracted attention](#) and would have been more concerning had it started moving closer to the San Andreas fault.

The Imperial Valley region was particularly active with earthquakes in the late 1970s and 1980s.

Two of the bigger quakes in historic time in the area — a magnitude [6.9 earthquake in 1940](#) and a magnitude [6.4 quake in the Imperial Valley in 1979](#) — came without any preceding swarms, seismologist Lucy Jones has said. The 1979 earthquake caused [\\$30 million in damage](#), injured 91 people and damaged more than 1,500 homes and over 400 commercial buildings.

More significant earthquakes occurred in the area in 1987. The magnitude 6.6 Superstition Hills quake, which followed a magnitude 6.2 temblor on a nearby fault that struck 11 hours earlier, caused [\\$4 million in damage and injured 94 people](#) in Imperial County and left 3,000 people temporarily homeless in the Mexicali area.

South of the California-Mexico border, a magnitude [7.2 earthquake](#) struck on Easter Sunday in 2010, killing two people in Mexicali and damaging buildings on both sides of the border.

Retrieved May 22, 2024, from [Two sets of earthquake swarms have hit California. What's going on along the Mexico border? \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Pentagon: Russia Put Weapon Into Space on May 16

Russia last week launched a satellite that U.S. intelligence officials believe to be a weapon capable of inspecting and attacking other satellites, the U.S. Space Command said on Tuesday as the Russian spacecraft trails a U.S. spy satellite in orbit.

Russia's Soyuz rocket blasted off from its Plesetsk launch site some 500 miles north of Moscow on May 16, deploying in low-Earth orbit at least nine satellites including COSMOS 2576, a type of Russian military "inspector" spacecraft U.S. officials have long condemned as exhibiting reckless space behavior.

"We have observed nominal activity and assess it is likely a counterspace weapon presumably capable of attacking other satellites in low Earth orbit," a USSPACECOM spokesperson said in a statement to Reuters.

Retrieved May 22, 2024, from [Pentagon: Russia Put Weapon Into Space on May 16 | Newsmax.com](#)

May 18, 2024

Houston metro rocked by 100 mph derecho that left 7 dead and over 1 million without power

A storm system spawned severe thunderstorms in Houston Thursday, causing at least four fatalities and leaving more than 1 million customers without power across southeastern Texas.

A line of severe thunderstorms swept through southeastern Texas and Louisiana on Thursday, blasting the Houston area with incredible winds reaching up to 100 mph that left at least seven dead - including a mother of a newborn - and more than 1 million power customers without electricity.

The extreme wind gusts blew out windows of high-rise buildings and caused transmission towers holding power lines to crumble.

The National Weather Service in Houston called the event a derecho, which produces destructive winds over hundreds of miles and impacts millions of people.

Retrieved May 18, 2024 from [Severe thunderstorms leave widespread damage, power outages around Houston | Fox Weather](#)

May 6, 2024

Russia to Hold Nuclear Drills Near Ukraine After Angry Exchange With West

Russia said Monday it will hold drills simulating the use of battlefield nuclear weapons amid rising tensions after comments by senior Western officials about the possibility of deeper involvement in the war in Ukraine.

The announcement came on the eve of Russian President Vladimir Putin's inauguration to a fifth term in office and in a week when Moscow on Thursday will celebrate Victory Day, its most important secular holiday, marking its defeat of Nazi Germany in World War II.

The drills are a response to "provocative statements and threats of certain Western officials regarding the Russian Federation," the Defense Ministry said in a statement.

Retrieved May 6, 2024, from [Russia to Hold Nuclear Drills Near Ukraine After Angry Exchange With West | Newsmax.com](#)

Magnitude 5.4 earthquake strikes Taiwan - EMSC

By Reuters

May 6, 2024 4:15 AM MDT Updated 8 hours ago

May 6 (Reuters) - A magnitude 5.4 earthquake struck Taiwan, on Monday, the European Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) said.

The quake was at a depth of 25 km (15.53 miles), EMSC said.

Retrieved May 6, 2024, from [Magnitude 5.4 earthquake strikes Taiwan - EMSC | Reuters](#)

May 2, 2024

Thousands flee volcanic eruption in Indonesia

Story by Nele Jensch

The Indonesian volcano Ruang has erupted again, "accompanied by thunderous noises and persistent tremors," as reported by the National Geology Agency. Authorities initially issued the highest alert level. The volcano has been active for weeks. Prior to the eruption, a significant increase in both very deep and shallow volcanic quakes had been recorded.

Retrieved May 2, 2024, from [Thousands flee volcanic eruption in Indonesia \(msn.com\)](#)

April 28, 2024

Tornadoes tear across America's heartland, leaving catastrophic destruction in multiple states

There were at least 59 reported tornadoes across Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa

[Dozens of tornadoes](#) swept across America's heartland, impacting millions of residents and leaving a trail of destruction.

Twenty million Americans, from Texas to Iowa, are on alert for twisters, large hail and up to 70 mph winds.

There were at least 59 reported [tornadoes across Texas](#), Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa as of 7 p.m. ET, according to the [National Weather Service](#).

Retrieved April 28, 2024, from [WATCH: Dozens of tornadoes sweep across America's heartland on Friday | Fox News](#)

China Confronts Japanese Politicians in Disputed E. China Sea Area

China's coast guard confronted Japanese lawmakers in waters claimed by both countries in the East China Sea, China's embassy in Tokyo and Japanese media said on Sunday, the latest in a series of maritime disputes involving China and its neighbors.

Chinese vessels took unspecified law enforcement measures, the embassy said in a statement, adding that it had lodged solemn representations for what it called "infringement and provocation" by Japan near tiny, uninhabited islands that Beijing calls the Diaoyu and Tokyo calls the Senkaku.

The Japanese group, including former Defense Minister Tomomi Inada, was on an inspection mission organized by the city of Ishigaki in Okinawa prefecture, according to the Chinese embassy and Japanese public broadcaster NHK.

Retrieved April 28, 2024, from [China Confronts Japanese Politicians in Disputed E. China Sea Area | Newsmax.com](#)

April 17, 2024

Minor damages reported after 6.6 magnitude earthquake hits Japan

Story by Doug Cunningham

April 17 (UPI) -- A 6.6 magnitude earthquake hit Japan at 11:14 p.m. Wednesday local time, off the west coast of Shikoku Island.

[Initial reports](#) said there was no threat of tsunami and only minor injuries and damage reported.

The quake's epicenter, where the 6.6 magnitude was recorded, was in a strait called the Bungo-Suido Channel between Kyushu and Shikoku Islands.

According to news conference statements from Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi, light injuries were reported, along with minor damage like broken water pipes, downed streetlights and some landslides onto a national highway.

The 6.6 measurement was on the Japanese scale of zero to 7.

[The strongest](#) measured impacts were in Ainan Town, Sukumo City, and Uwajima City, according to Japan's Meteorological Agency.

Retrieved April 17, 2024 from [Minor damages reported after 6.6 magnitude earthquake hits Japan \(msn.com\)](#)

April 14, 2024

G7 Leaders Convene Via Video Call on Response to Iran

Italy, which holds the rotating presidency of the G7, has called a video meeting of G7 leaders Sunday to discuss Iran's attack on Israel late Saturday.

The Iranian attack in response to a suspected Israeli air strike on Iran's embassy compound in Damascus on April 1 has raised the threat of a wider regional conflict. "We express our deep concern about a further destabilisation of the situation in the region and continue to work to avoid that," Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni said on social media platform X.

The G7 call will be held in the early afternoon European time, an Italian government statement said.

President Joe Biden has pledged a coordinated G7 diplomatic response to the drone and missile attack, which he condemned, and Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said he hoped that the Israeli government shows restraint in its response.

"I hope that the Israeli government will adopt a cautious line. I hope that there will be no counterattack to the counterattack," Tajani told radio station RTL 102.5.

The G7 groups the United States, Canada, Italy, Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Its foreign ministers are scheduled to meet over April 17-19 on the Italian island of Capri.

Retrieved April 24, 2024, from [Will Convene G7 Leaders on Response | Newsmax.com](#)

Live updates: Iran attacks Israel, hundreds of UAVs, missiles intercepted

At 1:43 a.m. Israel time, sirens began to wail in the central Negev region, shortly followed by other regions across the country including the Jerusalem and Dead Sea areas, Golan Heights, Gush Etzion, Hebron, and Samaria.

For the first time in the State of Israel's history, Iran has begun a direct attack on Israel, launching dozens of UAVs toward the Jewish state.

At 1:43 a.m. Israel time, sirens began to wail in the central Negev region, shortly followed by other regions across the country including the Jerusalem and Dead Sea areas, Golan Heights, Gush Etzion, Hebron, and Samaria.

Live updates:

Sunday, 7:10 p.m.: The G-7 condemned the "Iran's unprecedented attack" and called on both sides to use restraint.

Bloomberg reported that the leaders agreed to use all channels to urge Israel not to launch a counter-offensive against Iran.

Sunday, 6:55 p.m.: UK Foreign Secretary David Cameron formally condemned, "in the strongest terms," Iran's attack on Israel in a call with Iranian Foreign Minister Amir Abdollahian.

"I made clear that Iran must stop these reckless attacks, de-escalate, and release the MSC Aries," Cameron noted.

Sunday, 6:47 p.m.: Former US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley condemned calls for Israel to show restraint following the attack by Iran: "Just like after October 7, the world supports Israel when she gets hit but is quick to condemn her when Israel hits back. That's wrong. No other country would be expected to do nothing in response to 300 missiles launched against its territory."

Sunday, 6:09 p.m.: The IDF has announced that following a situational assessment, the Home Front Command's defensive guidelines remain

unchanged and in effect up until tomorrow, Monday, 15.04.2024, at 23:00 Israel time.

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.: A White House official has confirmed to *Reuters* that US President Joe Biden has told Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that the United States would not participate in any Israeli counter-offensive against Iran.

Sunday, 4:34 p.m.: The War Cabinet has convened to discuss the Iranian attack.

Sunday, 4:28 p.m.: Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs Micheál Martin condemned the Iranian attack against Israel and called for de-escalation. "I strongly condemn Iran's attack on Israel. My thoughts are with the Israeli people at this time. The scale and intensity of the attack represents a flagrant threat to international peace and security and is utterly unacceptable. It does nothing to help the cause of the Palestinian people or bring us closer to an end to the suffering in Gaza.

