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Middle East Update



DAN STOLEBARGER

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Israeli Issues

A recent Poll reveals that Israelis feel prepared for missile attack, but not necessarily safe. Over 90% say they know what to do in an emergency, only 25% say they would feel safe during a rocket barrage.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Mark Toner expressed concerns with Israel's supposed right-wing tilt. "This raises legitimate questions about the direction it may be heading in and what kind of policies it may adopt," Toner told reporters on Wednesday.

The State Department did not express the same level of concern when Iran's Assembly of Experts chose hard-liner Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati as its new chairman. Jannati is known for his anti-Israel and anti-US stance and his position makes him one of the most powerful figures in Iran.

5 MAJOR TUNNELS FROM GAZA DISCOVERED IN THE LAST MONTH

An investigation by the Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly into the care and treatment of an elderly woman admitted for respite care in a RSE nursing home in Mullingar concluded that the standards of care and treatment were "unacceptable" and Ms. O'Reilly says the case is "one of a growing number of complaints received by her Office regarding care and treatment received in publicly funded healthcare agencies."

The report, issued on Monday last, December 15, related to the

care and treatment of an 86 years old woman, residing of respite care in St. Mary's Care Centre, Mullingar.

Says the report: "The complainant was the daughter of an 86 years old woman, physically and mentally incapacitated as a result of a stroke. The daughter had arranged one week's respite care for her mother in St. Mary's Care Centre, Mullingar. However, the daughter, herself a trained nurse, was extremely dissatisfied with the care her mother had received. In fact, she had taken her mother home from the nursing home after only three days when she saw what she felt was a

rapid deterioration in her mother's condition. Subsequently, she placed her mother in a nursing home. The complainant was also unhappy with the manner in which her mother's care was managed. She felt that the failure of the RSE to deal properly with her complaint added to her sense of grievance and compromised the effectiveness of the level of care provided."

■ CONTINUED



6TH MORTAR SHELLS FIRED ON IDF TROOPS IN TWO DAYS

IDF SOUTHERN COMMAND CHIEF INSISTS ARMY IS READY FOR ALL EVENTUALITIES, INCLUDING PLAN TO EVACUATE LOCALS IF WAR BREAKS OUT

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■ CONTINUED

450 LITERS OF CHEMICALS - USED TO MANUFACTURE ROCKETS - CONFISCATED ENROUTE TO GAZA

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rapid deterioration in her mother's condition. Subsequently, in April 2006, she complained to the Ombudsman about the care given to her mother. The complainant was also unhappy with the manner in which her mother's care was managed. She felt that the failure of the RSE to deal properly with her complaint added to her sense of grievance and compromised the effectiveness of the level of care provided."

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SENIOR IDF OFFICIAL: COOPERATION EXISTS BETWEEN HAMAS AND ISIS



IS Lebanon Getting Ready for Another War With Israel?

Northern Israeli residents are worried about new observation posts built by the Lebanese Army which has sprung up along the border. Although built by the Lebanese Army it is clear the new watchtowers can see into Israeli towns and kibbutzim as well as Israeli military bases on behalf of Hezbollah - if not with its own personnel.

Israeli officials believe that the Lebanese terrorist group Hezbollah has amassed around 150,000 rockets, including a number of long range Iranian-made missiles capable of striking Israeli cities from north to south.



Israeli News Headlines

In an address to the Arab League in Cairo over the weekend, Palestinian Authority head Mahmoud Abbas **publicly admitted to inciting violence against Israel** and Israelis.

A senior Iranian military commander, Ahmad Karimpour - a senior adviser to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' elite unit al-Quds Force, boasted that the Islamic Republic could **"raze the Zionist regime in less than eight minutes."** A senior Iranian general on May 9 announced that the country's armed forces successfully tested a precision-guided, medium-range ballistic missile two weeks earlier that could reach Israel. According to the UN decision, "Iran is called upon not to undertake any activity related to ballistic missiles designed to be capable of delivering nuclear weapons, including launches using such ballistic missile technology," until October 2023.

