

**KFIR**

# MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of February 3, 2017



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# HEADLINES

- ❖ Netanyahu and Trump to meet in DC on February 14, 2017
- ❖ Liberman (Israel's Defense Minister) says Hamas still seeks Israel's destruction, quiet along border deceptive.
- ❖ Home Front preparing for thousands of rockets. IDF believes Hezbollah an strike anywhere in the country. Electronic systems might also be targeted.
- ❖ Israel is one of the most cyber-attacked countries in the world
- ❖ Over 100 Yazidis are trapped in Syria and waiting for there 10M asylum applications to be processed. A Yazidi woman was denied boarding a flight to the US on Sunday. Because of the Yazidi plight one would hope for them to get priority, but concern is that Trump only mentioned the persecution of Syrian Christians.





# THE TRUMP WATCH



## **Trump: Decision on Jerusalem Embassy 'In Not Too Distant Future' -- by Jacob**

**Kornbluh:** "I'm looking at it. We are studying it very, very long and hard," Trump said in an interview with CBN News' The Brody File, broadcast on Sunday. "It's a very big, big decision, but we are studying the issue right now." Measuring his words, Trump seemed to indicate where his heart is on the issue. "I've always liked the concept of doing it, I will tell you that," he said. "I will have a decision in the not too distant future." Asked what the chances are that the embassy will be moved to Jerusalem, the President said, "There is certainly a chance of it, absolutely." Adding, "We are doing very detailed studies on that, and we will come out very soon. I hate to do that because that's not usually me - studies - usually I do what's right. But this has two sides to it, it's not easy, and I will make a decision over the not too distant future." [[JewishInsider](#)]





# IRANIAN MISSILE PROGRAM

- ❖ J-Post Headlines: Tehran: We won't attack any country with ballistic missiles!
- ❖ In March of last year, Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) launched several ballistic missiles during a military exercise, with the phrase "Israel must be wiped out" written on them.
- ❖ Iran claims that its military development is for defense purposes only. However, many of these weapons were given to the Hezbollah terror organization and used against Israel's civilian population during the Second Lebanon War in the summer of 2006. Iran has repeatedly threatened to use its missiles against Israel.





# SETTLEMENTS

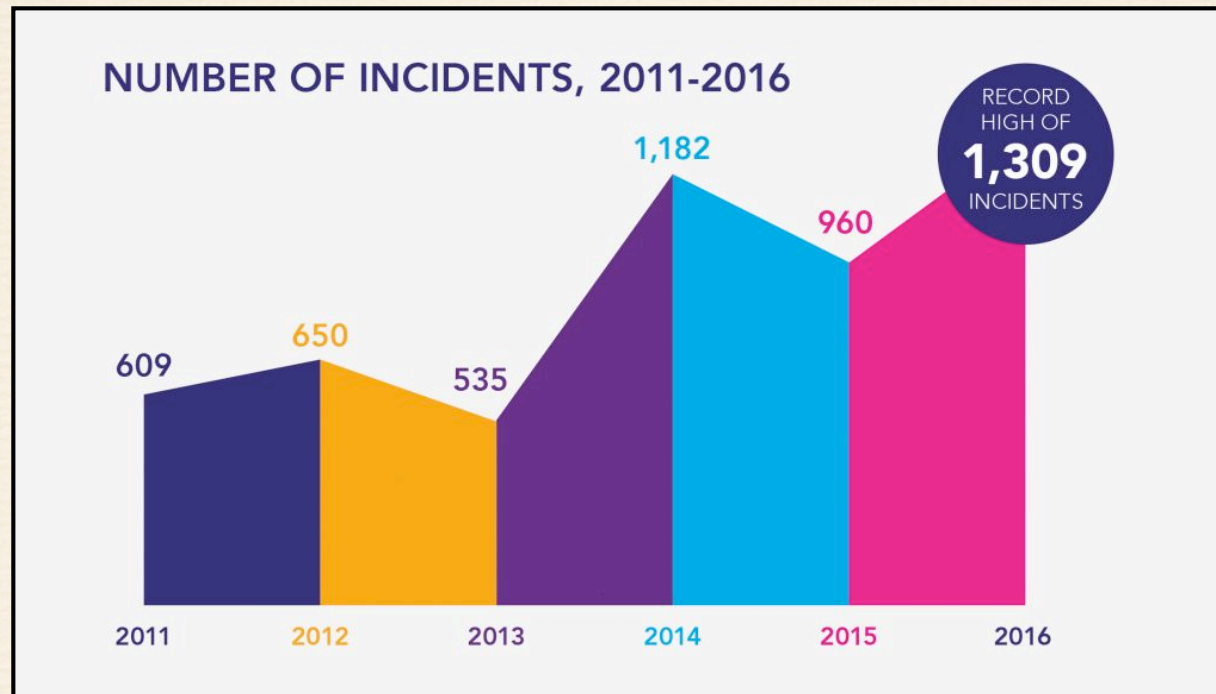
## Israel Building Again - Anti-Semites not Happy