"There is now an urgent need for regional de-escalation. Further escalation is in nobody's interest. I urge all actors to intensify efforts to restore stability. Ireland will work closely with our EU partners in responding to this crisis."

Sunday, 4:22 p.m. UK Defense Secretary Grant Shapps summed up his country's efforts to repel the Iranian attack against Israel: "Last night the UK intercepted and destroyed multiple one-way attack drones - launched by Iran and its proxies - that posed a threat to civilian lives in the Middle East.

"Additional Royal Air Force aircraft were deployed this weekend to bolster our presence. I thank our armed forces personnel for responding so quickly and effectively to such a serious threat. Their professionalism is second to none. All aircraft returned safely to base."

Sunday, 4:15 p.m.: The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs phoned his Iranian counterpart following the Iranian attack against Israel and told him that Turkey does not want an additional escalation in the region, *Kan News* reported. He stated that Turkey wishes to end steps that would intensify the tensions in the region. The Iranian Foreign Minister answered that his country's retribution against Israel had ended.

Sunday, 3:24 p.m.: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy condemned the Iranian attack against Israel, stating: "Ukraine condemns Iran's attack on Israel using 'Shahed' drones and missiles. We in Ukraine know very well the horror of similar attacks by Russia, which uses the same 'Shahed' drones and Russian missiles, the same tactics of mass air strikes.

"Every effort must be made to prevent a further escalation in the Middle East. Iran's actions threaten the entire region and the world, just as Russia's actions threaten a larger conflict, and the obvious collaboration between the two regimes in spreading terror must face a resolute and united response from the world.

"The sound of 'Shahed' drones, a tool of terror, is the same in the skies over the Middle East and Europe. This sound must serve as a wake-up call to the free world, demonstrating that only our unity and resoluteness can save lives and prevent the spread of terror worldwide.

"The world cannot wait for discussions to go on. Words do not stop drones and do not intercept missiles. Only tangible assistance does. The assistance we are anticipating. We must strengthen security and resolutely counter all those who want to make terror a new normal.

"It is critical that the United States Congress make the necessary decisions to strengthen America's allies at this critical time."

Sunday, 1:10 p.m.: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tehran summoned the ambassadors of Great Britain, France and Germany, apparently due to the countries' condemnation of the Iranian attack on Israel.

Sunday, 12:40 p.m.: The Russian government claimed that Iran acted properly in its overnight attack on Israel and did so in "strict accordance" with the right to self-defense under the rules of the UN.

Sunday, 9:47 a.m.: The Chief of Staff of the Iranian military, Major General Mohammad Bagheri, threatened an even larger attack if Israel retaliates following last night's massive drone and missile attack against the Jewish State.

"Our response will be much larger than tonight's military action if Israel retaliates against Iran," Bagheri said, adding a threat against the US if America supports Israel's retaliation.

Sunday, 9:08 a.m.: President Isaac Herzog wrote on X: "Bless you dear soldiers and commanders of the IDF and IAF."

"Bless the coalition of nations led by the US and @POTUS.

"Bless my sisters and brothers, the people of Israel, for their exceptional show of resilience.

"Together, the forces of good will overcome the forces of evil.

'Am Yisrael Chai!"

Sunday, 8:38 a.m.: The Israel Aviation Authority announced the reopening of Ben Gurion Airport following the Iranian attack on Israel overnight.

"In accordance with the instructions of the security authorities, the airspace has opened, and Ben Gurion Airport has resumed operations starting at 7:30 a.m. The flight schedule from Ben Gurion Airport is expected to change. Passengers are requested to check with the airlines and on the Israel Airports Authority website for the new flight time table before arriving at the Ben Gurion airport. Domestic airports will open during the day. We will continue to update as the situation develops," the IAA announced.

Sunday, 8:26 a.m.: Jordan reopens its airspace hours after conclusion of Iranian attack on Israel.

Sunday, 8:05 a.m.: Prime Minister Netanyahu wrote on X, "We intercepted. We blocked. Together we will win."

Sunday, 7:43 a.m.: IDF Spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said, "Last night Iran launched an attack against Israel and launched more than 300 threats of various types. The Iranian threat met the aerial and technological superiority of the IDF combined with a strong fighting coalition that together intercepted the vast majority of the threats," said Hagari.

He added, "We intercepted 99% of the threats launched against the territory of the State of Israel. This is a very significant strategic achievement. Of the approximately 170 unmanned aerial vehicles that Iran launched, zero penetrated Israeli territory. Dozens of them were intercepted by Air Force fighter jets, our air defense system, and the defense systems and aircraft of our partners. Of the more than 30 cruise missiles that Iran launched, zero penetrated Israeli territory. 25 of them were intercepted by air force fighter jets outside the country's borders."

Sunday, 6:47 a.m.: The IDF Spokesperson's Unit said that, a short while ago, IDF fighter jets struck a number of military structures in a complex belonging to Hezbollah's Radwan Forces in the area of Jbaa in southern Lebanon.

Earlier during the night, IDF fighter jets struck Hezbollah military structures in the areas of Khiam and Kfarkela, the statement added.

Sunday, 6:44 a.m.: US sources said that President Joe Biden told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during their conversation overnight Saturday that he opposes any Israeli attack on Iran and will not take part in it, *Axios* reported.

Sunday, 6:41 a.m.: The IDF updated that not a single drone or cruise missile launched in the Iranian barrage penetrated Israeli territory, and most of the targets were shot down outside the country's borders.

Sunday, 5:41 a.m.: A rocket fired from Lebanon exploded in the town of Katzrin in the Golan Heights, causing damage to property.

Retrieved April 24, 2024, from [Live updates: Iran attacks Israel, hundreds of UAVs, missiles intercepted | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Russia and China are on the brink of a military alliance that could overwhelm the US

For decades, the military might of the US was unchallenged.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the US was the world's only military superpower, with its forces deployed all over the world to defend allies and deter aggression.

But as 2023 draws to a close, conflicts are flaring across the world, and Russia and China are growing increasingly aggressive in their shared ambition to topple the US as the world's biggest power.

Their authoritarian leaders, Xi Jinping of China and Vladimir Putin of Russia, are seeking to exploit global instability to damage the US and its allies, say analysts, and are drawing closer to forming a military alliance that poses the biggest threat the US has faced in decades.

Retrieved April 24, 2024, from [Russia and China on Brink of a Military Alliance, May Overwhelm the US \(businessinsider.com\)](#)

April 11, 2024

Blinken to Gallant: The US will stand with Israel against any threats by Iran

US Secretary of State speaks with Defense Minister amid speculations Iran is planning an imminent attack.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with Defense Minister Yoav Gallant on Wednesday and reiterated US support for Israel's security.

In a statement following the call, State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said that Blinken made clear to Gallant "that the US will stand with Israel against any threats by Iran and its proxies."

"Secretary Blinken and Minister Gallant also discussed ongoing efforts to secure the release of all hostages through an agreement for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza," said the statement.

"Secretary Blinken welcomed Israel's recent announcements of urgent steps to facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza and to improve humanitarian deconfliction and coordination, reiterating that incidents such as the strike on World Central Kitchen workers must never reoccur," Miller added.

Blinken also "emphasized that the United States expects Israel to quickly implement its commitments on humanitarian assistance and deconfliction and that those commitments must be sustained over time."

The conversation between the two took place amid speculations that [Iran is planning](#) to attack Israel in response to [an attack in Syria](#) last week that killed a top Iranian general.

Axios reported on Wednesday that the commander of the US military central command (CENTCOM), Gen. Erik Kurilla, [will visit Israel](#) on Thursday to coordinate around a possible attack on Israel by Iran and its proxies.

Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said on Wednesday that Israel made a mistake by attacking the Iranian consulate in Damascus and killing the general.

"Israel must be punished and they will pay for their mistakes," he said. CBS News reported last week that [the US has picked up intelligence](#) on what an Iranian retaliatory strike might look like.

Retrieved April 11, 2024, from [Blinken to Gallant: The US will stand with Israel against any threats by Iran | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Ezekiel 38:

17 Thus saith the Lord GOD; *Art* thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days *many* years that I would bring thee against them?

18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, *that* my fury shall come up in my face.

19 For in my jealousy *and* in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel;

20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that *are* upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.

21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother.

22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that *are* with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone.

23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I *am* the LORD.

Solar eclipse over the US

A total solar eclipse, where the sun is completely covered by the moon, can be seen over much of the United States today.

Retrieved April 11, 2024, from [Watch: Solar eclipse over the US | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

April 5, 2024

NYPD reports spike in antisemitic crimes, reversing previous trend

NYPD reports 43 antisemitic incidents in the five boroughs last month, more than double the 17 reported in February.

Retrieved April 5, 2024, from [NYPD reports spike in antisemitic crimes, reversing previous trend | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Earthquake in New York

A magnitude 5.5 earthquake shook the Greater New York area on Friday afternoon - one of the strongest tremors ever recorded.

A magnitude 5.5 earthquake has struck the Greater New York area, one of the strongest ever recorded.

Many residents of New York City are reporting feeling the earthquake which shook thousands of buildings.

The earthquake was felt by residents of New Jersey as well.

Prior to this, the largest known earthquake in this region occurred in 1884 and had a magnitude of ~5.2.

Retrieved April 5, 2024, from [Earthquake in New York | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Netanyahu's warning to Iran

PM addresses growing threats by Iran during cabinet meeting, says 'whoever attempts to harm us will be harmed.'

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered a warning to Iran amidst increased threats from the Islamic Republic.

"For years Iran has been working against us both directly and through its proxies, and therefore Israel has been working against Iran and its emissaries, both defensively and offensively," Netanyahu said during the ongoing security cabinet meeting this evening (Thursday).

"We will know how to protect ourselves and we will act according to the simple principle that whoever hurts us or plans to harm us, we will harm them," the prime minister said.

Kan News reported that several Israeli embassies abroad were evacuated after a situational assessment by the Shin Bet and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the possibility of an Iranian revenge plot following the assassination of a senior member of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards, Hassan Mahdavi, in Damascus this week. Some of the Israeli representatives were moved to alternative locations and asked not to attend public events at this stage.

At the same time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ordered some of Israel's embassies in the world not to open their doors tomorrow. The representatives were instructed not to go to the embassies and consulates and to stay in their homes.

