



**KAFIR**

**YOUNG LIONS CLUB**

**MIDDLE  
EAST  
UPDATE**

**Week of  
DECEMBER 21, 2018**

**DAN STOLEBARGER**

<http://holygroundexplorations.com>





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# TAKE A HIKE

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- This is an “limited” exclusive Tour led by Dan Stolebarger from HGE.
- We will be hiking the Snake Path at Masada, all the way to the top of En Gedi, down to the ancient synagogue at Gamla as well as a three and one half trek from Nazareth to Capernahum along the Jesus Trail.
- The dates are from Feb 16-26. For pricing and more information [dan@hgexplorations.com](mailto:dan@hgexplorations.com)

**Check out the following YOUTUBE**  
<https://youtu.be/tZRe6DYKExI>

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# REVEALING ISRAEL



HGE ISRAEL TOUR - FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 9, 2019





# WHAT'S INSIDE

NEWS BITES

UN SECURITY COUNCIL

UNIFIL'S FAILURE

FOURTH TUNNEL

US - OUT OF SYRIA

SYRIA WITHDRAWAL

HAMAS WEST BANK

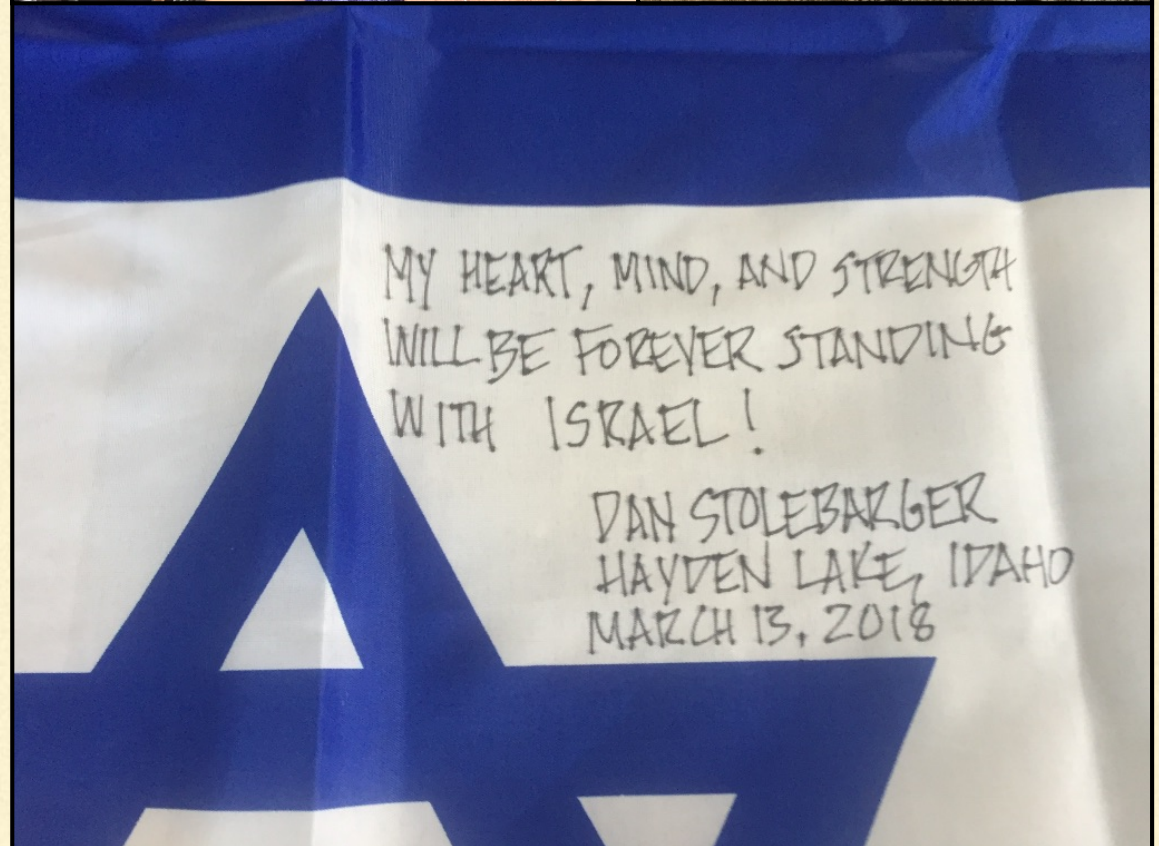
CRAZY DAZE

TRUMP PEACE PLAN

NIKKI - STAY TUNED

SHIRA ISH-RAM

JEWS OUT ... FRANCE





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# NEWS BITES

The Israel Defense Forces exposed a fourth cross-border **Hezbollah terror tunnel** leading from southern Lebanon to Israel over the weekend. Last week, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Hezbollah would receive an “unimaginable” response if it attempted to stop the IDF from uncovering the tunnel networks.

**Hezbollah's tunnels distract Israel from real dangers** - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's focus on Hezbollah and its tunnels in the north is enabling Iran and Hamas to increase their grip on Gaza and inch closer to the West Bank.

Senators Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Tom Cotton (R-AR) are expected to introduce a Senate resolution today encouraging the United States to formally recognize Israel's sovereignty over the **Golan Heights**, *Jewish Insider* has learned.





# UN SECURITY COUNCIL



Following a stormy session, the council took no action on the Israeli request, though several members sided with Israel and expressed concerns over Hezbollah's violations. Israel has previously urged the U.N.'s most powerful body to condemn Hezbollah, but has never succeeded because of divisions in the council, and there was no move Wednesday to circulate a draft resolution on the tunnels.

