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YOUNG LIONS CLUB

MIDDLE EAST UPDATE

Week of March 28, 2019

ISRAEL EDITION

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<http://holygroundexplorations.com>

ISSACHAR TOUR



SEPTEMBER 15-24, 2019



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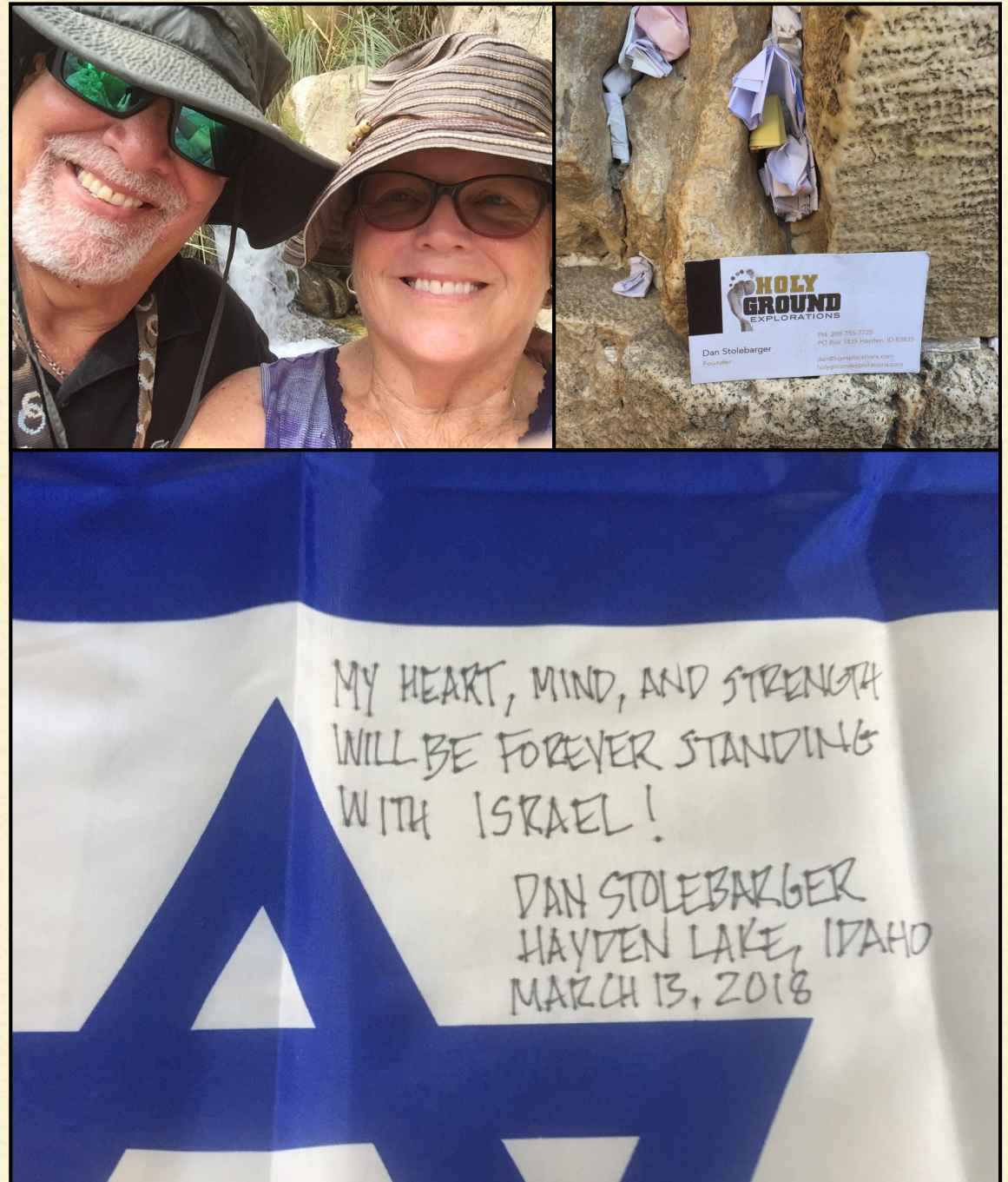
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DAN'S MUSINGS



I keep waiting here in Israel for more news before posting this week's UPDATE. There seems to be an eerie calm over the Land. Kind of like both sides are just waiting for the other to blink! Israel has a couple battalions stationed at the Gaza border awaiting orders for a land invasion of Gaza. Time will undoubtedly tell! My gut is that something major will happen before the election!