Retrieved April 5, 2024, from [Netanyahu's warning to Iran | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

April 4, 2024

Earthquake shakes Japan near Fukushima nuclear power plant

Fukushima, Japan - **A magnitude-6.0 [earthquake](#) struck off northeastern**

Japan's Fukushima region on Thursday, the Japan Meteorological Agency said, but no tsunami warning was issued.

There were no immediate reports of damage or injuries after the earthquake, whose epicenter had a depth of 25 miles and which was also felt in Tokyo.

TEPCO, the operator of the [Fukushima nuclear power plant](#), said "no abnormalities" had been detected at the stricken plant or others in the region.

Japan, one of the world's most tectonically active countries, has strict building standards designed to ensure structures can withstand even the most powerful earthquakes.

The archipelago, home to around 125 million people, experiences around 1,500 jolts every year, the vast majority of which are mild.

Retrieved April 4, 2024 from [Earthquake shakes Japan near Fukushima nuclear power plant \(msn.com\)](#)

April 3, 2024

Strongest earthquake in 25 years rocks Taiwan, killing 9 people and stranding 70 workers in quarries

HUALIEN, Taiwan (AP) — The [strongest earthquake](#) in a quarter-century rocked Taiwan during the morning rush hour Wednesday, killing nine people, stranding dozens of workers at quarries and sending some residents scrambling out the windows of damaged buildings.

The quake, which also injured more than 1,000, was centered off the coast of rural, [mountainous Hualien County](#), where some buildings leaned at severe angles, their ground floors crushed. Just over 150 kilometers (93 miles) away in the capital of Taipei, tiles fell from older buildings, and schools evacuated their students to sports fields, equipping them with yellow safety helmets. Some children covered themselves with textbooks to guard against falling objects as aftershocks continued.

Rescuers fanned out in Hualien, looking for people who may be trapped and using excavators to stabilize damaged buildings. The numbers of people missing, trapped or stranded fluctuated frequently as authorities learned of more in trouble and worked to locate or free them.

Retrieved April 3, 2024, from [Taiwan earthquake latest: 9 dead, over 900 injured in worst quake in 25 years | AP News](#)

7.4 magnitude quake hits Taiwan, strongest in 25 years

By [Nectar Gan](#), [Wayne Chang](#), Jerome Taylor, Antoinette Radford, Deva Lee and [Maureen Chowdhury](#), CNN

What we're covering

- At least [nine people](#) have died after a 7.4 magnitude [earthquake struck](#) the east coast of Taiwan on Wednesday, the strongest [in 25 years](#).
- Rescuers are working to free dozens trapped after the quake caused landslides and collapsed structures. More than 900 others are [injured](#) and [over 100 buildings](#) have been damaged.
- The quake was followed by [strong aftershocks](#), including a 6.5 magnitude tremor. Multiple [aftershocks](#) as strong as magnitude 7 are expected in the coming days.
- Taiwan, Japan and the Philippines have all [canceled tsunami warnings](#) issued after the quake hit.
- The [epicenter](#), Hualien County, is home to around 300,000 of the 23 million people who live in Taiwan, a self-ruled democracy with an [outsized impact on global business and trade](#).

Retrieved April 3, 2024 from [Live updates: Taiwan earthquake with 7.4 magnitude is strongest in 25 years \(cnn.com\)](#)

'Preparing strikes on Israeli embassies': The coming Iranian response to Syria strike

Israeli expert: 'Iran does not want direct confrontation with the US or with Israel that would involve the US...That could change.'

Retrieved April 3, 2024 from [How Iran will respond to strike that killed Mohammad Reza Zahedi - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

April 2, 2024

Iran's top commander in Syria killed in airstrike; Tehran blames Israel, vows revenge

Strike flattens building in Iran embassy compound, killing IRGC's Mohammad Reza Zahedi; deputy also reported killed; citing Israeli officials, NY Times says Jerusalem behind attack

Iran accused Israel Monday of carrying out an airstrike on a building next to Iran's embassy in Damascus that killed seven members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, including the top Iranian commander in Syria. The strike in the Damascus-area municipality of Mezzeh hit a building adjacent to the Iranian embassy, footage showed.

Though Israel has not commented on the strike, The New York Times cited four unnamed Israeli officials as confirming the country was behind the attack.

Retrieved April 2, 2024, from [Iran's top commander in Syria killed in airstrike; Tehran blames Israel, vows revenge | The Times of Israel](#)

April 1, 2024

Senior Iranian official killed in Damascus airstrike

Syrian media reports 6 killed in blast near Iranian embassy in Damascus, including senior official.

Syrian media reports that warplanes attacked near the Iranian embassy in the heart of Damascus and killed at least six people.

According to one of the reports, a senior Iranian official was killed in the attack.

The Iranian news site SNN NEWS claimed that the targets of the attack were the Iranian consulate and the ambassador's residence in Syria.

Last night the Syrian army announced that the Israeli Air Force attacked several positions in the Damascus area from the direction of the Golan Heights. According to the army, two civilians were injured and damage was caused.

Retrieved April 1, 2024, from [Report: Senior Iranian official killed in Damascus airstrike | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

March 28, 2024

Russian warships enter the Red Sea, navy says

The Houthis have vowed to continue their attacks in the Red Sea as long as Israel continues to commit "crimes against Palestinians."

Several [Russian warships](#) have passed the Bab al-Mandab Strait into the Red Sea, the Russian Navy's Pacific Fleet said on Thursday, amid attacks by Yemen's Houthis on merchant shipping.

The Zvezda TV channel, owned by the defense ministry, quoted the fleet as saying the Russian cruiser Varyag and the frigate Marshal Shaposhnikov were taking part in the voyage.

Houthi terrorists in Yemen have repeatedly attacked ships passing through [the Bab al-Mandab Strait](#) in the Red Sea since November in support of Palestinians, the terror organization claims.

Retrieved March 28, 2024, from [Russian warships enter the Red Sea, navy says - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

Taiwan sounds alarm as 20 Chinese fighter jets and eight warships circle island

Story by Kia Fatahi

China has deployed more than 20 fighter jets and eight warships towards [Taiwan](#), the self-ruled island's defense ministry announced on Wednesday.

The [Chinese People's Liberation Army](#) sent 20 military aircraft and eight navy vessels around Taiwan in a 24-hour-window leading up to 6am local time Wednesday, Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said.

Of these, 14 fighter jets crossed the median line of the Taiwan Strait - an unofficial boundary that spans over 90 miles wide and is regarded a buffer zone between the island and China.

Taiwan has monitored the situation and employed its own forces, including aircraft, naval vessels, and coastal missile systems, in response to the activities.

This comes a few days after the highest single-day number of 36 Chinese military aircraft were spotted this year

Retrieved March 28, 2024, from [Taiwan sounds alarm as 20 Chinese fighter jets and eight warships circle island \(msn.com\)](#)

US Ally Scrambles Jets To Intercept Chinese Spy Drone

Story by John Feng

The Japanese Defense Ministry said it scrambled fighter jets on Tuesday to intercept a Chinese unmanned aerial vehicle in the Sea of Japan, in what was the first known operation in the area by China's long-range spy drone. A *Newsweek* map, recreated using data released by the Joint Staff of [Japan's](#) Self-Defense Forces, shows the flight path of the WZ-7 reconnaissance UAV, which Tokyo said was detected in the waters on the morning of March 26. The Chinese military drone entered the Sea of Japan—known in both Korea as the East Sea—via the continental area and later returned in a northwesterly direction following a [circular patrol](#), the report said, suggesting the sortie most likely overflew the territory of North Korea or Russia, which both border the sea.

Continue readin

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March 26, 2024

The planet was just slammed with what government officials dubbed a severe geomagnetic storm, the second-highest level of NOAA's rating system. The event brought "a major disturbance in Earth's magnetic field" that may have impacted infrastructure and made the northern lights visible farther than usual, officials said.

NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center issued a [geomagnetic storm watch](#) on Saturday, saying that a coronal mass ejection was detected and expected to hit the planet late that same day with impacts into Monday. [Coronal mass ejections](#), or CMEs, are when a large cloud of plasma and magnetic field bursts from the sun's corona.

This particular CME exploded alongside a solar flare on Friday, an event that occurs when electromagnetic radiation suddenly erupts from the sun. NOAA says these flares can last hours and the eruption "travels at

the speed of light," meaning it can impact Earth as soon as it is observed. An X-class flare, like what was observed with the CME, is the strongest type of flare, although this particular one was not the strongest on record. NOAA forecasters did say, however, that more X-class flares are possible through Wednesday.

"The public should not be concerned, but may wish to keep informed by visiting our webpage for any forecast changes and updates," NOAA said on Saturday, saying a moderate geomagnetic storm was possible. By Sunday afternoon, however, the agency alerted of a "severe" storm that could potentially impact technology – and eventually extend the northern lights as far south as Alabama.

Retrieved March 26, 2024, from [Earth just experienced a severe geomagnetic storm. Here's what that means – and what you can expect. - CBS News](#)

March 25, 2024

Pentagon alarmed over China's push to implement AI advances into its military strategies, signaling AI arms race

[COLLIN JONES](#)

Retrieved March 25, 2024, from [Pentagon alarmed over China's push to implement AI advances into its military strategies, signaling AI arms race | Blaze Media \(theblaze.com\)](#)

March 24, 2024

**Earthquake felt in northern, central
Israel**

Earthquake measuring 3.4 felt near Hadera, no reports of injuries or damage.

An earthquake measuring 3.4 was felt Saturday evening east of Hadera in northern Israel.

No injuries or damage were reported.

The Israel Geological Survey said that the movement was a weak earthquake, and that there is no concern of additional earthquakes.

The Saturday night quake marks Israel's second in two weeks.

[The previous quake](#), which was felt in the Jordan Valley, measured at a depth of 17 kilometers, and a magnitude of 3.8. The quake was felt, among other places, in Tiberias, the Jordan Valley, Karmiel, Haifa, Modi'in, Hod Hasharon, Rehovot, and near Hadera. No damage was reported.

Retrieved March 24, 2024, from [Earthquake felt in northern, central Israel | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Russia Says it Scrambled Fighter Jet as U.S. Bombers Approached Border

The Russian defense ministry on Sunday said it had scrambled a MiG-31 fighter jet after the approach of two U.S. B-1B bombers towards the Russian border over the Barents Sea.

The U.S. bombers turned away from the Russian border after the approach of the MiG-31, the ministry said.