The U.N.'s peacekeeping chief, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, said UNIFIL had confirmed four tunnels, including two that cross the frontier into Israel. Calling them a "serious violation" of the 2006 cease-fire resolution, Lacroix said UNIFIL is "acting judiciously" to complete its investigation and to work with both sides to disable all tunnels that cross the border.





# UNIFIL'S FAILURE



All of these tunnels were dug under the watchful eyes of the United Nations peacekeeping force, UNIFIL, which was supposed to stop all Hezbollah activity in Southern Lebanon. Not only did the United Nations force not stop Hezbollah from digging these attack tunnels, they also allowed Iran to transfer 150,000 long range missiles for Hezbollah to use to attack Israel.



Israel can never trust the nations of the world or even the United Nations. Israel must do everything in its power to defend itself. This situation can not repeat itself. Israel will one day have to destroy all of those missiles and destroy Hezbollah, to free itself of the Iranian threat on our Northern border.

When Iran repeatedly says that it wants to destroy Israel, Israel does not have the luxury of ignoring those threats.





# 4TH TERROR TUNNEL



Russia has demanded that Lebanon take action against the network of Hezbollah terror tunnels revealed by Israel under the two countries' shared border, the London-based Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper reported Monday.

So far, four Hezbollah tunnels snaking under the Israel-Lebanon border have been unearthed by the IDF as part of an extensive operation to neutralize the underground passageways.



Meanwhile, the U.N. Security Council is poised to discuss Hezbollah's terror tunnels during its next session, set for Wednesday.





# US OUT OF SYRIA



The US will withdraw its troops from Syria, a US official told AFP on Wednesday, after President Donald Trump said America has “defeated ISIS” in the war-ravaged country. The stunning move will have extraordinary geopolitical ramifications and could fuel Israeli concerns that its enemies – primarily Iran – could gain a further foothold in the neighboring country through its various proxies.



Currently, about 2,000 US forces are in Syria, most of them on a train-and-advise mission to support local forces fighting IS.

The official would not provide a timeline for a withdrawal, saying only: “We will ensure force protection is adequately maintained, but as quickly as possible.”





