

Mid-East Prophecy Update – September 14th, 2008

- Every week, we set aside a few minutes on Sunday mornings to look at Bible prophecy
- The reason for this is because the Bible predicts certain events that will take place in the last days before the Lord returns.
- We believe that what's happening in the world today is a fulfillment of those Bible Prophecies.

- We look primarily at events in the Middle East, specifically related to Israel because, as it's been said; "Israel is God's prophetic clock."
- We're seemingly so "caught up," no pun intended, in the presidential election, that major prophetic news has gone off the radar.
- Recently, I was struck by a statement in the Author's Note section at the beginning of Joel Rosenberg's new book; "Dead Heat."

"What if the political debates that so obsess and divide us prove one day to be trivial pursuits, distracting us from the most important and pressing issues of our time? What if in the midst of presidential campaign seasons that invariably consume so much of our nation's time, talent, and treasure we find our-selves one day blindsided by gathering evils we either do not see or fail to fully appreciate? What if the great fortunes we are trying to amass do not protect us from the weapons being formed against us? And what if in our never-ending national hunt for power, prosperity, and celebrity we somehow gain the whole world, but forfeit our souls? A new evil is rising. I feel it. I fear it. Let us awaken, before it's too late." Joel Rosenberg – "Dead Heat" p, xii

Joel Rosenberg Blog – Pouring fuel on the fires of anxiety in the Middle East, Iran on Monday launched [three days of war games](#). The exercises could be to prepare for a possible Israeli first strike (or, a less likely American first strike) against Iran's nuclear facilities. Or it could be further preparations for an Iranian first strike against Israel and U.S. interests. Also ratcheting up tensions is a [report](#) that an Israeli cabinet minister is openly discussing the possibility of kidnapping Iranian President Ahmadinejad. Iran has set [new presidential elections](#) for June 12, 2009. Ahmadinejad says he plans to run for reelection, and the Ayatollah Khamenei has [endorsed](#) his apocalyptic protege, ending all speculation that Iran's Supreme Leader disagrees with the president's eschatology. The fact is the two men agree entirely over the imminent return of the Mahdi and the need to create global chaos and carnage to hasten the Hidden Imam's arrival.

<http://flashtrafficblog.wordpress.com/2008/09/09/tensions-mount-as-iran-launches-new-war-games/>

Joel Rosenberg Blog - Meanwhile, there's this headline from the AP – "[Russia: Launch of Iran reactor near 'irreversible' stage.](#)" Ahmadinejad and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev met for private discussions at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan on August 28th, further underscoring how closely Russia and Iran are coordinating foreign policy these days.

<http://flashtrafficblog.wordpress.com/2008/09/09/tensions-mount-as-iran-launches-new-war-games/>

The Boston Herald.com - Russia: Launch of Iran reactor near 'irreversible' stage - By Associated Press -Tuesday, September 9, 2008 MOSCOW - The Russian state-run company building Iran's first nuclear plant said yesterday that preparations for the reactor's launch had entered their final stage. Atomstroyexport chief Leonid Reznikov said that by year's end the company will take steps that will make the launch of the Bushehr plant "irreversible." Company spokeswoman Irina Yesipova said the launch date will be determined after talks between Russian and Iranian nuclear officials this month. Iranian officials have said that Bushehr would be launched in the fall. The International Atomic Energy Agency declined comment. Nonproliferation expert David Albright, whose Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security tracks countries under nuclear suspicion, suggested that the steps referred to by Russia probably involved the loading of fuel into the reactor. He said there are no irreversible steps, but taking it out after it was loaded would be troublesome because it would require dealing with irradiated fuel and a contaminated reactor core.

<http://www.bostonherald.com/news/international/europe/view.bg?articleid=1117792>

The Jerusalem Post – Russia may aid Iran to spite the US - Updated Sep 8, 2008 - Russia may use nuclear aid to Iran as a method of responding to increased tensions between Moscow and Washington over the conflict in Georgia, the *Sunday Times* reported. According to the report, a source close to the [Russian](#) military told the paper that Moscow is furious over the form of continued US overtures to Georgia and the Ukraine. Since hostilities in Georgia ended two weeks ago, [the United States](#) has called for a NATO expansion which would include the two nations, has sent warships to the region to deliver emergency supplies, has promised huge sums of aid to help rebuild the country and has sent US [Vice President](#) Dick Cheney to personally express Washington's firm support for its allies. "Everything has changed since the war in Georgia," the source told the paper. "What seemed impossible before, is more than possible now, when our friends become our enemies and our enemies our friends. What are American ships doing off our coast? Do you see Russian warships off the coast of America?"

"Russia will respond. A number of possibilities are being considered, including hitting America there where it hurts most - Iran," he warned. Last Thursday, Cheney condemned Russia for what he called an "illegitimate, unilateral attempt" to change Georgia's borders by force. Speaking during the closely watched trip to the US-allied South Caucasus nation, Cheney also assured Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili that the United States was "fully committed" to his country's efforts to join NATO. "Georgia will be in our alliance," Cheney said. On the eve of Cheney's arrival, the White House announced a \$1 billion commitment to help the small but strategically located nation recover from its war with Russia.

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1220526726467&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>