Retrieved March 24, 2024, from [Russia Says it Scrambled Fighter Jet as U.S. Bombers Approached Border | Newsmax.com](#)

China Told It Faces 'Fork in the Road' as Officials Meet CEOs

China needs to "reinvent itself" with economic policies to speed resolution of its property market crisis and boost domestic consumption and productivity, the International Monetary Fund's Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said on Sunday. "China faces a fork in the road — rely on the policies that have worked in the past, or reinvent itself for a new era of high-quality growth," Georgieva said in

remarks to a meeting of senior Chinese officials and executives from global companies.

Officials who spoke at the opening of the China Development Forum expressed confidence China would hit its economic targets, including growth of about 5% this year, and pledged further support for companies in strategically important sectors, an area Chinese President Xi Jinping has dubbed "new productive forces."

But those commitments stopped short of the more sweeping changes urged by the IMF. Georgieva said an analysis by the IMF showed a more consumer-centered policy mix could add \$3.5 trillion to China's economy over the next 15 years. If achieved, that boost would be equivalent to adding output equivalent to more twice the size of South Korea's economy.

To do that China would need to take "decisive" steps to complete unfinished housing stranded by bankrupt developers and to reduce risks from local government debt, the IMF chief said.

Retrieved March 24, 2024, from [WRAPUP 3-China Told it Faces 'fork in the Road' as Officials Meet CEOs | Newsmax.com](#)

March 23, 2024

2,000 Earthquakes in a Day Hammer Fault Line Off Pacific Coast

Story by Sam Anderson

Deep beneath the north Pacific Ocean, a slumbering giant awoke. A volcano submerged under 4,800 meters of water off the coast of British Columbia set off 2,000 earthquakes in a single day earlier this month. Surprisingly, it raised no alarm.

The site, called the Endeavour, is a string of hydrothermal vents along the Juan de Fuca Ridge. About 240 kilometers west of Vancouver, it makes for especially thin crust on the ocean floor. When 800°C magma bubbled up to the surface, it sent seismographs reeling. The March 6 tremors were light-duty. Even though they jolted the fault line over 200 times per hour, they posed no threat to humans. Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) [measured the strongest events at around 4.1](#) on the Richter scale. However, they noted the magma is likely adding new material to the ocean floor.

Retrieved March 23, 2024 from [2,000 Earthquakes in a Day Hammer Fault Line Off Pacific Coast \(msn.com\)](#)

March 13, 2024

Earthquake felt in northern Israel

Earthquake measuring 3.8 shakes northern Israel; no reports of injuries or damage.

Residents of northern Israel reported feeling an earthquake early Wednesday afternoon.

Due to the quake, sirens sounded in a number of locations in the Jordan Valley.

At this stage, there have been no reports of injuries or damage.

Residents of the affected areas are requested to report to the local authorities if they discover damage or danger due to the earthquake.

According to the Israel Geological Survey, "At 12:50p.m. (Israel time), an earthquake occurred which was felt in the Hula Valley-Kinneret region. Initial estimates for the magnitude: 3.8."

Retrieved March 13, 2024, from [Earthquake felt in northern Israel | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

March 9, 2024

An earthquake hit Saturday just before 11:00 p.m. off the coast of the Philippines in Mindanao, igniting fears of a possible tsunami.

A tsunami warning was issued after the quake erupted, the Associated Press (AP) [reported](#), noting it was a preliminary magnitude 7.6.

The quake struck at 10:37 p.m. at a depth of 32 kilometers (20 miles), according to the U.S. Geological Survey. There were no immediate reports of damage or casualties.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center said based on the magnitude and location, it expected tsunami waves to hit the southern Philippines and parts of Indonesia, Palau and Malaysia.

According to the National Ocean Service, a tsunami consists of massive waves [caused](#) by earthquakes or volcanic eruptions beneath the sea that grow in height while traveling inland.

Retrieved March 9, 2024 from [Tsunami Warning Issued After Earthquake Hits Near the Philippines \(breitbart.com\)](#)

February 27, 2024

US Army Cutting 5 Percent of Jobs in Major Revamp to Prepare for Future Wars

The U.S. Army is slashing the size of its force by about 24,000, or almost 5%, and restructuring to be better able to fight the next major war, as the service struggles with recruiting shortfalls that made it impossible to bring in enough soldiers to fill all the jobs. The cuts will mainly be in already-empty posts — not actual soldiers — including in jobs related to counter-insurgency that swelled during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars but are not needed as much today. About 3,000 of the cuts would come from Army special operations forces.

At the same time, however, the plan will add about 7,500 troops in other critical missions, including air-defense and counter-drone units and five new task forces around the world with enhanced cyber, intelligence and long-range strike capabilities.

According to an Army document, the service is “significantly overstructured” and there aren't enough soldiers to fill existing units. The cuts, it said, are “spaces” not “faces” and the Army will not be asking soldiers to leave the force.

Instead, the decision reflects the reality that for years the Army hasn't been able to fill thousands of empty posts. While the Army as it's currently structured can have up to 494,000 soldiers, the total number of active-duty soldiers right now is about 445,000. Under the new plan, the goal is to bring in enough troops over the next five years to reach a level of 470,000.

The planned overhaul comes after two decades of war in Iraq and Afghanistan that forced the Army to quickly and dramatically expand in order to fill the brigades sent to the battlefield. That included a massive counter-insurgency mission to battle al-Qaida, the Taliban and the Islamic State group.

Over time the military's focus has shifted to great power competition from adversaries such as China and Russia, and threats from Iran and North Korea. And the war in Ukraine has shown the need for greater emphasis on air-defense systems and high-tech abilities both to use and counter airborne and sea-based drones.

Army leaders said they looked carefully across the board at all the service's job specialties in search of places to trim. And they examined the ongoing effort to modernize the Army, with new high-tech weapons, to determine where additional forces should be focused.

According to the plan, the Army will cut about 10,000 spaces for engineers and similar jobs that were tied to counter-insurgency missions. An additional 2,700 cuts will come from units that don't deploy often and can be trimmed, and 6,500 will come from various training and other posts.

There also will be about 10,000 posts cut from cavalry squadrons, Stryker brigade combat teams, infantry brigade combat teams and security force assistance brigades, which are used to train foreign forces.

The changes represent a significant shift for the Army to prepare for large-scale combat operations against more sophisticated enemies. But they also underscore the steep recruiting challenges that all of the military services are facing.

In the last fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30, the Navy, Army and Air Force all failed to meet their recruitment goals, while the Marine Corps and the tiny Space Force met their targets. The Army brought in a bit more than 50,000 recruits, falling well short of the publicly stated “stretch goal” of 65,000.

The previous fiscal year, the Army also missed its enlistment goal by 15,000. That year the goal was 60,000.

In response, the service launched a sweeping overhaul of its recruiting last fall to focus more on young people who have spent time in college or are job hunting early in their careers. And it is forming a new professional force of recruiters, rather than relying on soldiers randomly assigned to the task.

In discussing the changes at the time, Army Secretary Christine Wormuth acknowledged that the service hasn't been recruiting well “for many more years than one would think from just looking at the headlines in the last 18 months.” The service, she said, hasn't met its annual goal for new enlistment contracts since 2014.

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Retrieved February 27, 2024, from [US Army Is Slashing Thousands of Jobs in Major Revamp to Prepare for Future Wars | Newsmax.com](#)

February 23, 2024

M 3.2 - 7 km E of Fremont, CA

• 2024-02-22 17:35:11

Retrieved February 23, 2024, from [M 3.2 - 7 km E of Fremont, CA \(usgs.gov\)](#)

Mexico's Popocatepetl volcano returns to activity with impressive views

Mexico's Popocatepetl volcano continued spewing smoke and debris on Thursday. Light ashfall was reported in municipalities surrounding the volcano, affectionately known as 'El Popo.' (Feb. 23)

Retrieved February 23, 2024 from [Mexico's Popocatepetl volcano returns to activity with impressive views | AP News](#)

February 20, 2024

NUCLEAR THREAT: RUSSIA WILL DROP 'ENTIRE ARSENAL' ON LONDON, WASHINGTON IF IT DOESN'T WIN UKRAINE WAR

Top Putin Ally warns West off striving for a Ukrainian victory, warning that would lead to nuclear strikes on "Kiev, Berlin, London, Washington", as well as an apocalyptic civil war in Russia with "tens of millions" dead.

Deputy chairman of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev, who was also formerly the Prime Minister and President of Russia in service to Vladimir Putin, has threatened Western capitals with the "entire strategic arsenal" of Russian nuclear weapons. Medvedev, for whom [absolutely no slight is too small](#) to necessitate a nuclear response, was speaking of Ukraine's hope to retake its U.N.-recognised national territory which in some cases have been occupied by Russia for very close to ten years.

Retrieved February 20, 2024, from [Russia Threatens Nukes For London, Washington if It Loses Ukraine War \(breitbart.com\)](#)

February 18, 2024

China to Send Ships as Taiwan Tensions Rise

China's coast guard said on Sunday it will strengthen its law enforcement activities and carry out regular patrols around a small group of Taiwanese-controlled islands off the Chinese coast as tensions rise over the deaths of two Chinese nationals.

Taiwan on Thursday defended the actions of its coast guard after two people on a Chinese speedboat, which got too close to a frontline Taiwanese island, died when their boat overturned while trying to flee a coast guard ship. Two others survived.

Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, has complained in recent years about Chinese fishing boats and other vessels operating in Taiwan-controlled waters, especially around the Kinmen and Matsu islands which sit a short distance from China's coast.

China has condemned Taiwan's actions and labeled the incident near Kinmen's Beiding islet "wicked."

China's coast guard said in a short statement it will strengthen its maritime law enforcement forces and carry out regular law enforcement patrols and inspections in the waters around Kinmen and Xiamen, one of the Chinese cities Kinmen faces.

This is to "further maintain the order of operations in the relevant waters and safeguard the safety of fishermen's lives and property," it added.

Late on Saturday, China's Taiwan Affairs Office said the deaths had caused "strong indignation" in China, but that there were no off limits waters.

"Fishermen on both sides of the Taiwan Strait have been operating in traditional fishing grounds in the Xiamen-Kinmen maritime area since ancient times, and there is no such thing as 'prohibited or restricted waters'," it said.

China's government had goodwill towards Taiwan's people, but will never tolerate Taiwan's disregard for the safety of Chinese fishermen, the office added.

