Next week the Israeli Air Force is to close its base at Lod in central Israel, and relocate to a new site at Nevatim in the Negev desert. The new base cost around $421 million dollars to complete, and boasts the longest airstrip in the Middle East, allowing plenty of room for manoeuvre for Israeli pilots. Part of the reason for the relocation is to improve the environment around Lod airport. The move will also improve the economy of the Negev, which President Shimon Peres is looking to develop as an alternative to settling Judea and Samaria. Peres believes that Israel's future lies in the desert, and if the Israeli government can conclude a peace deal with the Palestinian Authority, the Negev may have to become home for hundreds of thousands of Israelis. The length of the airstrip makes it ideal for carrying out emergency operations, and Hercules aircraft and Boeing 707s which are used for transportation and in-flight refuelling are stationed at the base. Israeli President Shimon Peres, Defence Minister Ehud Barak and IDF Chief of Staff Gabi Ashkenazi are to attend the inauguration of the new base next week.

Quote: *"The Israel Air Force's new infrastructure in the base will advance and improve its heavy cargo and transportation capabilities. During the aerial transfer next week IAF Commander Major-General Ido Nechushtan will lead a salute flight in which cargo planes will fly over Negev and Gaza Belt communities.*



It is extremely interesting that such a base should be nearing completion at this time, just as the Israelis and Palestinians are coming closer to an agreement. And it is extremely interesting that this base should be located in the desert, and that it should specialize in transportation and emergency operations. And it is extremely interesting that the Negev has been chosen as the ideal place for the relocation of hundreds of thousands of Israelis who may lose their homes following the disengagement from Judea and Samaria. For the book of Revelation states that during the tribulation period, following the recapturing of Judea and east Jerusalem by the Gentile nations (Zechariah 12:2, Revelation 11:2), God will miraculously intervene to deliver his people from the hand of their enemies. In the book of the Revelation the Apostle John sees the woman, who is symbolic of the nation of Israel, as being given two wings as of a great eagle. These wings carry her into the wilderness, where she is protected from the Satanic onslaught for a period of three and a half years. Could this new base be preparation for this event, in

which hundreds of thousands of Israelis will need to be airlifted into the Negev to flee from their Islamic persecutors? Could this 'salute flight', in which dozens of cargo planes will fly over the Negev and Gaza Belt communities, be prophetic of something that will happen for real at a later date? I think it is entirely possible.

It certainly is interesting days. We are seeing Bible prophecy being fulfilled at an astounding rate. Things that were once the sole subject of prophecy meetings are now being openly discussed in the news media today. The fact that we are seeing things coming to pass only proves how close we are to Jesus Christ's return. Are you prepared to meet Him? Jesus Christ is coming again (John 14:3). The Bible declares that everybody has sinned and fallen short of God's standard (Romans 3:23). If we die without having our sins forgiven, God says that where He is, there we cannot come (John 8:24). If we ever intend to be in heaven we must have our sins forgiven. Living a good life is not enough. All our good works are like filthy rags to God (Isaiah 64:6). Being religious is not enough. Even Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews did not meet God's standard (John 3:3). We need to be born again. Being born again means being born into God's family through His Holy Spirit. How are we born again? By turning away from our sins and by believing on Jesus Christ for salvation. Jesus Christ took God's punishment for our sins upon the cross. All who believe on Him for salvation have everlasting life (John 3:16). Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation today.

Revelation 12:14
And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

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