Israel has approved another 153 settler homes in occupied East Jerusalem and planning permits for another 11,000 buildings. The bold new policy approach has come into effect since US President Donald Trump - who is sympathetic to Israeli interests - took office last week. The planned permits had been previously held up until the end of former President Barack Obama's tenure.





# RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM



- ❖ Anti-Semitism in the UK reached “unprecedented” levels in 2016, after a rise of 36 percent in the number of incidents.
- ❖ Following Thursday’s release of its annual figures, the Community Security Trust (CST) said there were now more than twice as many anti-Semitic incidents per month than four years ago, with the level of hatred eclipsing that seen during the Gaza War in 2014.





# IRANIAN ROCKETS



- ❖ "The United States is not naive. We are not going to stand by. You will see us call them out as we said we would, and you are also going to see us act accordingly," Haley said.
- ❖ Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Danon called on the U.N. Security Council to take immediate action.
- ❖ "Iran has again violated Security Council resolutions and again revealed its true intentions. The international community must not bury its head in the sand and ignore the Iranian aggression," Danon said.







## IS THIS A PROBLEM?

"I am establishing new vetting measures to keep radical Islamic terrorists out of the United States of America," Trump said during the signing at the Pentagon after the swearing-in of Defense Secretary James Mattis. "We don't want them here." He added, "We want to ensure that we are not admitting into our country the very threats our soldiers are fighting overseas. We only want to admit those into our country who will support our country and love deeply our people."





