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Middle East Update



DAN STOLEBARGER

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ISRAELI ISSUES

"Now there is one less of them," a Danish Facebook user wrote gleefully after a 13-year-old Jewish girl was stabbed to death in her sleep in her bedroom by a Palestinian man. He thought that the heinous, cowardly murder of an innocent child in her sleep was simply a part of "the resistance" against the Jews. (Hallel Yafa Ariel was a US citizen! Will Obama condemn this terror act?)

Waiting for the world to condemn and pay lip service to Israel's fight against terrorism is a dead end in every sense of the word. It will never happen. It did not happen on 9/11, when the world was most likely to understand what Israel was facing, and it will not happen 15 years later, when political correctness and a jaded sense that this is just the "new normal" has eroded any hopes that might have once been for genuine world solidarity with Israel. Israel must fight the terror as it sees fit in order to end it finally and prevent the killings of Jewish children in their sleep and pedestrians on their way to the supermarket.

We are a sovereign nation. We do not need the world's permission to defend ourselves against those who seek our destruction.



England - Al Quds

- ❖ As reported by The Algemeiner, the annual march has emerged as a festival of incitement against Israel. In previous years, the flags of Hezbollah, Hamas and ISIS have been flown, with rally organizers failing to issue condemnations of open displays of support for terror. In the UK, only Hezbollah's military branch – which shares the same flag as its political branch – is classified as a terrorist organization.



LOVABLE IRAN

- ❖ Iranian demonstrators burn statue of Liberty with a Star of David during a rally marking al-Quds Day in Tehran.
- ❖ Iranians are staging anti-Israel rallies across the country, with protesters condemning the Israeli "occupation" of Palestinian territories and chanting "Death to Israel" and "Death to America." Tens of thousands of people are marching in the capital, Tehran, as part of the Al-Quds day rallies held each year on the last Friday of Ramadan.
- ❖ Tens of thousands of missiles located across the Middle East are ready to strike Israel at a moment's notice, Lieutenant Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corp (IRGC) Brigadier General Hossein Salami threatened on Friday.





Sderot

- ❖ Life has returned to normal in the southern Israeli town of Sderot following Friday night's rocket attack in which a child care center in the town was seriously damaged. Three people who were nearby when the rocket exploded in the center were treated for symptoms of shock. The center was empty at the time of the attack.
- ❖ Over the weekend, municipal social workers visited residents of the area near where the rocket hit.
- ❖ Sderot Mayor Alon Davidi called his town's quick return to normalcy a "triumph of spirit." The child care center will return to full operations within a few days, the mayor said. Already on Sunday, a kindergarten graduation ceremony was held at the center.
- ❖ "Terrorism will not overcome the civil resilience of Sderot residents," Davidi said at the ceremony. "The children here enjoying themselves alongside their parents are the guarantee that terrorism will not dictate our lives."



Merry Ramadan

- ❖ Suicide bombers struck three cities across Saudi Arabia on Monday, killing at least four security officers in an apparently coordinated campaign of attacks as Saudis prepared to break their fast on the penultimate day of the holy month of Ramadan.
- ❖ The explosions targeting U.S. diplomats, Shiite worshippers and a security headquarters at a mosque in the holy city of Medina followed days of mass killings claimed by the Islamic State group in Turkey, Bangladesh and Iraq. The attacks all seem to have been timed to coincide with the approach of Eid al-Fitr, the holiday that celebrates the end of the Islamic holy month.



Elie Wiesel - 1928-2016



We must always
take sides.
Neutrality
helps the
oppressor, never
the victim.
Silence
encourages the
tormentor,
never the
tormented.

- Elie Wiesel



TORAH GLEANINGS

Commentary from Tom Bradford at Torah Class on Numbers 10:

"It has been implied (if not outright taught) that with the advent of Yeshua our Savior we're supposed to pray and then sit and wait for God to do everything. Not true. We're supposed to wait to be called to action BY God, and then before we go into action, prepare through learning and prayer. Today most Western Christians find it easier to outsource the action part. Better to pray and write a check and hire somebody than to get up and (yourself) be in service to God. Learning and prayer is never a substitute for action, and action without the direction of the Lord is futile. We are going to get our hands dirty; we're going to get battered and bruised in the process. That IS the intended Christian walk, that's how it works."



QUOTABLE QUOTES

"How can we expect the world to speak in our favor and win for us if we don't do so ourselves? If we stand up for ourselves, the world will respect that. The world respects nations that respect themselves." - **Naftali Bennett** - I have written many times "Nobody respects those who have no self-respect!"

"Well, what about all the people who claim to know God and yet turned their backs while millions were herded into the camps? What about the high and mighty church?"

"The church is an organization. Made up of men. And a whole lot of people hide out there, but it doesn't mean they know the Lord." (The Return to Zion - the Zion Chronicles / Book Three)



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