

HGE - MIDDLE EAST UPDATE - WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

KAFIR



YOUNG LIONS CLUB



HGE PRESENTS

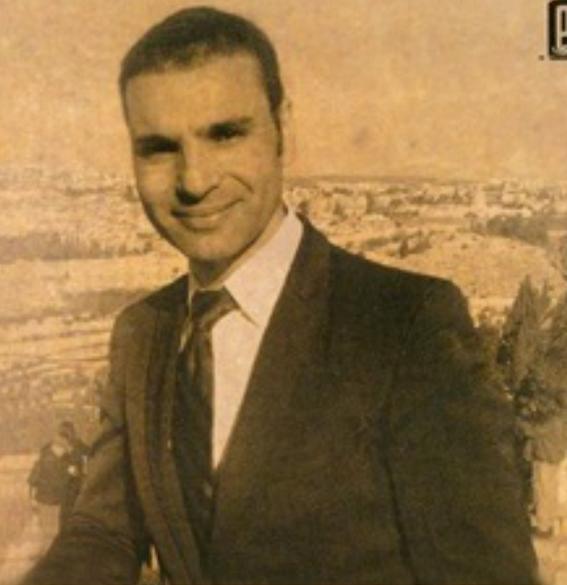
HOLY GROUND EXPLORATIONS presents

MIDDLE-EAST UPDATE

Guest Speaker:

Amir Tsarfati

Tuesday, September 25
KROC Center - Couer d'Alene



UPCOMING TOURS

2019 OFFERINGS

REVEALING ISRAEL - FEB 28 - MAR 9, 2019

ISSACHAR TOUR - SEPT 15-24, 2019



WHAT'S INSIDE

HEADLINES

US or ISRAEL?

