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**Middle East Update**



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# ISSUES

The vast majority of US Senators have signed a letter to President Barack Obama demanding that he continue to ensure the automatic American veto against any anti-Israel and unilateral actions by the United Nations' Security Council (UNSC).

According to U.S. President Barack Obama, Israel is occupying and settling Palestinian land. Obama, addressing the UN on Tuesday, said the Palestinians must end incitement and recognize Israel, but that Israel has to end the "occupation."

Mideast Expert: Many in Washington Concerned Obama 'Won't Have Israel's Back' at UN After November Election

Wave of terrorism a sign of 'lost hope,' Palestinian leader says; Hamas spokesperson corrects PA President Mahmoud Abbas: Our young people are carrying knives of their own accord, because they belong to a people of resistance ... not because of despair.



# Obama / Bibi

"The two leaders, who have been at odds for years over the Iran nuclear agreement and other issues, will sit down on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly session on Wednesday for what could be their final get-together before Mr. Obama's term ends in January..."

Mr. Obama made clear on Sunday that now that he has demonstrated a commitment to Israel's security, he plans to press Mr. Netanyahu to move toward reconciliation with the Palestinians. "The meeting also will be an opportunity to discuss the need for genuine advancement of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the face of deeply troubling trends on the ground," Josh Earnest, the White House press secretary, said in a statement." [[NYTimes](#)]

Hear this: "In the last 10 months, the two leaders have not met or spoken by phone." [[Haaretz](#)]



# Golan Border

- ❖ The Iron Dome anti-missile defense system intercepted two projectiles fired from Syria into the Israeli Golan Heights on Saturday. No injuries or damage were reported in the incidents. Israel Radio reported that the IDF says that both projectiles would not have landed on the Israeli side of the border.
- ❖ After Israel attacked the Assad regime's military positions in response to projectiles fired from Syria that exploded inside Israel, Russia called on Israel to show restraint and has allegedly given Syria permission to shoot down Israeli planes that cross into its territory.



# Preparations

- ❖ Military estimates Israel's enemies have some 230,000 missiles trained on its borders • IDF believes air defenses could successfully counter 95% of potential threat
- ❖ The next war could see as many as 1,500 rockets and missiles fired at Israel daily, military officials warned Thursday.
- ❖ This ominous reference scenario is part of the IDF's war readiness plan, which also estimates Israel's enemies have as many as 230,000 missiles trained on its borders and home front.
- ❖ The military does, however, believe that while a considerable amount of the potential fire would target central Israel, 95% of the projectiles used by terrorist groups would be short-range rockets, and that given Israel's advanced air defenses, only about 1% would actually hit residential areas.



# Chemical Weapons



- ❖ Report: Syria hiding chemical weapons stockpiles . Inspectors at Syrian chemical weapons plant find traces of chemical nerve agents and signs they may have been weaponized
- ❖ Although regime disclosed its chemical weapons program in 2013, it continued to conceal more as "insurance policy" against rebels.



# Amazing Discovery



- ❖ Archaeologists digging in Jerusalem found a rare gold coin bearing a portrait of a young Roman Emperor Nero issued some 2,000 years ago. The coin, showing Nero bare-headed, was discovered by archaeologists from the University of North Carolina digging atop Mount Zion in Jerusalem, the university said this week.
- ❖ The coin was found in rubble outside the ruins of Jewish homes dating to the first century, which the researchers say may have belonged to wealthy members of the priestly caste (Cohanim).



# TORAH Gleanings

**Deuteronomy 28: 2 - If you hearken to the voice ...** The voice is an allusion to the Torah and its study, for all the blessings will overtake Israel without effort when its people make Torah study their primary activity, and their occupation secondary (Sfomo).

DAN - I once heard a sermon in which the pastor asked the question, "Who are you and what do you do for a living?" And the person who was asked, replied that they were a Christian school teacher. The pastor said, "No, you have got the backwards you need to be a school teacher Christian!" In other words you are first and foremost a Christian who just happens to be a school teacher. This is what came to my mind when I was reading the comments of Sfomo.





# Quotable Quotes

*"Bombs are exploding in NY and NJ. A stabbing in a Minnesota mall and no one can connect the dots...honestly! It saddens me that my fellow Americans will have to learn the hard way that they are at war with the same enemies Jews in Israel have been fighting. My condolences! The government and so-called free press do not WANT us to connect the dots: if you can't name your enemies, you cannot effectively fight war they wage against you." Steven Shamrak*





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