Taiwan's China-policy making Mainland Affairs Council said Taiwanese forces will continue to enforce the rules on banning unauthorized Chinese access to Taiwan's waters around Kinmen, but that accusations from China of "rough expulsions" were untrue.

However, ships that carry no name, have no certification or port registration, carry out "continuous intrusions," and make dangerous moves when trying to flee lead to "unfortunate incidents" nobody wants to see, it added.

Kinmen, along with Matsu, has been controlled by Taipei since the end of the Chinese civil war in 1949, when the defeated Republic of China government fled to Taiwan after losing to Mao Zedong's communists who set up the People's Republic of China. Kinmen was the site of frequent fighting during the height of the Cold War but is today a popular tourist destination, though many of the islets which are part of the island group are heavily fortified by Taiwan's military and off limits to civilians.

Taiwan, whose government rejects Beijing's sovereignty claims, says China has been using so-called grey-zone warfare, which entails using irregular tactics to exhaust a foe without actually resorting to open combat, including sending civilian ships into or close by Taiwanese waters.

Separately on Saturday, a group of low-level Chinese officials from Shanghai arrived in Taipei to attend the city's traditional Lantern Festival at the city government's invitation.

However, Taipei Mayor Chiang Wan-an told reporters he would not meet the group, led by Xu Hao, head of the liaison department of the Taiwan Affairs Office's Shanghai branch.

Last year, a deputy chief of the office's Shanghai branch went to Taipei for the same event, and was met by noisy protests at the airport.

Retrieved February 18, 2024, from [China to Send Coast Guard Ships as Tensions Rise Over Taiwanese Islands | Newsmax.com](#)

February 17, 2024

Two Chinese fishermen die in sea chase by Taiwan

Two Chinese fishermen have drowned while being chased by the Taiwanese coastguard off Taiwan's northernmost Kinmen archipelago.

Taipei said the fishing boat trespassed into Taiwanese waters on Wednesday.

The four fishermen on board resisted an inspection and the boat capsized when authorities gave chase.

Beijing "strongly condemned" the incident, saying it "seriously hurt the feelings of compatriots on both sides of the Taiwan Strait".

Kinmen lies just 3km (1.86 miles) away from China's south-eastern coast, placing it on the frontline of tensions between China and Taiwan.

China sees self-ruled Taiwan as a breakaway province that will, eventually, be part of the country, and has not ruled out the use of force to achieve this.

Retrieved February 17, 2024, from [Two Chinese fishermen die in sea chase by Taiwan \(msn.com\)](#)

February 16, 2024

Ontario earthquake: Rancho Cucamonga hit by 3.8 magnitude quake, felt in other parts of California

A 3.8 magnitude [earthquake](#) struck Southern [California](#) near San Bernardino County on Thursday night, as reported by the United States Geological Survey. The earthquake, which hit just outside Ontario, was centered approximately six miles south of Rancho Cucamonga and roughly 18 miles southwest of San Bernardino. Its effects were felt as far as Los Angeles and Huntington Beach.

According to the USGS, the earthquake originated approximately eight miles beneath the surface and occurred at around 11:38 p.m. local time on Thursday. Despite its intensity, there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries stemming from the quake.

This seismic event comes on the heels of a series of nearly 20 earthquakes that shook parts of Southern California within a condensed timeframe.

Retrieved February 16, 2024, from [Ontario earthquake: Rancho Cucamonga hit by 3.8 magnitude quake, felt in other parts of California \(msn.com\)](#)

Japanese volcano erupts, sending ash cloud 16,000ft into the air and launching boulders nearly a mile as residents are warned they may have to evacuate

A volcano has erupted in [Japan](#) sending a huge ash cloud 16,000ft into the air and launching boulders nearly a mile, with residents warned they may have to evacuate.

Sakurajima, a stratovolcano in the south of the country, began spewing lava on Wednesday evening, with the eruption continuing into today.

Retrieved February 16, 2024, from [Japanese volcano erupts, sending ash cloud 16,000ft into the air and launching boulders nearly a mile as residents are warned they may have to evacuate \(msn.com\)](#)

February 14, 2024

North Korea Fires Cruise Missiles in Provocative Run of Weapons Tests

North Korea on Wednesday fired multiple cruise missiles into the sea in its fifth test of such weapons since January, South Korea's military said, extending a streak in weapons demonstrations that is elevating tensions in the region.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the South Korean and U.S. militaries were analyzing the launches that were detected in waters northeast of the eastern coastal city of Wonsan. The South Korean military did not immediately provide the exact numbers of missiles fired or how far they flew.

It was not immediately clear either whether the missiles were fired from land or from sea assets.

Retrieved February 14, 2024, from [North Korea Fires Cruise Missiles in Provocative Run of Weapons Tests | Newsmax.com](#)

Volcanic Eruption in Iceland Subsides, Though Scientists Warn More Activity May Follow.

LONDON (AP) — A volcanic eruption in southwestern Iceland appears to have subsided, though scientists are warning that the area may experience further eruptions in the coming months.

Iceland's Meteorological Office said late Thursday that the eruption had decreased significantly.

The eruption began at about 6 a.m. local time on Thursday in the area northeast of Mount Sýlingarfell, the Met Office said. It prompted the evacuation of the popular Blue Lagoon thermal spa and cut off heat and hot water to several communities on the Reykjanes Peninsula in southwestern corner of the island.

Retrieved February 14, 2024, from [Volcanic Eruption in Iceland Subsides, Though Scientists Warn More Activity May Follow. | Newsmax.com](#)

February 12, 2024

San Diego California earthquake: 15 quakes in 30 minutes shake terrified people from beds

Story by Charlie Jones

A series of [earthquakes](#) including one with a 4.8 Magnitude has rocked South West US near the border between [California](#) and [Mexico](#) leaving people's houses shaking.

Residents reported decorations falling from the walls and breaking as the quake was felt across the area. According to United States Geological Survey (USGS) 15 earthquakes have so far hit in the space of an hour. People from as far as San Diego to Yuma, Arizona, reported feeling the earth shake.

The earthquake was assessed as 4.8 on the Earthquake Magnitude Scale.

According to Michigan Tech, around 500,000 earthquakes of this scale happen accross the world each year. Describing quakes from 2.5 to 5.4 on the scale, their website reads: "Often felt, but only causes minor damage."

Retrieved February 12, 2024, from [San Diego California earthquake: 15 quakes in 30 minutes shake terrified people from beds \(msn.com\)](#)

February 10, 2024

Magnitude 5.7 Earthquake Strikes Hawaii's Big Island

A magnitude 5.7 earthquake struck the world's largest active volcano on Friday — Mauna Loa on the Big Island of Hawaii — knocking items off shelves and cutting power in a nearby town but not immediately prompting reports of serious damage.

The earthquake, which didn't cause a tsunami and which the U.S. Geological Survey initially reported as magnitude 6.3, was

centered on Mauna Loa's southern flank at a depth of 23 miles, 1.3 miles southwest of Pahala.

"It shook us bad to where it wobbled some knees a little bit," said Derek Nelson, the manager of the Kona Canoe Club restaurant in the oceanside community of Kona, on the island's western side. "It shook all the windows in the village." There was a power outage affecting about 300 customers in Naalehu that appeared to be related to the earthquake, said Darren Pai, spokesperson for Hawaiian Electric Company.

The earthquake struck after 10 a.m. local time, less than two hours before an unrelated quake with a preliminary magnitude of 4.6 shook Southern California.

Mauna Loa last erupted in late 2022. It's one of five volcanoes that make up the Big Island, which is the southernmost in the Hawaiian archipelago.

Earthquakes can occur in Hawaii for a variety of reasons, including magma moving under the surface. In Friday's case, the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said the likely cause was the weight of the Hawaiian Islands bending and stressing the Earth's crust and upper mantle.

That's what caused a magnitude 6.9 earthquake that struck off Kiholo Bay on the Big Island's northwest coast in 2006. That temblor damaged roads and buildings and knocked out power as far away as Honolulu, on the island of Oahu, about 200 miles to the north.

Helen Janiszewski, an assistant professor in the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Department of Earth Sciences, said the Hawaiian Islands lie on the Pacific oceanic tectonic plate and have some of the world's biggest volcanoes.

"So there's a huge amount of mass of rock associated with the islands and because of that, it's actually enough to slightly displace the Pacific oceanic plate beneath the islands," she said. "And that force causes earthquakes sometimes."

Retrieved February 6, 2024, from [Magnitude 5.7 Quake Strikes Mauna Loa Volcano on Hawaii's Big Island | Newsmax.com](https://www.newsmax.com/magnitude-5.7-quake-strikes-mauna-loa-volcano-on-hawaii-s-big-island/)

4.6-Magnitude Earthquake Strikes Southern California

The authorities said there were no immediate reports of significant damage from the quake, one of several that struck near Malibu, Calif., near Los Angeles.

An earthquake centered several miles northwest of Malibu, Calif., rattled residents across the Los Angeles area on Friday afternoon, sparking a typical flurry of posts on social media, though the authorities said no major damage or injuries had been reported.

The quake happened at 1:47 p.m. local time and had a [preliminary magnitude of 4.6](#), according to the United States Geological Survey. It was followed by [several smaller aftershocks](#).

Residents across the county reported feeling a shake that lasted for about 10 seconds, with plates clinking in cupboards and plants swaying slightly.

Some residents, however, were surprised to learn of the earthquake and said they had not felt anything.

No significant damage was reported in the city of Los Angeles, according to Capt. Erik Scott, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Fire Department. Mr. Scott said the agency was in what it refers to as “earthquake mode.”

“When the ground shakes in the city of L.A., the L.A.F.D. enters this mode and firefighters from all 106 fire stations provide a complete survey of 470 square miles in greater Los Angeles to ensure safety,” he said.

Schools within the Los Angeles Unified School District sent out automated calls noting that students had remained in their classes.

Retrieved February 6, 2024, from [4.6-Magnitude Earthquake Strikes Near Malibu, Rattling Los Angeles Area - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)

February 8, 2024

2/7/24 - The World to Israel

You're a Problem for Everyone!

The World to Israel: You're a Problem for Everyone! We are joined by Bill Koenig (Founder, World Watch Daily; Former White House Correspondent) and Albert Veksler (Founder, Jerusalem Prayer Breakfast). Topics discussed include: The #1 Problem. The 2 State – Non-Solution. The Widening US-Iran War. Sweden, Jerusalem, and New York City to Host 2024 Jerusalem Prayer Breakfasts.

