The recent discoveries of vast deposits of natural gas off the coast of northern Israel are threatening to destabilize the Middle East as governments compete for the rights to grant licences for exploratory drilling.

Back in 2009 Nobel Energy announced their largest ever find of natural gas, just 90 kilometres off the coast of Haifa. Around 16 trillion cubic feet of gas was discovered in the 'Leviathan' field, which lies within Israel's territorial waters. An additional 8.4 trillion cubic feet of gas was found in the 'Tamar' field, enough to meet Israel's energy requirements for the next 100 years. The company estimates that the Levant basin, the trench joining Israel, Lebanon and Cyprus, could contain as much as 300 trillion cubic feet of gas, which would transform Israel from being dependent on gas imports into one of the world's major energy exporters. But border disputes between Israel and Lebanon, as well as between Cyprus and Turkey, are threatening that prospect.

Quote: *"Lebanon and Israel have no defined maritime border, while Turkey doesn't recognize the Greek Cypriot-led government of the Republic of Cyprus and relations with Israel have soured since Turkish activists died on a Gaza-bound flotilla two years ago. Tensions boiled over when Turkey sent an exploration vessel accompanied by warships and jets to stop Cyprus drilling for oil and gas last year. "The sides are implacably opposed, whether it's northern and southern Cyprus, whether it's Turkey and Cyprus, whether it's Israel and Lebanon," said Gurdon at Menas, which advises Exxon Mobil Corp., BP and Chevron Corp. among others. "In the end, people want to determine where the territory starts and stops."*

The IDF are already stepping up their security in the Mediterranean Sea in response to the finds. They are also considering fitting the gas exploration rigs with radar and anti-missile defence systems. During the Second Lebanon War, an Israeli warship stationed off the coast of Lebanon was struck with a Chinese-manufactured anti-ship missile, thought to have been smuggled into the country through Iran and Syria. Israel fears that Hizbullah, and other terrorist organizations backed by Iran, could target the rigs if they are provided with sufficiently

advanced weaponry.

Quote: *“The navy is particularly concerned about Syria’s recent purchase of the Russian Yakhont anti-ship missile, which could be transferred to Hezbollah and used to target the gas rigs. Syria already tested the Yakhont in recent manoeuvres. The weapon is said to be a sophisticated missile with a range of about 300 km. Last February, the navy seized an Iranian arms ship whose cargo, Israel said, was destined for Islamic Jihad. The vessel was carrying six Iranian Nasr-1 radarguided anti-ship missiles.*

Israel used to rely heavily on gas imports from the likes of Egypt, but with the advent of the 'Arab spring', Israel had been finding it much more difficult to meet its growing energy requirements. Islamic terrorists have already attacked the Israeli-Egyptian pipeline that supplies Israel with gas around fourteen times since the fall of the former president Hosni Mubarak. And the IDF are expecting that trend to continue. But as we can see, end time prophecy is coming to pass. You may remember the map I produced a couple of years ago, detailing the fulfilment of some of the prophecies concerning the twelve tribes of Israel. In Deuteronomy 33:24, it says of Asher, “ Let Asher be blessed with children; let him be acceptable to his brethren, and let him dip his foot in oil ”.
It is no coincidence then that these recent discoveries of large deposits of natural gas have been found off the coast of the territory allotted to the tribe of Asher.


ISRAEL &
THE OCCUPIED
PALESTINIAN
TERRITORRIES
DETAIL MAP
Assembled and adapted by
www.mideastweb.org
MidEastweb For Coexistence
HAIFA
ASHER
NAPHTALI
MANASSEH
(EAST)
ZEBULUN
ISSACHER
MANASSEH
(WEST)
GAD
EPHRAIM
DAN
BENJAMIN
JUDAH
REUBEN
CORRIDOR
SIMEON
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