# SYRIA WITHDRAWAL



Former defense minister Avigdor Liberman warned Thursday that Trump's decision to pull all American troops out of Syria could lead to a northern war between Israel and Iranian-backed forces.

The senior official added that, "Israel isn't interested in American soldiers defending it," but in this instance there's nothing stopping "the continued spread of Russia, Iran and Turkey in the region.

**BOTTOMLINE** ....By pulling out U.S. troops, Trump has sent Jerusalem the message it will need to deal with the threats in the region on its own.





# HAMAS – WEST BANK



Some 300 Palestinians were wounded and one was killed in clashes with Israeli and Palestinian security forces in Ramallah over the weekend, following a week in which Palestinian attacks took the lives of two Israeli soldiers and an Israeli baby and Israeli forces killed four suspected Palestinian assailants.

“ Hamas is playing a clever game.” “ In the Gaza Strip, it has given Egypt and Qatar a free hand, accepting a monthly \$15 million Qatari stipend under Israeli auspices, keeping its head above water and keeping local militants under control. Hamas is now devoting most of its efforts to the West Bank. If it cannot set Gaza on fire, due to various constraints, it is determined to stir up trouble in Ramallah.





# CRAZY DAZE



According to the logic of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas's Ministry of Information, Israeli soldiers searching for terrorists is an "act of terrorism," but not the shooting of a pregnant woman and six other Israeli civilians standing at a bus stop. The message that Abbas is sending to the world is: How dare these Israelis take security measures to stop terrorist attacks against their soldiers and civilians!

The Israeli army did not enter Ramallah because Israel wants to "reoccupy" the city and reinstall the Israeli military government. This was a limited operation that lasted for a few hours and was in the context of the manhunt against the Palestinian terrorists. Abbas and his senior officials, however, have since been waging a fierce campaign of incitement against Israel and spreading lies and ridiculous conspiracy theories.





# HAMAS BOASTS



Jason Greenblatt, the Assistant to the President and Special Representative for International Negotiation, denounced Hamas for boasting about recent attacks:

"Disgraceful that Hamas videos glorify drive-by shootings & other terrorism including one that killed Amiad Yisrael - a baby. This is what Hamas boasts about on its 31st anniversary & what countries who undermined & voted against our resolution failed to condemn. Disgusting!"





# TRUMP'S PEACE PLAN



The Israeli-Palestinian peace plan set to be unveiled by the Trump administration will “be different from all previous ones,” Nikki Haley said on Tuesday, in remarks delivered at her final appearance at the Security Council’s monthly meeting. “It is time we faced a hard truth – both sides would benefit greatly from a peace agreement, but the Palestinians would benefit more, and the Israelis would risk more.”



At the end of her speech, the 46-year-old former South Carolina governor – whose UN tenure has been marked by strong pro-Israel advocacy – said, “The world must know that America will remain steadfast in our support of Israel, its people, and its security. That is an unshakeable bond between our two peoples. And it is that bond – more than anything else – that makes peace possible.”





# NIKKI – STAY TUNED



'20 or '24? – Outgoing U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley Sounds Like She's Running for Something – by Michael Warren: "A young, charismatic former governor, the daughter of immigrants from India, with foreign-policy experience and national name recognition: Many don't see a mere "voice" in Nikki Haley, they see a future president. Friends tell her she ought to run one day. "I hope she does," says Trey Gowdy, a retiring congressman from Haley's state of South Carolina. "She's very smart, very tough, very politically skilled." People in the administration who worked with her say similar things." [[WeeklyStandard](#)]





# SHIRA ISH-RAN



Shira IshRan woman who survived terror attack last week, but lost her baby: "I want to thank the people of Israel for helping me with their prayers... I have the blood of the nation running in my veins,.. literally, most of the blood in my body now was given by others.



Amichai Ish-Ran, Shira's husband, was also wounded in the attack, after he shielded her with his body as the terrorists continued to fire at the bus stop. Five other civilians were also wounded.





# JEW'S OUT! - FRANCE