Retrieved February 6, 2024, from [2/7/24 - The World to Israel - Stand in the Gap \(subsplash.com\)](#)

February 6, 2024

Russian High Schools to Implement Nuclear War Training

While American schools continue to rehearse "active shooter" scenarios as a grim reflection of modern-day society, Russian high schools will be bringing back the "duck-and-cover" routines of the early 1980s, [Newsweek reported](#). Pulling from the local publication Kommersant, the report cited a Russian Ministry of Education directive instructing students on how to protect themselves in the event of a nuclear strike.

Students will learn about "the combat properties and damaging effects of weapons of mass destruction, as well as methods of protection against them." It will be part of a curriculum being rolled out in high schools in Russia called "Fundamentals of Security and Defense of the Motherland."

Retrieved February 6, 2024, from [Russian High Schools to Implement Nuclear War Training | Newsmax.com](#)

February 5, 2024

2nd atmospheric river in days unleashes mudslides, floods roads in Southern California

LOS ANGELES —

The second of back-to-back [atmospheric rivers](#) took aim at Southern California early Monday, unleashing mudslides, flooding roadways and knocking out power as the soggy state braced for another day of heavy rains. About 1.4 million people in the Los Angeles area, including the Hollywood Hills and Beverly Hills, were under a flash-flood warning Monday morning. Up to 9 inches (23 centimeters) of rain had already fallen in the area, with more expected, according to the National Weather Service, which called the flash flooding and threat of mudslides "a particularly dangerous situation."

Retrieved February 5, 2024, from [Atmospheric river unleashes mudslides, flooding in Southern California \(kcra.com\)](#)

Russian FM calls Israeli ambassador for reprimand

Russian Foreign Min. says Israeli Amb. Simona Halperin made 'unacceptable' statements in an interview with Russian media.

The Russian Foreign Ministry has ordered Israel's Ambassador to Russia, Simona Halperin, to appear Monday night for a reprimand for "inappropriate statements."

"Due to public statements which are unacceptable - which distort Russia's foreign policy and the historic facts - Halperin will be called to the Foreign Ministry," the Ministry said.

The order follows an interview Halperin gave to the Russian *Kommersant* newspaper, in which she criticized the Russian government.

"I think the Russian leadership does not completely understand that since October 7, we are facing a new and horrible reality," she said. " Hamas, with the support of Iran, carried out an inhuman attack. It took time before Russia publicly condemned the attack, called it an 'act of terror,' and mentioned Hamas."

"The Russian position worries and disappoints me - the country has lost the support of Israelis, including Russian-speakers.

"I think that Russia and Israel are interested in Israel remaining a friendly country towards Russia. Russia is present in the Middle East and it has interests there, and we also are not secondary players in the region. As a result of this there was communication, there is communication, and there will be communication between the countries in the future."

Retrieved February 5, 2024, from [Russian FM calls Israeli ambassador for reprimand | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

February 4, 2024

Ben-Gvir to WSJ: Biden gives aid which goes to Hamas

Israeli National Security Minister tells Wall Street Journal US would be more supportive of Israel if Donald Trump is reelected.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir strongly criticized the Biden Administration's approach to the war between Israel and the Hamas terrorist organization and claimed that America's policies would improve if former President Donald Trump is reelected in November during an interview with the Wall Street Journal today (Sunday).

"Instead of giving us his full backing, Biden is busy with giving humanitarian aid and fuel [to Gaza], which goes to Hamas," Ben-Gvir stated.

He added, "If Trump was in power, the U.S. conduct would be completely different."

According to Ben-Gvir, the solution to the humanitarian problems in the Gaza Strip is to "encourage Gazans to voluntarily emigrate to places around the world," calling this "the real humanitarian" act.

When asked if he is considering bringing down the current Netanyahu government, the Otzma Yehudit chairman said that he is in no rush to take an action that could likely lead to the formation of a left-wing government led by National Unity party chairman Minister Benny Gantz or Opposition leader Yair Lapid.

Retrieved February 4, 2024 from [Ben-Gvir to WSJ: Biden gives aid which goes to Hamas | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

Netanyahu: 'I don't need help with international relations'

Prime Minister Netanyahu rebuked National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir for criticizing US President Joe Biden in a recent interview.

Retrieved February 4, 2024 from [Netanyahu: 'I don't need help with international relations' | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

US launches airstrikes in Iraq and Syria in response to deadly drone attack in Jordan

FAST FACTS:

- The United States launched retaliatory attacks in Iraq and Syria on Friday. This came in response to the drone attacks in Jordan that killed three American soldiers.
- U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) stated that airstrikes were conducted against more than 85 targets in Iraq and Syria against Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) Quds Force and affiliated militia groups.
- Shortly after the attacks were confirmed, President Joe Biden warned "If you harm an American, we will respond."
- The White House stressed Friday evening that the United States is not looking for war with Iran.

Retrieved February 4, 2024 from [US airstrikes in the Middle East as Israel-Hamas war continues | Live Updates \(foxnews.com\)](#)

Biden said set to make push for demilitarized Palestinian state as part of new doctrine

New York Times' Thomas Friedman, who's close to the US administration, says emerging doctrine would include Saudi-Israeli normalization, 2-state solution, and campaign against Iran

Retrieved February 4, 2024 from [Biden said set to make push for demilitarized Palestinian state as part of new doctrine | The Times of Israel](#)

February 3, 2024

5.1 magnitude earthquake near Oklahoma City felt in 5 states, USGS says

The Oklahoma City area felt a magnitude 5.1 earthquake late Friday followed by a series of aftershocks.

Around 11:24 p.m. local time, the earthquake struck near Prague, about 63 miles east of Oklahoma City, according to the [Oklahoma Geological Survey](#). It had a depth just under 2 miles. A series of smaller earthquakes, as large as 3.5 magnitude, were felt in the area.

State Seismologist Jake Walter said he expected more aftershocks to continue in the coming days. The 5.1-earthquake happened on the same fault as a [2011 earthquake in Prague that was a magnitude 5.7](#), he said on [social media](#).

Oklahoma earthquakes: [Oklahoma City-area hit by 4.1-magnitude earthquake Saturday, one of several in Oklahoma](#)

The [U.S. Geological Survey indicated](#) the earthquake was felt across much of Oklahoma, including in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, and across state lines in Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and parts of Texas. The [USGS said](#) earthquakes east of the Rockies, while less frequent than in the West, are typically felt over larger areas. In mid-January, the Oklahoma City area [experienced a 4.1 earthquake](#), with a depth of 4.1 miles, amid a series of quakes along a fault line near the Northeast Edmond Gas and Oil Field.

The state has seen an uptick in earthquakes in recent years, many of which have derived from human activity, including oil and natural gas production.

Retrieved February 3, 2024 from [5.1 magnitude earthquake near Oklahoma City felt in 5 states, USGS says \(msn.com\)](#)

February 2, 2024

Iran begins construction of four nuclear plants

Iran has begun construction on four more nuclear power plants in the country's south, with expected total capacity of 5,000 megawatts.

Iran has begun construction on four more nuclear power plants in the country's south, with expected total capacity of 5,000 megawatts, *The Associated Press* reported on Thursday, citing the official *IRNA* news agency.

Iran seeks to produce 20,000 megawatts of nuclear energy by 2041.

Iran has one nuclear power plant at its southern port of Bushehr [that went online in 2011](#) with help from Russia, but also several underground nuclear facilities.

In 2019, Iran and Russia [inaugurated a new phase](#) of construction for a second reactor at Bushehr.

In 2022, [Iran began construction](#) on a new nuclear power plant in the country's southwest. At the time, it was reported that the 300-megawatt plant, known as Karoon, would take eight years to build and cost around \$2 billion.

IRNA quoted Mohammad Eslami, the head of Iran's atomic agency, as saying on Thursday it will take up to nine years to complete the new plants.

Retrieved February 2, 2024 from [Iran begins construction of four nuclear plants | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

January 30, 2024

NATO supports US efforts to minimize Iran's threat to Middle East

Iran is responsible for destabilizing the whole region and threatening stability and security in the Middle East through its proxy groups, said the NATO Secretary General.

By HANNAH SARISOHN

The US will hold Iran responsible and respond decisively to any aggression, [Secretary of State Antony Blinken](#) said Monday during a joint press conference with [NATO Secretary General](#) Jens Stoltenberg. "At the same time, we remain focused on our core objectives in the region, both in terms of the conflict in Gaza and broader efforts to build truly durable peace and security," Blinken said. Blinken said the Biden administration is intent on standing up for US troops when they're attacked while also working to prevent the conflict from spreading.

Retrieved January 30, 2024, from [NATO supports US efforts to minimize Iran's threat to Middle East - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

3 American troops killed, 25 injured in attack on Jordan base near Syria border

Biden blasts 'radical Iran-backed militant groups' after deadly drone attack on US personnel

Three U.S. service members were killed and at least 25 others were injured in a drone attack on an outpost in northeast Jordan near the Syrian border, [U.S. Central Command](#) confirmed on Sunday.

But a senior U.S. defense official told Fox News the injury toll could rise to higher than 25 Americans. Most, if not all, of those injured and killed were Army soldiers based in northern Jordan near the Syrian border at a base known as Tower 22, which has been in support of the counter-ISIS mission for year, the official said.

Some of the 25-plus injured have been medically evacuated from the base, likely to Landstuhl in Germany, according to the official. It is not clear if they were hit while sleeping in the residential compound at the base. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin is actively engaged in discussions taking place at the White House about how to respond.

Retrieved January 30, 2024, from [3 American troops killed, 25 injured in attack on Jordan base near Syria border | Fox News](#)

January 28, 2024

NATO WITHDRAWS FROM COLD WAR-ERA SECURITY TREATY AFTER RUSSIAN EXIT

BRUSSELS (AP) – NATO on Tuesday announced the formal suspension of a key Cold War-era security treaty in response to Russia’s pullout from the deal just hours earlier. The alliance also said its members who signed the treaty are now freezing their participation in the pact.

Most of NATO’s 31 allies have signed the Treaty of Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, which was aimed at preventing Cold War rivals from massing forces at or near mutual borders. It was signed in November 1990, but not fully ratified until two years later.

NATO said its action was required because “a situation whereby Allied State Parties abide by the Treaty, while Russia does not, would be unsustainable.”

