

KFIR

MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of March 31, 2017



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Holy Ground Explorations



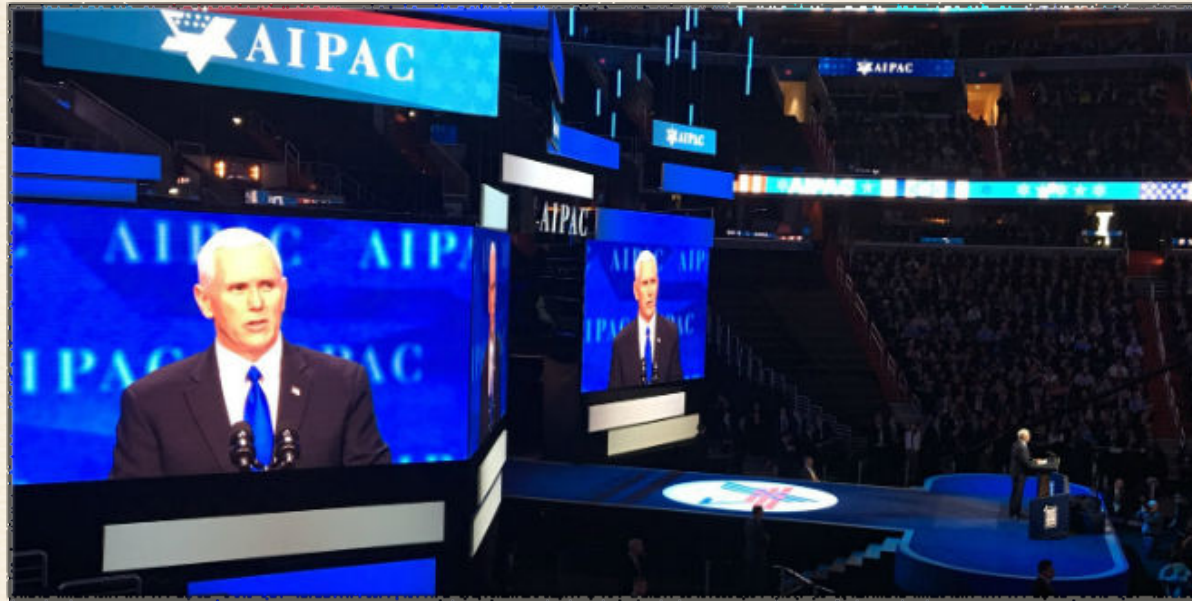
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THIS WEEK'S HEADLINES

- * **Mazen Faqha, a senior member of Hamas, was shot and killed in Gaza on Friday.** Hamas blamed Israel for the killing and threatened revenge. Faqha was shot four times in the head by a silenced handgun while walking near his home in Gaza.
- * **For the first time in years, there is "no daylight" between the governments of Israel and the United States,** Israel's ambassador to the US told the annual AIPAC conference in Washington, D.C. on Sunday. The governments of Israel and the United States are experiencing a nearly unprecedented level of intimacy, [Ron Dermer](#) said, in what was clearly an implicit criticism of relations with previous US administrations.
- * "An Israeli source who asked not to be named said that in a phone call to the Prime Minister last week, Dershowitz delivered Trump's message that he is eager for a peace... **"The President told me he loves Israel and likes Netanyahu and said a few times he wants to get a deal between Israel and the Palestinians," Dershowitz added... "The President told me he thinks Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas wants to get a deal with Israel and that he [Trump] thinks that the time is ripe for a deal and that it is possible."**



US EMBASSY MOVING?



President Donald Trump is “giving serious consideration” to [moving the U.S. Embassy](#) in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Vice President Mike Pence said at the 2017 AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, D.C.

The embassy move had been an election campaign promise made by Trump last year, but the status of the proposal [remains unclear](#). Pence’s statement is the latest on-the-record articulation of the administration’s mindset on the issue. In the early days of Trump’s presidency, the White House has repeatedly stressed that “no decision” has been made on the embassy relocation.



NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN!



U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations [Nikki Haley](#), describing herself as the “new sheriff in town,” said at the AIPAC Policy Conference that her approach to fighting anti-Israel elements at the world body is to “kick them every single time” they display their bias.

Recalling last December’s U.N. Security Council Resolution 2334—which described eastern Jerusalem and its Jewish holy sites as “occupied Palestinian territory,” and was passed following the Obama administration’s [refusal to veto the measure](#)—Haley vowed such an incident “will never happen again.”

