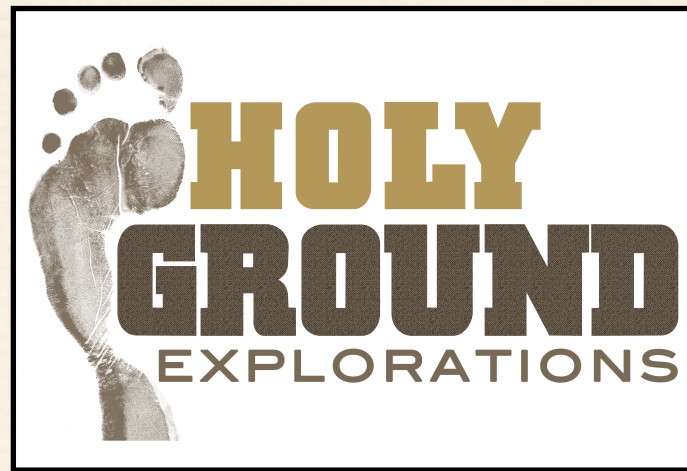




DAN STOLEBARGER
WEEK OF JULY 13, 2015



Holy Ground Explorations



HGE is a Jesus-centered ministry devoted to equipping Believers by teaching the uncompromised Word of God, prayer, small group fellowship as well as supporting and exploring Israel.

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KFIR is Hebrew for Young Lions. We are forming a global small group fellowship that provides a daily Bible Reading schedule, a prayer list as well as a weekly Middle East Update YouTube video with an accompanying PDF Powerpoint. To join just email me at dan@hgkfir.com

While the World Waits

- ❖ Iran State Media Says Final Nuclear Agreement Meets All Khamenei's Demands
- ❖ Nuke deal will encourage Iranian terror, Foreign Ministry chief says
- ❖ Iran deal 'done,' Israeli report says, after major US concession
- ❖ Foreigners will never be allowed access to Iran's military sites, the deputy chief of staff of Iran's armed forces said on Friday.
- ❖ In a huge setback for Israel and an overwhelming collapse of Western red lines in the nuclear negotiations, the P5+1 powers including the United States will soon sign a bad nuclear deal with Iran.



The DEAL

- ❖ Obama vows to veto any bid by Congress to squash pact
- ❖ Bibi slams 'historic mistake for the world'
- ❖ Israel now needs to decide whether to lobby Congress to kill the agreement, or make more realistic demands
- ❖ Syria's Assad congratulates ally Iran on nuclear deal
- ❖ Obama urges Iran to end calls to eradicate Israel



Bibi Furious that the US is Caving



- ❖ As the six world powers are in the final days of marathon talks that have blown past two extensions and entered the 16th day of the current round on Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warns that the P5+1 Powers have completely capitulated to Iranian demands, while Iran touts its hatred for Israel and support for global terror.
- ❖ "The ruler of Iran, Khomeini, is quoted as saying that Iran needs to plan to fight the US regardless of whether there is an agreement. The President of Iran, Rouhani, stands at the head of the march of hatred in the streets of Tehran, in which US and Israeli flags were burned, and in which many chanted 'Death to America' and 'Death to Israel.' All of this is happening as the parade of concessions to Iran continues in Vienna, concessions even on issues that had been marked as red lines in the Lausanne package, which is a bad deal in its own right," Netanyahu said the beginning of a cabinet meeting Sunday morning.



Moshe Ya'alon



- ❖ Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon warned on Monday against what he called a "bad deal" with Iran.
- ❖ Speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee hours before the deal was anticipated to be finalized, Ya'alon said that "at the bottom line, we are headed toward a bad deal, after which we will continue to be ready to defend ourselves, by ourselves."
- ❖ "Even if there are last-minute improvements, it will still be a bad deal that will allow Iran to become a nuclear threshold state, with everything that entails."