Earlier in the day, Moscow said it had finalized its withdrawal from the treaty, also known as CFE. The long-expected move came after both houses of the Russian parliament approved a bill

proposed by President Vladimir Putin denouncing the CFE. Putin signed that bill into force in May this year

The treaty was one of several major Cold War-era treaties involving Russia and the United States that ceased to be in force in recent years. Russia suspended its participation in 2007, and in 2015 announced its intention to completely withdraw from the agreement.

In February 2022, Moscow invaded Ukraine, sending hundreds of thousands of Russian troops into the neighboring country, which also shares a border with NATO members Poland, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary

Russia's Foreign Ministry said the process of the formal withdrawal from the treaty has been completed, without elaborating what that entailed. It blamed the U.S. and its allies for the withdrawal and the West's allegedly "destructive position" on the treaty.

"We left the door open for a dialogue on ways to restore the viability of conventional arms control in Europe," it said. "However, our opponents did not take advantage of this opportunity."

The statement further said that "even the formal preservation" of the treaty has become "unacceptable from the point of view of Russia's fundamental security interests," citing developments in Ukraine and NATO's recent expansion.

In Brussels, NATO said that its allies who had signed on "intend to suspend the operation of the CFE Treaty for as long as necessary, in accordance with their rights under international law." The alliance underlined that its members remain committed "to reduce military risk, and prevent misperceptions and conflicts."

NATO said that its members will continue to "consult on and assess the implications of the current security environment and its impact on the security" of the alliance.

Retrieved January 28, 2024 from [NATO Withdraws from Cold War-Era Security Treaty After Russian Exit \(breitbart.com\)](#)

January 23, 2024

Egypt warns: Capture of Philadelphi Corridor threat to Israel-Egypt relations

Chairman of Egypt's State Information Service said that a move by Israel to take control of the area along the Egypt-Gaza border could lead to a 'severe

and serious' threat to the relations between the two countries.

Tziki Brandwein Jan 22, 2024, 10:30 PM (GMT+2)

Diaa Rashwan, Chairman of Egypt's State Information Service, warned on Monday that a move by Israel to capture the Philadelphi Corridor along the Gaza-Egypt border may lead to a "severe and serious" threat to the relations between the two countries.

Approximately a week ago the *Wall Street Journal* reported that Israel notified Egypt of intentions to begin a military operation along the corridor.

The military operation would likely include removing Gazan officials from crossing points and placing Israeli forces along the border area.

Retrieved January 23, 2024, from [Egypt warns: Capture of Philadelphi Corridor threat to Israel-Egypt relations | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

January 22, 2024

Israel vows to cut off 'the head of the snake' and launch a military attack against Iran if Hezbollah joins the war with Hamas

By [NATALIE LISBONA](#) and [MARK HOOKHAM](#) and [ANNA MIKHAILOVA](#)

Israel last night vowed to cut off 'the head of the snake' and launch a military attack against [Iran](#) if Tehran-backed terror group Hezbollah joins the war.

In an exclusive interview with The Mail on Sunday, Nir Barkat, Israel's Minister of Economy, warned that Iran's Ayatollahs will be 'wiped off the face of the earth' should Hezbollah, their proxy terror group in Lebanon, attack Israel.

His incendiary comments raise the grave spectre of a rapidly escalating regional conflict and come ahead of an expected [Israeli](#) ground invasion of the Gaza Strip to 'annihilate' [Hamas](#).

Retrieved January 22, 2024, from [Israel vows to cut off 'the head of the snake' and launch a military attack against Iran if Hezbollah joins the war with Hamas | Daily Mail Online](#)

Words into action: Russia bolsters presence along Syrian border

Analysis: Following Moscow's condemnation of Israeli actions against Iranian positions in Syria amid the war in Gaza, Russian air forces initiate patrols along the northern border

Last week, a Russian helicopter flying near the cease-fire line in Syrian territory was seen from the Golan Heights. The Russian helicopter flew along the line for several minutes, then turned back eastward deep into Syria. The Israel Air Force tracked the helicopter, providing alerts to IDF forces and the military's air defense batteries in the area. However, since the helicopter didn't cross the cease-fire line into Israeli territory near the Golan Heights, no further action was needed.

Retrieved January 22, 2024, from [Words into action: Russia bolsters presence along Syrian border \(ynetnews.com\)](https://ynetnews.com)

January 19, 2024

Iran warns 'time is up' in ominous message to Israel as concerns mount of a World War III

By

Social Links for Melissa Koenig

Iran's foreign minister warned in an ominous tweet Wednesday morning that time is "running out" for Israel following an [attack on a hospital in Gaza](#), as experts grow concerned about a potential third world war.

[Hossein Amir-Abdollahian](#) shared the chilling message after hundreds died Tuesday in a missile strike at a Gaza City hospital, which Israel has claimed was caused by a failed rocket launch by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group.

"After the terrible crime of the Zionist regime in the bombing and massacre of more than 1,000 innocent women and children in the hospital, the time has come for the global unity of humanity against this fake regime more hated than ISIS and its killing machine," [Amir-Abdollahian tweeted](#).

"Time is OVER!"

The Iranian Embassy in Syria [also tweeted](#) "time is up" in

Retrieved January 19, 2024, from [Iran warns 'time is up' in ominous message to Israel \(nypost.com\)](#)

January 15, 2024

Geologist predicts another powerful earthquake will hit Turkey in coming months

Earth's crust on the verge of rupture. Prof. Arkan warning highlights high risk of a significant earthquake in the coming months, urges precautions.

By MAARIV JANUARY 9, 2024 16:49

Retrieved January 15, 2024, from [Geologist predicts another powerful earthquake will hit Turkey soon - The Jerusalem Post \(jpost.com\)](#)

Arctic Cold Outbreak Could Smash Records From The Northwest To The Gulf Coast

Retrieved January 15, 2024, from [Arctic Cold Outbreak To Smash Records | Weather.com](#)

Saudi report: Mystery Islamic group attacked Israeli outpost

A new report in Arabic media states that the group that attacked an IDF outpost in northern Israel yesterday is unconnected with any known power in the region.

Retrieved January 15, 2024, from [Saudi report: Mystery Islamic group attacked Israeli outpost | Israel National News - Arutz Sheva](#)

US Deploys 3rd Carrier Strike Group to Western Pacific

Just days before Taiwan elected a president favoring sovereignty over closer ties to China, the U.S. deployed a third career strike group to the western Pacific theater.

The USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71) [departed San Diego](#) on Thursday to join the USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) and USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

"U.S. quietly deployed a 3rd carrier strike group (CSG) to the western Pacific," an independent journalist [posted to X](#), adding "[they could have left in a hurry](#)." "Aircraft carrier USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT got underway Thursday to follow VINSON CSG + join REAGAN CSG in the region."

Retrieved January 15, 2024, from [US Deploys 3rd Carrier Strike Group to Western Pacific | Newsmax.com](#)

VOLCANIC ICELAND

NEW ERUPTION ON THE REYKJANES PENINSULA

A volcanic eruption started on Sunday, January 14, near Grindavík on the Reykjanes Peninsula. The town had previously been evacuated, and people were not in danger. [View current updates here](#)

On average, a volcano erupts in Iceland every five years. Since 2021, however, the frequency has been closer to every 12 months! The area broadly known as Fagradalsfjall, some 35km from the capital Reykjavík, flared to life after a series of earthquakes on the Reykjanes Peninsula. The three eruptions - some consider one single eruption with months-long pauses - mark the beginning of a new geological era on the southwestern peninsula, which has been dormant for the past 800 years.

Unlike most volcanic eruptions -- occurring on the interior highlands, the lava hidden under ice and/or with lethal volumes of volcanic gases -- Fagradalsfjall was the ideal 'tourist volcano': Small in relative terms and accessible for all levels of fitness.

The last eruption ended in August 2023, but the site still remains a major attraction. The thick, black crust of lava paves the landscape with crumbling craters and steam. Welcome to the newest part of Iceland.

Retrieved January 15, 2024, from [Volcanic eruptions in Iceland \(visiticeland.com\)](https://www.visiticeland.com/en/volcanic-eruptions-in-iceland)

January 14,2024

North Korea threatens US with preemptive nuclear strike - KCNA

[Russian New Agency](#)

Retrieved January 14, 2024, from [North Korea threatens US with preemptive nuclear strike — KCNA - World - TASS](#)

Persecution Expert Issues Warning: Potential Powder Keg Could Erupt Against Armenia as World ‘Distracted’ by Hamas Terror in Israel

With the Israel-Hamas war continuing to intensify, another crisis has entirely escaped from the headlines: the expulsion of 120,000 ethnic and Christian Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh, a small, landlocked region between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Joel Veldkamp, head of international communications for Christian Solidarity International, joined CBN Digital to provide an update on the heartbreaking situation.

“As of two weeks ago, virtually the entire Armenian population has left Nagorno-Karabakh, so this land that was part of the ancient Armenian Christian Homeland for thousands of years is now empty,” he said. “It really is a complete ethnic cleansing of the entire region.”

Retrieved January 14, 2024, from [Persecution Expert Issues Warning: Potential Powder Keg Could Erupt Against Armenia as World ‘Distracted’ by Hamas Terror in Israel – Faithwire](#)

Israel says it uncovered Hamas terror network planning attacks in Europe

Mossad and Shin Bet release details on group’s attempts to attack Jewish and Israeli targets, say slain Hamas leaders in Lebanon helmed the efforts

Retrieved January 14, 2024, from [Israel says it uncovered Hamas terror network planning attacks in Europe | The Times of Israel](#)

January 11, 2024

Iran seizes oil tanker linked to crisis between US and Tehran, military officials confirm

The US has been fending off Iran-backed terrorists in the region for weeks

Iranian forces have seized an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman, two U.S. military officials confirmed to Fox News on Thursday.

The seized vessel, previously known as the Suez Rajan, was once at the center of another dispute between the U.S. and Iran that ultimately saw the U.S. seize over 1 million barrels of Iranian crude oil. Armed Iranian soldiers reportedly boarded the vessel Thursday morning.

The U.S. and other Western navies have been combating attacks from Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen in the Red Sea for weeks, but Iran itself had not taken direct action beyond [sending one of its naval vessels](#) to the region. The Houthis had been a State Department designated foreign terrorist organization until February 2021, when the designation was revoked by the Biden administration.