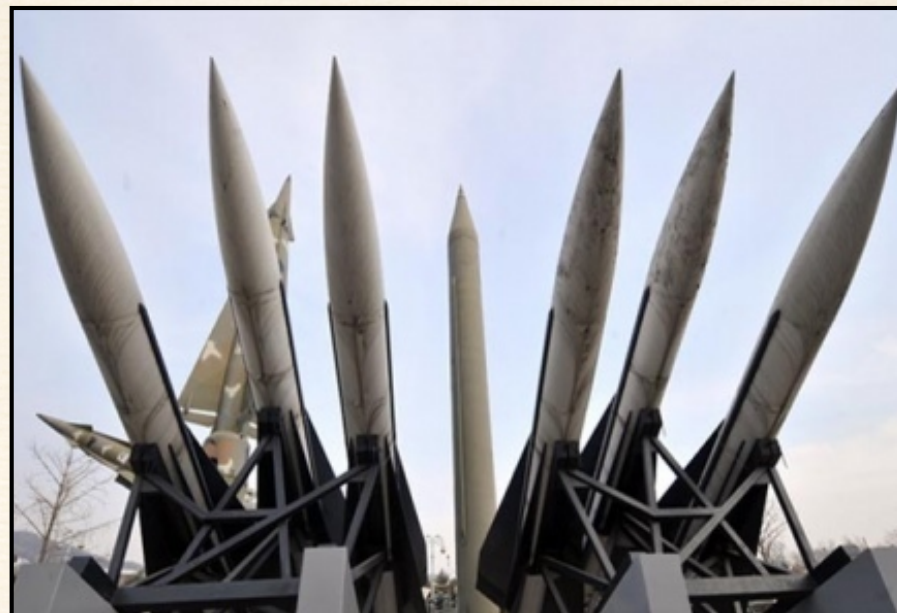
“The days of Israel-bashing are over” are the U.N., she declared.



IS ISAIAH 17 ON THE HORIZON

Assad: Any future strike will see Syria fire missiles at Israel

"The Syrian military will respond to any Israeli aggression on its soil by firing missiles that can carry half a ton of explosives," Syria reportedly warns Israel via third party • Strikes will target military bases, Haifa chemical plants, Syria warns.



ISAIAH 17:1

An oracle concerning Damascus.
Behold, Damascus will cease to be a city and will become a heap of ruins.



PEACE PARTNER?

At two Palestinian universities, An-Najah National University in Nablus and Al-Quds Open University, Fatah's student movement Shabiba is sending a clear message as to the path they advocate. On their logos (above and below right), the following text appears:

"From the sea of blood of the Martyrs (*Shahids*) we will create a state."

[Facebook page of Fatah's student movement Shabiba at Al-Quds Open University, Tulkarem, August 6, 2014]

The logo is a coat of arms featuring on a raised fist in the shape of the PA map of "Palestine" that presents all of Israel as "Palestine" together with the PA areas. The symbol also features an image of the Dome of the Rock and the keffiyeh (Arab headdress) pattern. Both Fatah student movement branches use this logo, while adding the name of their respective universities.



NEW GAZA ROCKETS



The terrorist organization Hamas has developed new short-range rockets capable of carrying a heavy amount of explosives, according to a recent report on Israel Army Radio. The report adds the new rockets are apparently superior to the short-range rockets and mortar shells Hamas customarily fires on Israel. Hamas senior official Khaled Mashaal, who lives in Qatar, hinted at the terrorist organization's intention to invest in enhanced military technology and capabilities, while addressing a memorial service in a broadcasted speech for senior military leader Mazen Fuqaha, killed in Gaza City on Friday night.



THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS

- ❖ Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller signed the first-ever trade agreement between the Lone Star State and Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria.
- ❖ "Israel is our strongest ally in the region. Texas needs Israel. The US needs Israel and Israel needs the same cooperation back. I am ashamed to say that we have some in our universities boycotting Israel, so this is to counter that culture," Miller stated, the Post reported.
- ❖ "I think the Jewish community, the Jewish state needs to reclaim all of its land. I don't have a problem with that at all. The sooner the better. It has been dispute for years and years and it will continue to be that way. But my personal opinion is that they (the Jewish people) should be able to settle anywhere in the holy land if they want to," he said, as quoted by the Post.



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



THOUGH
YOUR SINS
BE AS
SCARLET,
THEY SHALL
BE AS WHITE
AS SNOW.
ISAIAH, 1. 18





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