On a much lighter note we have had a delightful time up here in the Galilee! Last night we were privileged to a private concert with Joshua Aaron and it was so encouraging to hear what God is doing up here in the North! We leave Israel in about a week, so this will most likely be the last UPDATE this time around from the Land!



NEWS BITES

- * Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will cut his U.S. trip short to oversee Israel's response to Monday morning's rocket attack from the Gaza Strip that injured seven people in an area northeast of Tel Aviv.
- * AIPAC announced to its members that the prime minister will not be addressing the policy conference on Tuesday morning. Netanyahu will keep his scheduled meeting with President Donald Trump on Monday. Trump is expected to sign a presidential memorandum favoring Israeli sovereignty on the Golan Heights.
- * Romania, Honduras to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital
- * Jordan's King Abdullah II has canceled a visit to Romania to protest its prime minister's support for recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital.
- * Fatah spokesman: "[Hamas'] launching missiles in order to calm the uprising of the starving [Gazans] is an unacceptable act, and is overt and obvious to all."



ROCKETS HIT



An early morning rocket from the Gaza Strip struck a house in central Israel on Monday, wounding seven people, an attack that could set off another round of violence shortly before the Israeli election. Israel launched a retaliatory strike later that evening.



It was around 5:00 a.m. on Monday morning that sounds of air raid sirens woke residents of the Sharon region, northeast of Tel Aviv, sending them hurrying to bomb shelters. A strong sound of an explosion followed.

The Magen David Adom rescue service said it was treating seven people, including two women who were moderately wounded. The others, including two children and an infant, had minor wounds.



IDF HITS BACK



"At this hour the IDF is beginning to attack terror targets belonging to the Hamas terror organization along the entire length of the Gaza Strip," the IDF Spokesman's Office said.

Earlier in the day, Israel moved two Army brigades to the Gaza border. The IDF also announced a limited call-up of reserves.

The IDF also instructed Israeli farmers near the Gaza border to leave their fields on Monday afternoon. After-school programs in towns and cities near the border were cancelled.

The IDF attack is a response to an early morning rocket strike from the Gaza Strip struck a house in central Israel on Monday, wounding seven people, including an infant.



PAYBACK



The IDF delivered a “very, very powerful” blow against Hamas, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. before flying back to Israel.

Israel struck numerous terrorist targets across the Gaza Strip, including the offices of Hamas’ leader, Ismail Haniyeh. Israel stopped its attacks around 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, according to reports.

“Hamas should know that we will not hesitate to enter and take the necessary steps,” Netanyahu said. The prime minister would not answer reporters questions about the possibility of a full-scale ground incursion into the Gaza Strip, *Ynet* reports.



IRANIAN JIHAD



A senior Hamas official reportedly has implicated Iran as the force behind the rocket attack into central Israel on Monday morning. In that rocket attack from the Gaza Strip on the Israeli community of Mishmeret, seven people were hurt.

The *Israel Hayom* daily cites the senior Hamas figure as saying that Iran wanted such an attack to take place in order to hurt Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in his campaign for the April 9 Knesset election.

Tehran allegedly “went over the heads” of the leadership of Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, and ordered an Islamic Jihad cell to carry out the attack. “In Gaza, it is believed that Israel won’t launch a major operation in Gaza two weeks before the elections,” the official said.



ELECTION



Security has jumped to the forefront of the election campaign following a Gaza rocket that struck a house north of Tel Aviv in the early hours of the morning injuring several people. PM Benjamin Netanyahu announced he would cut short his trip to the US and AIPAC conference while Blue and White party leader Benny Gantz, himself in Washington to address AIPAC has criticized Netanyahu, calling for a harsh response against Hamas. ([Times of Israel](#))



Bad blood between the main contenders is reaching new lows as Blue and White leader Benny Gantz told a small group of confidants recently that PM Netanyahu would harm him physically if he could, Channel 13 reported on Sunday evening.

"If he had a way to have me hurt, to have me killed, he would have done so," Gantz was quoted as saying. ([Jerusalem Post](#))



GOLAN HEIGHTS



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If you know anyone who would be interested in joining our KFIR Global Community, please send them to our website to get signed up. We have had great growth this year but believe God wants to continue growing this Group that seeks to be devoted to the WORD, to PRAYER and to be like the sons of ISSACHAR, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do!

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