The U.S. Navy has shot down numerous missiles and drones fired by Houthi rebels. U.S. Navy helicopters also fired on and sank multiple Houthi small boats as they attempted to hijack a trade vessel last month.

Retrieved January 11,2024 from [Iran seizes oil tanker linked to crisis between US and Tehran, military officials confirm \(foxnews.com\)](#)

January 7,2024

Hamas calls for a 'mobilization' of the Arab and Islamic world on Friday 'in support of Gaza'

- Hamas has called for those in Arab and Islamic world to show their support
 - Comes after thousands of Palestinian supporters descended on Israeli embassy
 - [Israel Palestine conflict LIVE: More than 700 killed in Gaza as strip is pounded by Israeli warplanes](#)
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By [RACHAEL BUNYAN](#)

[Hamas](#) today called for a 'mobilization' of the Arab and Islamic world on Friday 'in support of Gaza', describing it as a day of 'heroism and sacrifice'.

[Thousands of Hamas targets have been obliterated](#) by an [Israeli](#) aerial bombardment that has relentlessly pounded the Gaza Strip after the terrorists launched a surprise assault that has so far killed at least 900 Israelis.

But now, the terrorist leaders have called for those in the Arab and Islamic world to 'mobilise' and show their support for Hamas and the Palestinian people on Friday.

Retrieved January 7,2024 from [Hamas calls for a 'mobilization' of the Arab and Islamic world on Friday 'in support of Gaza' | Daily Mail Online](#)

MUSLIMS CHANT 'GAS THE JEWS' IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Retrieved January 7,2024 from [Video: Muslims Chant 'Gas the Jews' in Sydney, Australia \(breitbart.com\)](#)

Blinken starts Mideast tour in Turkey in bid to prevent escalation into regional war

US secretary of state was expected to ask Erdogan to exert influence to restrain Iran, participate in planning for postwar Gaza reconstruction and governance

By [MATTHEW LAVI](#)

Retrieved January 7,2024 from [Blinken starts Mideast tour in Turkey in bid to prevent escalation into regional war | The Times of Israel](#)

January 2, 2024

Iranian warship 'enters Red Sea' amid ongoing Houthi attacks on merchant shipping

Deployment of the Alborz warship occurs just one day after US naval forces repelled a Houthi assault against a Maersk cargo vessel, killing 10 attackers

Iran's Alborz warship has entered the Red Sea through the strategic Bab el-Mandeb strait, the semi-official Tasnim news agency reported Monday, amid heightened tensions in the globally important strategic waterway.

The report comes against the backdrop of repeated missile and drone attacks against Israel from Houthi rebels in Yemen, and Houthi attacks on merchant shipping in the critical international waterway.

On Sunday, US Navy helicopters from the USS Eisenhower carrier strike group fired on Houthi rebels who were attempting to board a Maersk cargo ship off Yemen, with the Houthis reporting 10 fighters dead or missing.

Retrieved January 2, 2024, from [Iranian warship 'enters Red Sea' amid ongoing Houthi attacks on merchant shipping | The Times of Israel](#)

Biden Warns US Military May Get Pulled Into Direct Conflict With Russia

Retrieved January 2, 2024 from [Biden Warns US Military May Get Pulled Into Direct Conflict With Russia \(newsweek.com\)](#)

Mysterious Chinese Spaceplane Deployed 'Space Stalkers'

Retrieved January 2, 2024 from [Mysterious Chinese Spaceplane Deployed 'Space Stalkers' | Newsmax.com](#)

January 1, 2024

Japan lowers its tsunami warning but still tells people not to go home after a series of earthquakes

YURI KAGEYAMA

Updated Mon, January 1, 2024 at 6:23 AM MST

Japan Earthquake

Cracks are seen on the ground in Wajima, Ishikawa prefecture, Japan Monday, Jan. 1, 2024, following an earthquake. Japan issued tsunami alerts Monday after a series of strong quakes in the Sea of Japan. (Kyodo News via AP)

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO (AP) — Japan dropped its highest-level tsunami alert, issued following a series of major earthquakes on Monday, but told residents of coastal areas not to return to their homes as deadly waves could still come. The quakes, the largest of which had a magnitude of 7.6, started a fire and collapsed buildings on the west coast of Japan's main island, Honshu. It was unclear how many people might have been killed or hurt.

The Japan Meteorological Agency reported more than a dozen quakes in the Japan Sea off the coast of Ishikawa and nearby prefectures shortly after 4 p.m.

At least six homes were damaged by the quakes, with people trapped inside, government spokesman [Yoshimasa Hayashi](#)

said. A fire broke out in Wajima city, Ishikawa Prefecture, and electricity was out for more than 30,000 households, he said.

The agency initially issued a major tsunami warning for Ishikawa and lower-level tsunami warnings or advisories for the rest of the western coast of the island of Honshu, as well as the northernmost of its main islands, Hokkaido.

The warning was downgraded to a regular tsunami several hours later, meaning the waters could still reach up to 3 meters (10 feet). Aftershocks could also slam the same area over the next few days, it said.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK TV initially warned torrents of water could reach as high as 5 meters (16.5 feet).

NHK said the tsunami waves could keep returning, and warnings were continuing to be aired hours after the initial alert. Several aftershocks also rocked the region.

Hayashi stressed that it was critical for people in coastal areas to get away from the oncoming tsunami.

“Every minute counts. Please evacuate to a safe area immediately,” he said.

People returning to get their wallets and other belongings have been known to be swept away and drowned even hours after the first evacuation warning. People were evacuated to stadiums, where they will likely have to stay for a few days.

Hayashi said no reports of deaths or injuries had been confirmed from the quakes, saying the situation was still unclear. Japan's military was taking part in the rescue efforts, he said.

Japanese media footage showed people running through the streets, and red smoke spewing from a fire in a residential neighborhood. Photos showed a crowd of people, including a woman with a baby on her back, standing by huge cracks that had ripped through the pavement.

Some people sustained minor injuries when they tripped and fell while fleeing, or objects fell off shelves and hit them, according to NHK.

Bullet trains in the area were halted, although some parts of the service were restored by evening. Parts of the highway were also closed, and water pipes had burst, according to NHK.

Some cell phone services in the region weren't working.

The Meteorological Agency said in a nationally broadcast news conference that more major quakes could hit the area over the next week, especially in the next two or three days.

More than a dozen strong quakes had been detected in the region, with risks of setting off landslides and houses collapsing, according to the agency.

Takashi Wakabayashi, a worker at a convenience store in Ishikawa Prefecture, said some items had tumbled from the shelves, but the biggest problem was the huge crowd of people who had shown up to stock up on bottled water, rice balls and bread.

“We have customers at three times the level of usual,” he said.

Tsunami warnings were also issued for parts of North Korea and Russia.

The Japanese government has set up a special emergency center to gather information on the quakes and tsunami and relay them speedily to residents to ensure safety, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters.

Japan is an extremely quake-prone nation. In March 2011, a major quake and tsunami caused [meltdowns at a nuclear plant](#).

The latest warning was the first time since the 2011 disaster that a tsunami warning of this magnitude was issued.

Government spokesman Hayashi told reporters that nuclear plants in the affected area had not reported any irregularities on Monday. Nuclear regulators said no rises in radiation levels were detected at the monitoring posts in the region.

Retrieved January 1, 2024 from <https://www.yahoo.com/news/japan-issues-tsunami-alert-series-073512311.html>

December 31, 2023

MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE KILLS OVER 2,400 IN NORTHWEST AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan was struck by its deadliest earthquake in years on Sunday, with more than 2,400 casualties reported at last count from the northwestern city of Herat and its surrounding province.

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) [rated](#) the quake at magnitude 6.3 and said its epicenter was in the rural district of Zindajan, about 20 miles northwest of Herat.

The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said “one hundred percent of homes are estimated to have been completely destroyed” in Zindajan. Herat itself suffered relatively minor damage to its [ancient minarets](#). Eyewitnesses said one reason the disaster response was slow for rural communities was that Herat was left largely intact and, since cellphone service was out, rescuers in Herat did not immediately realize how badly damaged the surrounding villages were.

The Taliban regime struggled to produce solid estimates of how many people were killed, or even how many people live in Zindajan, since its population includes a large number of displaced persons.

Reuters [explained](#) on Monday that houses in earthquake-prone Afghanistan, which straddles at least two active fault lines, are not really built to handle tremors:

The Herat region has not been a hotbed of seismic activity until now, so the buildings and residents were especially unprepared for Sunday’s powerful quake. “Nobody was prepared,” a rescue worker with CARE Afghanistan [told](#) the *Washington Post*.

Another rescue worker said many of the houses struck by the quake collapsed within seconds, trapping people who were in the process of running for the exits.

Afghanistan’s independent Tolo News [reported](#) the Naib Rafi village in Zindajan was “destroyed completely,” and roughly 80 percent of its population was killed.

“The people here are stranded under wreckage. The people of other districts came here to help. All the people have been eliminated. Three shepherds were working here while the [earthquake] destroyed them. When they came back here, no one was alive, they were all under ruins,” a Zindajan resident told Tolo News.

A spokesman for the Afghan Ministry of Disaster Management [rattled off](#) a list of 13 villages largely or completely destroyed by the earthquake, along with a large quantity of livestock, which is bad news for a country teetering on the verge of mass starvation.

The death toll was doubtless exacerbated by the general incompetence of the Taliban regime, and the shortage of humanitarian funding as its barbaric practices have [driven](#) international donors away.

“While there was still hope, more people were being pulled from ruined buildings dead than alive on Monday. Afghanistan’s hospitals, already over-stretched and severely under-equipped since in the wake of the Taliban’s chaotic seizure of the country, were quickly overwhelmed,” CBS News [reported](#).

A spokesman for Doctors Without Borders (RSF) said on Monday that many of the quake victims treated at the Herat Regional Hospital “do not have homes to return to,” so they are “remaining in the hospital while authorities look for alternative places for them to stay.”

According to the United Nations, both the injured survivors and the dead include a large number of women and children.

“The Taliban government has said quake survivors are in urgent need of food, drinking water, medicine, clothes and tents for shelter. Several aid agencies have dispatched help, including the Afghan Red Cross Society, MSF, World Food Program and Unicef. But the agencies say the cash-strapped country needs more aid,” the BBC wrote on Monday.

Retrieved December 31, 2023 from [Massive Earthquake Kills over 2,400 in Northwest Afghanistan \(breitbart.com\)](#)