Death to America ... Israel



- ❖ Iranian demonstrators chant "Down with America" and "Death to Israel" during nationwide pro-Palestinian rallies on Friday. The Al-Quds Day rallies took place as Iran and six world powers were meeting in Vienna to work out a deal to limit Iran's nuclear program in exchange for easing tens of billions of dollars in economic penalties on Iran.
- ❖ "The burning in effigies of President Obama and Israeli [Prime Minister Benjamin] Netanyahu along with the burning of U.S. and Israeli flags sends a crystal clear signal to the world, that whatever the outcome of nuclear talks, the U.S. and Israel remain the Ayatollah's top enemies,"



Death to Israel

- ❖ The Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps issued a press release saying that the Palestinian issue and pursuing a strategy for the destruction of Israel are the Muslims world's top priorities.
- ❖ According to Iran's Tansim news agency, the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) described "the Zionist regime" as the common enemy of Islamic nations, and its destruction remain a top priority of the Muslim world.
- ❖ Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan accused Israel of giving support to ISIS in order to "occupy the land from the Nile to the Euphrates," referring to a common anti-Israel conspiracy theory.
- ❖ He said that Israel supports Sunni terrorist groups in order to sow discord between Muslims and that Quds Day is strategically important in foiling this "evil plot."



Ted Cruz



- ❖ Republican presidential hopeful Ted Cruz lamented that under Obama, the US will open an embassy not in Jerusalem, but in the capital of a Communist country whose leader 'hates America.' "I think this is a serious mistake," declared US presidential candidate Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) regarding US President Barack Obama's decision to open an embassy in Havana, Cuba.
- ❖ "It's a manifestation of the pattern of weakness and appeasement towards our enemies that has characterized the Obama-Clinton foreign policy. How sad is it that under the Obama administration the United States is going to have an embassy in Havana before we have an embassy in Jerusalem, that this administration will be friendlier to a Communist dictator who hates America and seeks to undermine our nation, than it is willing to stand with our close friend and ally, the nation of Israel? I think it's wrong."



Oron Shaul



Israel reportedly contacted Hamas via a European mediator in an effort to retrieve the bodies of two IDF soldiers killed in last summer's war, but Hamas has refused to comply.

Hamas reportedly turned down a request by Israel to return the abducted bodies of two IDF soldiers killed during Operation Protective Edge last summer.

St.-Sgt. Oron Shaul died in battle together with another six Golani soldiers in Shajaiya when their armored personnel carrier was hit by an anti-tank rocket. His body was never recovered and is assumed to be held by Hamas.

"It is obvious to us that Oron's body is being held by Hamas, and we are doing everything we can to return it," said Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon last year.

There have been previous reports of Israeli overtures to Hamas to negotiate on the return of the bodies as part of a long-term cease fire with the terror organization.



Max Steinberg



- ❖ A year after his death in Gaza during Operation Protective Edge, lone soldier Sgt. Max Steinberg was commemorated with a Torah scroll dedication ceremony on Sunday at the Aish World Center in Jerusalem. The ceremony was attended by Chief Rabbi David Lau, Steinberg's friends from the Golani Brigade, and his parents, Stuart and Evie, who arrived after meeting with President Reuven Rivlin.
- ❖ Steinberg's friends from the army were given the honor of writing the final letters into the Torah scroll dedicated in his name.



Wake Up!



- ❖ Following reported death of top Islamic State commander in Afghanistan in U.S. drone strike, image circulates showing aftermath of an attack on New York City landmark
- ❖ "Coming Soon," written in English and Arabic at bottom of the image.



Social Media



- ❖ Thousands of Israeli and Palestinian Arabs have added the tagline 'Death to the Jews' to their Facebook profiles,
- ❖ In response, some Israelis posted, "Death to the Arabs" on their profiles. The site suggested that pro-Israel users instead use the phrase "Am Yisrael Chai" ("the nation of Israel lives") as a less hateful alternative.

