

Dan Stolebarger Holy Ground Explorations



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## HEADLINES

- Former U.S. President Barack Obama's administration had given Iran its tacit consent for the development of ballistic missiles capable of striking Israel but not Europe, a new report by the Middle East Media Research Institute alleged Thursday.
- Iranian missile can hit Tel Aviv in just 7 minutes, official threatens
   "If the enemy [U.S.] chooses to shoot a missile in Iran's direction, Tel Aviv will go up in flames," boasts National Security Commission member Mojtaba Zonour

"Kremlin says it disagrees with Trump's assessment of Iran" by Maria Tsvetkova: 
""Russia has friendly partner-like relations with Iran, we cooperate on a wide range of issues, value our trade ties, and hope to develop them further," said [Kremlin spokesman Dmitry] Peskov."



#### GAZA

- Israeli aircraft and tanks pounded Hamas targets in Gaza in a series of sorties Monday, after a rocket was shot into Israeli territory earlier in the day, as tensions with the volatile coastal enclave spiraled upwards.
- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel would not tolerate a "drizzle" of rocket attacks from the Gaza Strip "without a response," as planes continued to strike targets in the Strip.
- The airstrikes and tank fire came after a rocket landed in an open field in southern Israel Monday morning. The day also saw an IDF patrol near the border fired upon.





## EILAT

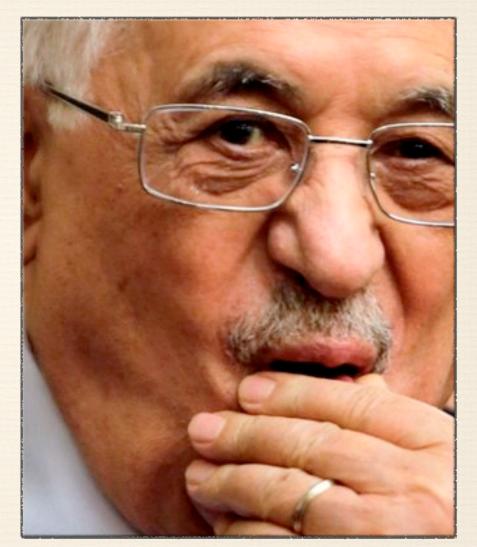
- Israel's Iron Dome defense system successfully protected residents and tourists in the southern resort city of Eilat from missiles fired from Egypt.
- Terrorists operating out of Egypt fired four missiles towards the southern city of Eilat late Wednesday night. An Iron Dome anti-missile defensive system successfully intercepted three of the projectiles, while the fourth exploded in an open space outside the city.
- No damage was caused by the attack, but four people were treated for shock at a local hospital.





## PA & TRUMP

- The Palestinians are reportedly unhappy about losing the preferential treatment they were accustomed to getting from the Obama administration.
- Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas has tried unsuccessfully to reach out to US President Donald Trump. He and his aides are alarmed by the possibility of being sidelined at a time when the administration is embracing Israel's prime minister.
- In December, the Trump transition team refused to meet with Palestinian officials visiting Washington, putting them off until after the Jan. 20 inauguration, according to senior Abbas aide Saeb Erekat, the main point man for official contacts with the US.





## **EMBASSY WATCH**

Jerusalem has a long and bloody history of being manipulated by Muslim leaders into an explosive tool of incitement.

Palestinian and other Arab leaders threatened violence in response to President Trump's pledge to move the U.S. embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem. While Bill Clinton and George W. Bush also promised such a move as candidates, each backed off.

The terrorist who killed four Israelis in Jerusalem Jan. 8 by mowing them over with his truck expressed agitation after hearing a sermon at a local mosque criticizing Trump's embassy relocation promise.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) leadership reportedly instructed the mosques it controls to focus their religious sermons on the embassy relocation. Worse still, the PA promised the terrorist's widow a lifetime, \$760-per-month stipend for her husband's "martyrdom for Allah." by Noah Beck



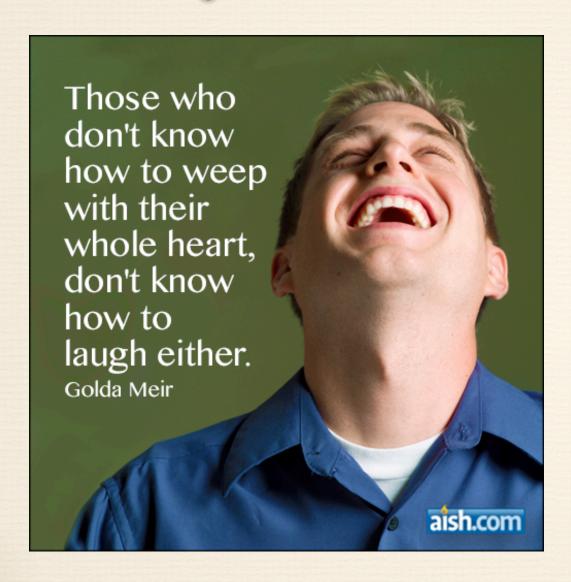




The potential results of the Arab-sponsored UNESCO resolution on East Jerusalem that ignores Jewish and Christian historical ties to Jerusalem holy sites.

If the 1967 Borders, the so-called Green Line, is starting point for negotiations for a two-state solution then that puts the Old City in the hands of the Palestinians

# QUOTE of the WEEK



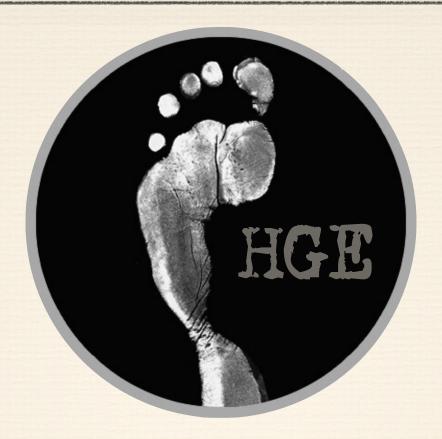
Other Quotes to ponder this week:

"G-d's miracles and blessings are opportunities waiting to be seized. They remain in potential until we mortals, Hashem's creations, step in to make it happen."









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