ISRAEL - IRAQ

USA - ISRAEL - IRAQ

WAR DRUMS

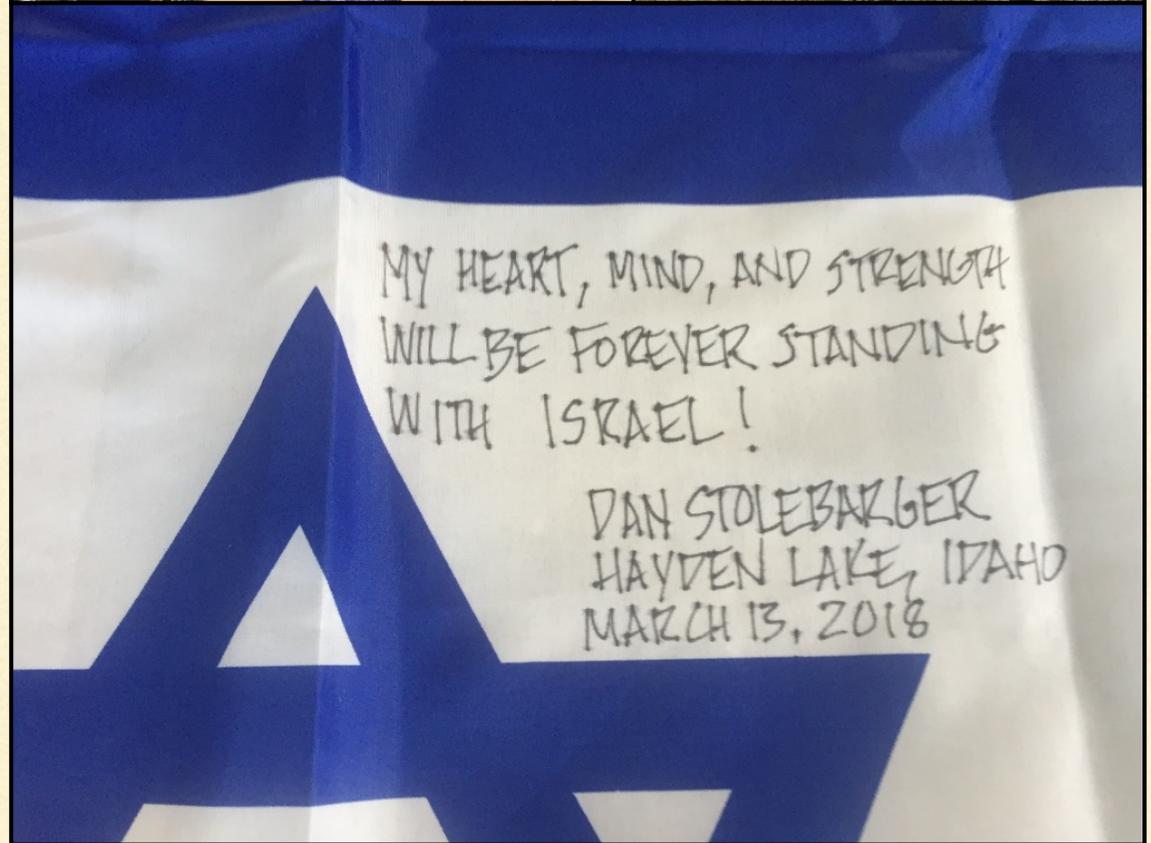
PMW REPORT

UNRWA FUNDING

GOLAN HEIGHTS

RED HEIFER

NFL - AHMADINEJAD



WEEKLY HEADLINES

* It has been apparent for the last few years that Israel is experiencing a tourism boom. According to *Globes*, August saw a record 2.7 million arrivals and departures - the airport's busiest month in its history and a 10-percent increase on August 2017.

* The Palestinians are basically telling the Americans: We have the right to condemn you every day, to burn your flags and photos of your president, to incite against you, to launch weekly protests against you, to accuse you of being under the "influence of the Jewish and Zionist lobby" and, at the same time, we have the right to continue receiving US taxpayer money.

* Trump has made it clear ... no more aide unless you make a deal with Israel.



US OR ISRAEL?



Last Monday, a news site that supports Bashar al-Assad, reported that after warnings from the Russia military that Damascus should be on high alert against a possible US missile attack. On the same day, TASS, a major Russian news service, reported that the USS Ross entered the Med, armed with 28 Tomahawk cruise missiles. On Sunday night 6, massive explosions tore through Mazzeah airbase, killing two. Syria claims that the explosions were due to an explosion at a munitions depo close to the airport which was due to an electrical short circuit. Of course Israel has been accused of carrying out these airstrikes as well ... so the question remains - who is responsible?



ISRAEL – IRAQ



Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman appeared to imply Monday that Israel could hit Iranian targets in Iraq, "As for the threat from Iran, we are not limiting ourselves to Syria. That should be clear," Liberman told a conference organized by Hadashot TV news. Asked specifically if this included Iraq, the defense minister answered: "I'm saying we will handle any Iranian threat, no matter where it comes from."



The Friday report, citing several unnamed Iranian, Iraqi and Western officials, stated that several dozen rockets capable of hitting Israel and Tehran's Sunni rival Saudi Arabia had been deployed with Iran's Shiite proxies in Iraq.



US - ISRAEL - IRAQ



U.S. Tells Israel Not to Attack Iranian Targets in Iraq –by David Wainer:

"The U.S. sent a message to Israel warning it not to attack Iranian targets in Iraq, the Kan public broadcaster reported...

Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman said Monday that Israel could target Iranian military assets beyond Syria, in the wake of a Reuters report that Iran had transferred short-range ballistic missiles to Shi'ite allies in Iraq in recent months." **[Bloomberg]**



WAR DRUMS

1. Iran building a new base in Syria - New satellite images are showing that Iran is building a missile factory at Wadi Ghanam near Masyaf, Syria. The factory will produce surface-to-surface missiles and is expected to be completed in early 2019. It appears similar to the nuclear facility in Parchin, Iran.
2. Iran moves ballistic missiles to Iraq - Reuters quoted three Iranian officials, two Iraqi intelligence sources, and two Western intelligence sources, all of whom confirmed the transfer of short-range missiles to Iraq over the course of several months. The missiles, have ranges of 200-700 km, and are able to threaten both Saudi Arabia and Israel.
3. Hezbollah's next target Judea and Samaria - A senior Hezbollah official on Friday told Lebanon's Al Akhbar newspaper that during the next round of conflict with Israel "A small number of well-armed fighters who are familiar with the enemy's defense system can infiltrate and reach the West Bank, and cause great harm," he said, "The war is coming... and we are preparing for conflict..."
4. Hamas Chief: We Will Hit Tel Aviv - According to Yahya Sinwar, head of Hamas in Gaza Hamas is capable today of firing in five minutes the same number of rockets it launched over the 51 days of Operation Protective Edge in 2014.



