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**Middle East Update**



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**JANUARY 2016**



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# HEADLINES

## **Report: Hezbollah 'adamant' to avenge arch-terrorist's death**

"The decision to retaliate over [Samir] Kuntar's death has been made, and it's final. There's no turning back. The days when Hezbollah was willing to accept the killing of its operatives by Israel are over," Hassan Nasrallah tells Lebanese media.

## **New Sanctions on Iran - DELAYED**

The White House has delayed plans to slap new sanctions on Iran over its prohibited test-firing of ballistic missiles, a US news report said Thursday, for fear such punishment could jeopardize a hard-won nuclear deal with Tehran.

## **Iran: 'We'll make missiles for as long as US supports Israel'**

Revolutionary Guards head hits back at US threat of sanctions over weapons tests, says regime has so many missiles it doesn't know where to put them

## **Joel Rosenberg's latest Blog**

"ISIS plotting 'to slaughter thousands' in 2016 in bid to spark huge final battle," reads U.K. headline seemingly ripped from THE FIRST HOSTAGE. Also: ISIS leader vows to attack Israel & Saudi Arabia soon. But mainstream media slow to report significance of Islamic eschatology.





## **Hezbollah attacks IDF along Northern Border**

In an apparent revenge attack, the Hezbollah terror organization detonated an explosive charge against IDF forces operating on the northern border. No Israelis were injured. The IDF responded with artillery fire.

## **IDF Haters Received Traditional Arab Welcome**

A tour bus, visiting the Hebron/Kiryat Arba area, was carrying members of "Breaking the Silence" group - a foreign-funded NGO that travels around the world and bad-mouths the IDF, was stoned by Arabs.

## **Obama administration has decided to suspend its decision to impose new sanctions on the Islamic Republic in the wake of stepped-up ballistic-missile testing.**

"When the United States said it was going to impose new sanctions and then pulled back, it sent a very bad signal. It is especially damaging to US credibility and leverage, considering the fact that the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps fired unguided rockets very close to the American aircraft carrier the USS Harry S. Truman last week, while conducting a live-fire exercise."



# ISIS

- ❖ Israel is the only country in the world feared by the Islamic State (ISIS, IS) terror organization, said German reporter Jurgen Todenhöfer, the only Western journalist ever allowed access to the terrorists in Iraq, in an interview with the UK's Jewish News on Sunday.
- ❖ Todenhöfer spent 10 days with ISIS in Iraq and Syria, accompanied by his son Frederic. He returned with frightening insights. ISIS is "preparing the largest religious cleansing in history," he said, adding that he has a "pessimistic" view on what can be done to combat it.
- ❖ "The only country ISIS fears is Israel. They told me they know the Israeli army is too strong for them," he said.
- ❖ On Saturday, ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi scoffed at international efforts to decimate ISIS through airstrikes, while threatening Israel with pending attacks.
- ❖ ISIS believes it can defeat allied troops on the ground. "They think they can defeat US and UK ground troops, who they say they have no experience in city guerrilla or terrorist strategies," Todenhöfer explained, "but they know the Israelis are very tough as far as fighting against guerrillas and terrorists.
- ❖ "They are not scared of the British and the Americans, they are scared of the Israelis, and told me the Israeli army is the real danger.





# Bibi Netanyahu

- ❖ In the wake of Friday's horrific Tel Aviv murder of two innocent civilians by an Arab Israeli, Netanyahu vowed to dramatically increase law enforcement in the Arab sector and called upon all citizens to choose the path of peace and coexistence. **He urged all Arab MKs to condemn the shooting.**
- ❖ I have formulated a plan, along with the Public Security Minister and the Israel Police Inspector General, a plan with a lot of money and resources. We will dramatically increase law enforcement services in the Arab sector. Israel will enforce the law and its sovereignty in all parts of the country - in the Galilee, the Negev and the Triangle, everywhere. We will build new police stations, recruit more police and go into all communities and demand from all of them loyalty to the laws of the state. **One cannot say 'I am an Israeli in rights and a Palestinian in obligations.'** Whoever wants to be Israeli should be an Israeli all the way, both in rights and in obligations, and the first and highest obligation is to obey the laws of the state.





