Following the recent announcement that President Bush has signed a multi-billion dollar defence deal with several Middle East states, reports of a similar deal between Russia and Iran have been revealed. The United States has committed itself to expanding its military and defence aid to Israel to $30 billion over the next ten years, the equivalent of a twenty five percent increase. The US has also promised Saudi Arabia and other pro-Western Arab states a significant increase in their military and defence aid, over fears that the looming Iranian nuclear crisis will not be resolved peacefully. Iran criticized the US deal, complaining the arms sales would undermine security in the region, but they too have been guilty of the same, recently signing a $1 billion arms deal with Syria . Now Iran is seeking to boost its own military capability through the purchase of Russian technology .

Quote: *"Israel is looking into reports that Russia plans to sell 250 advanced long-range Sukhoi-30 fighter jets to Iran in an unprecedented billion-dollar deal. According to reports, in addition to the fighter jets, Teheran also plans to purchase a number of aerial fuel tankers that are compatible with the Sukhoi and capable of extending its range by thousands of kilometers. Defense officials said the Sukhoi sale would grant Iran long-range offensive capabilities.*

Iran also recently acquired advanced Russian anti-aircraft technology to help protect its nuclear installations from an Israeli or US strike. Russia was criticized for pressing ahead with the deal despite concerns over Iran's nuclear ambitions. If these new reports prove true, it will likely fuel fears of a new conflict in the region, one that could see Israel becoming a direct target. The Bible states that the war of Ezekiel 38-39 comes at a time when Israel is at rest (not necessarily at "peace"). The most likely time for a Russian-Arab invasion of Israel would then be following a long-term Israeli-Palestinian truce, or following the Antichrist's covenant with many. And this is exactly how the Palestinian terrorist organizations have stated they plan to destroy Israel. Although the war of Ezekiel 38-39 may not come just yet, it's easy to see how preparations are being made, and the Scriptures have once again demonstrated that they can be trusted implicitly, when it comes to matters of faith, historical and future events.

Source Chicago Tribune , Jerusalem Post