(Enemies of Israel ignore UN decisions, so must Israel!)



BDS



- ❖ An astounding one-third of Americans believe boycotting Israel is justified and constitutes a legitimate means of applying political pressure on the Jewish State, according to a yet-to-be-released Ipsos survey, Israel's Channel 2 reported. Ipsos is one of the world's leading market research firms for hire, managed and controlled by research professionals, offering comprehensive global research programs in 87 countries.
- ❖ The survey on Tuesday, polled a sample of 1,100 Americans. It suggests that 33% find a boycott against Israel to be justified. A similar survey conducted in the United Kingdom found that 40% there agree that boycotting Israel is legitimate.
- ❖ The good news is that a 62% majority of US respondents believe that the anti-Israel BDS movement is a form of modern anti-Semitism. About 50% of Britons also condemn the BDS as being anti-Semitic.



Bibi Thoughts on Jerusalem

- ❖ Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made clear Wednesday that he was opposed to a return to the pre-1967 division of Jerusalem in a future peace deal, and slammed a UNESCO resolution eliding Jewish ties to the Temple Mount.
- ❖ "Our roots are deeper than any other nation's, including to the Temple Mount. Jerusalem was ours and will remain ours," he said, speaking in a special Knesset session marking Jerusalem Day.
- ❖ Israel doesn't need to "make excuses for [its] presence in Jerusalem," he added, but he did not definitively rule out any territorial concessions in the city.
- ❖ "We remember Jerusalem up until the [1967] Six Day War," he said, when the city was split, with Israelis excluded from the Old City and its eastern neighborhoods. "We certainly do not want to return to that situation."
- ❖ "I believe the Six Day War clarified to our enemies that we are here to stay," he added.



Quotable Quotes

"When reading the Old Testament remember it is to be a conversation. Too often Christians read the Old Testament simply seeking confirmation."

Moshe Kempinski

"Shavout - is a festival for those who are spiritually thirsting and starving for more of God." **Moshe Kempinski**

Every Jewish festival has three parts to it: past, present and future. Make sure to take the time to glean from each of these areas. June 11-13, 2016."

"We will convey our deep appreciation for the Islamic faith, which has done so much over the centuries to shape the world." **President Barak Hussein Obama**
(Hmmmmmm - got to think about that)

'There is a moderate Right, an extreme Right, and a stupid Right' - Benny Begin



Torah Club Gleanings

Comments from the Chumash - Leviticus 24

vs 3 - If you will follow My decrees. The verse seems to contain three phrases that seem to be repetitious. Their combine meaning is as follows: If you will follow My decrees by engaging in intensive Torah study, that the intention that such study will lead you to observe My commandments properly, and, if you actually do perform them, you will merit the blessings given in the following verses (*Rashi*).

vs 5 - Threshing. The verse stresses that the constant activity is part of the blessing. When people are very busy, they feel fulfilled and then health is better, as the verse says, you will eat your bread to satiety, and they have neither the time nor inclination to go abroad, as the verse says, you will dwell securely in your land. But when people are idle, they seek amusement and stimulation. They travel and lose the discipline of home, routine, and community. This increases the dangers of sin and has ill effects even on physical well-being.

vs 32 - The Land. This verse implies a comfort of sorts. Although Israel would be exiled from the Land, none of its conquerors or successors would ever prosper on it (*Rashi*). Indeed throughout many centuries of Jewish exile, Eretz Yisrael, once a land following with milk and honey, remained desolate, inhospitable country, barely able to support its inhabitants on a subsistence level.

vs 44 - But despite all of this. God comforts His exiled, tormented people. Let them not think that the atrocities of exile prove that they are no longer God's Chosen People. No, says God. Even in exile, they are still My people and My covenant with them remains in full force (*Rashi*).

(IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR KFIR TORAH STUDY GROUP JUST SEND ME AN E-MAIL at dan@hgkfir.com. We are starting the book of Numbers next week.





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