# Israel's Northern Border

- ❖ A small but violent off-shoot of the Islamic State has taken root just north of the Israeli-Syrian border and may be planning to carry out large-scale terror attacks against Israel, the IDF warned on Wednesday.
- ❖ The group, Shuhda al-Yarmouk, which the army believes is comprised of approximately 600 fighters, has taken up a position approximately 15 kilometers (9.3 miles) away from Israel within the Syrian Golan Heights.
- ❖ Despite the terror organization's relatively small size, the Islamic State-affiliated group possesses vast stores of weapons and poses a legitimate threat to Israel, a high ranking army officer told journalists on Wednesday.





# IDF: 2015 Statistics

- ❖ IDF: 2015 marks lowest number of casualties in a decade
- ❖ Thirty-six soldiers died in 2015, six of them in the line of duty, according to IDF figures • Nine soldiers died in accidents, six of illnesses, and 15 deaths are considered "suspected suicides" • Spike in fatalities in 2014 attributed to Gaza campaign.
- ❖ The number of Israeli soldiers who died during their service in 2015 was the lowest in a decade, the Israel Defense Forces said Sunday.
- ❖ According to IDF Personnel Directorate data, a total of 36 soldiers died in 2015. Six were killed in the line of duty, seven in road accidents and two in other accidents. Six died of terminal illnesses, and 15 other deaths were considered "suspected suicides."
- ❖ In 2014, 70 soldiers were killed in the line of duty, 67 of them during Operation Protective Edge waged in the Gaza Strip over the summer. Thirteen soldiers were killed in road accidents, and 15 soldiers committed suicide.
- ❖ In 2013, 40 soldiers died: five in the line of duty, two in Israeli Air Force activities, 10 in road accidents while on leave, and the remainder of illnesses.



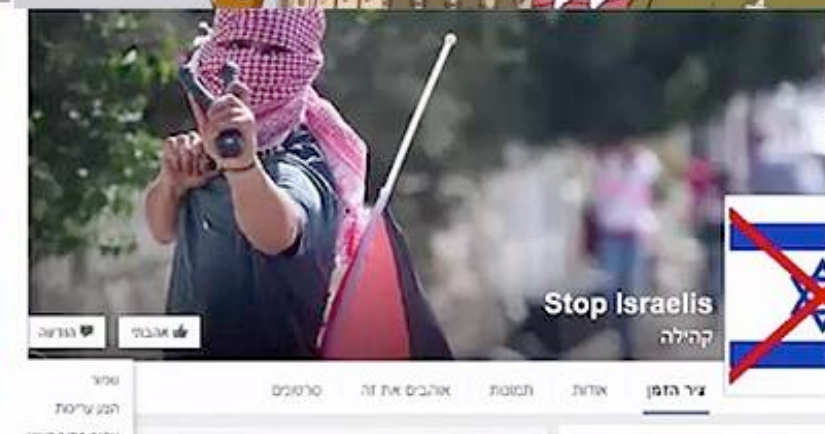


# Facebook - Anti Israel bias?

Death to all the arabs.



against the Zionist enemy and Al Aqsa! Death to all the jews!



- ❖ An Israeli experiment proves what many suspected for a long time. Facebook's anti-Israel policy has now been exposed! The Israel Law Center recently conducted an investigation into Facebook's policy regarding the incitement of racial hatred. They decided to run an experiment and set up two Facebook pages, "Stop Israelis" and "Stop Palestinians", both on the same day, both inciting hatred. Both pages simultaneously posted equally vile posts spewing hatred, intolerance and violence against the "enemy." After two days, the organization reported each page and asked Facebook to take them down. Guess which one Facebook considered to be violating its Community Standards and which one didn't?