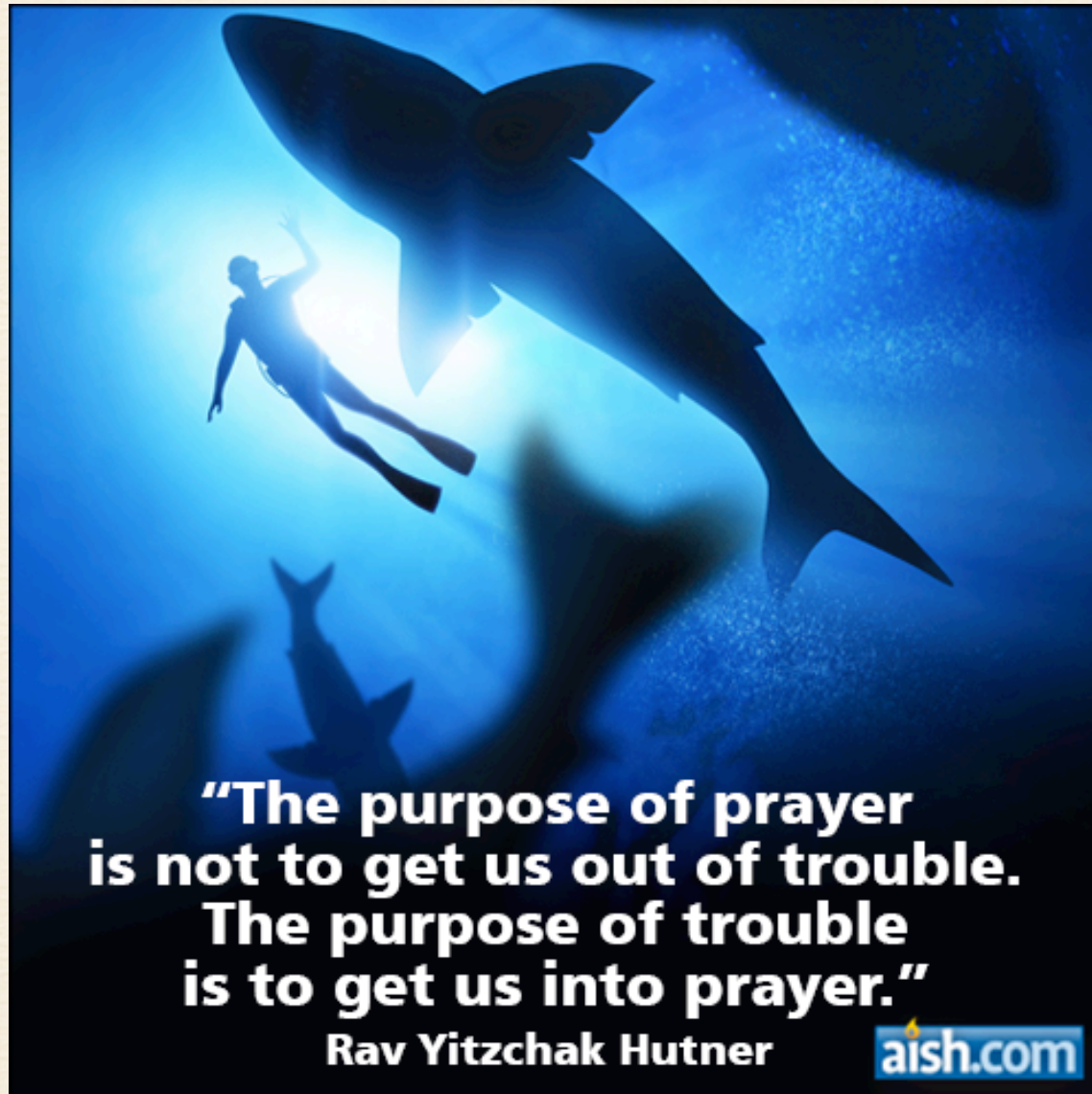
# LAWMAKERS GET RELIGION

- ❖ Sarah Netanyahu attends Tuesday's inauguration of the Knesset Bible Study Caucus, led by Likud MK Yehuda Glick. Netanyahu is the daughter of Bible expert Shumel Ben-Artz and sister of three national Bible quiz laureates. Her son, Avner, is also a Bible quiz laureate. The caucus aims to promote Bible study in Israel. 'The Bible is my favorite book and I am connected to it in a deep and personal way. I think that it is a national mission for our children to know and study the Bible.'
- ❖ MK Glick: "The *Tanach* is the cornerstone of our connection to this wonderful phenomenon of the return to Zion. I tell every tourist that comes to Israel: Today you can hold the Bible and see the words of the Bible coming true before your eyes - we returned home. The *Tanach* does not belong to a specific population; not the religious and haredi, not left and right - it is the identity of all of us.





# QUOTE of the WEEK



**"The purpose of prayer  
is not to get us out of trouble.  
The purpose of trouble  
is to get us into prayer."**

Rav Yitzchak Hutner

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# NEXT TOUR JOURNEY thru ISRAEL

APRIL 23 - MAY 1, 2017

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# POLAND EXTENSION

## MAY 2 - 8, 2017

The Sounds of Silence  
Experience

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