PMW REPORT



Fatah Salfit Branch Secretary Abd Al-Sattar Awwad: "When an Israeli soldier directly grabs a civilian in this way, his body immediately receives blue or red marks. They have a policy that they can injure in a certain way. They injure a person in this way despite the cameras. The cameras can't reveal this policy that they implement. I've seen their bodies [injured] in this way - blue and red marks - by the occupation forces, which the cameras are incapable of revealing."

[Official PA TV, *Topic of the Day*, July 10, 2018]



UNRWA FUNDING



Explaining why Trump defunded UNRWA, ambassador to Israel complains that US taxpayers' funds were used to perpetuate refugee problem; also slams PA stipends to terrorists



The United States has "thrown more than \$10 billion" in aid to the Palestinians, but that spending has brought the region no closer to peace or stability, the US Ambassador to Israel David Friedman charged Tuesday, in an address explaining why US President Donald Trump thought it was important to halt US funding to UNRWA, the UN's Palestinian refugee agency. "To spend hard-earned taxpayer dollars to fund stipends to terrorists and their families, to expend funds to perpetuate rather than to mitigate refugee status, and to finance hate-filled textbooks – I ask you, how does that provide value to the United States or the region?"



GOLAN HEIGHTS



U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman believes that the Golan Heights will remain under Israeli sovereignty, and certainly won't be placed back in the hands of Syria's current leader, President Bashar Assad.

Friedman says that "I can't imagine a circumstance where the Golan Heights will be returned to Syria. I cannot imagine, frankly, a circumstance where the Golan Heights is not a part of Israel forever.



"So I think you'd put Israel at a great security disadvantage by giving up the high ground of the Golan Heights," he continued. "Needless to say, I can't think of a less deserving person to receive this kind of reward than Bashar Assad.



RED HEIFER

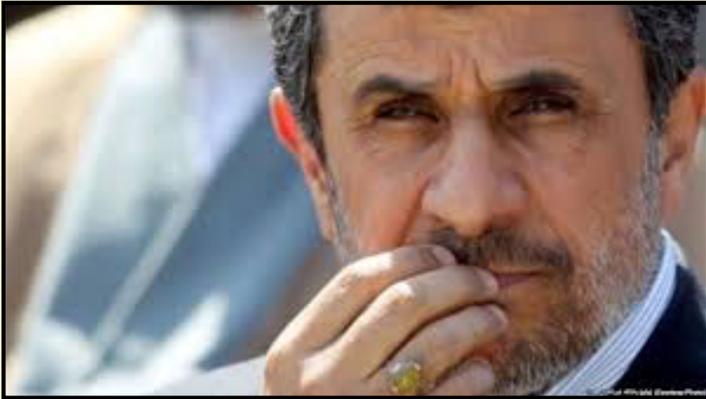


Red Heifer Candidate Born in Israel

On the 17th day of Elul, 5778, (August 28, 2018), a red heifer was born in the land of Israel. The red heifer candidate is being raised and specially cared for under the auspices of the Temple Institute's 'Raise a Red Heifer' program. If it remains without blemishes it could be used in a re-established Temple service.



NFL – AHMADINEJAD



SPORTS BLINK: Ahmadinejad's Quarterback Sneak : "Iran's former president marked the coming pro-football season on Monday, writing on Twitter that "unfortunately once again [Colin Kaepernick] is not on an NFL roster. Even though he is one of the best Quarterbacks in the league."



This was a surprise. In a decade of reporting on and visiting Iran, I had missed Ahmadinejad's interest in American football... It's conceivable that Ahmadinejad has become an American sports fan... Whataboutism is the most straightforward way to understand Ahmadinejad's NFL tweet. In effect he is saying, "See? You Americans punish dissent, too." [[TheAtlantic](#)]

I wonder if he has a Fantasy Football Team?



Leshana Tovah Tikatev V'tichatem!
Wish you a Happy and Sweet New Year!

