



KFFIR

**JANUARY 10, 2020
YOUNG LIONS CLUB**

**MIDDLE
EAST
UPDATE**

From Idaho

DAN STOLEBARGER

<http://holygroundexplorations.com>

HCE 2020 TOURS



MAY 20-29 - ROCK CHURCH ISRAEL TOUR
OCT 25 - NOV 3 - ISRAEL 2020 - Lake City
NOV 13-22 - WALKING THE BIBLE - Anthem



MUSINGS

“We have no reasons to think that Middle Eastern politics were any less complicated in the first century than in the twentieth. On the contrary, there is every reason to suppose that there were just as many tensions, problems, anomalies and puzzles then as now— just as much reason for some to throw up their hands in despair, for others to grit their teeth and forge ahead, and for others again to try to forget the whole ‘situation’ in the struggle to survive.”

—*N.T. Wright*

THIS WEEK

NEWS BITES

SOLELINANI / HAMAN

IRANIAN THREATS

IRANIAN STRIKES

RUSSIA RESPONDS

JETLINER DOWNED

US HEZBOLLAH CELLS

NYC ANTI-SEMITISM

ISRAELI NATURAL GAS

KAY WILSON

FRANCE - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

7 TRUMP TAKEAWAYS

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



NEWS BITES

- *. Trump tweeted that his administration had already targeted 52 Iranian sites, "some at a very high level & important to Iran & the Iranian culture."
- *. Iran has made good on its threats to retaliate for the killing of Qasem Soleimani by firing more than a dozen missiles at two US bases in Iraq. President Trump has tweeted "All is well!"
- * Stepping back from brink, Trump says Iran appears to be standing down. US president says immediate sanctions to be imposed on Islamic Republic, vows Tehran will never be allowed nuclear weapons, claims IRGC missiles 'paid for' by Obama administration.
- *. Soleimani's replacement says 'Muslims will leave no spot safe for Americans'
- *. CNN Anderson Cooper compares Soleimani to WWII Hero Charles De Gaulle
- *. Chief Rabb Yitzhak Yosefi: Immigrants from Russia are 'religion-hating gentiles.'



SOLEIMANI / HAMAN



Ten people were killed in the blast and Soleimani was ripped to pieces, leaving little behind to ascertain that the intended target was actually killed. With only scraps of bodies to work with, Soleimani's death was confirmed by the remains of his arm, still wearing a large red ring he never removed.

Sod 1820, a Hebrew language website reporting on current events from a Jewish mystical perspective, noted the significance of a ring presented to a prominent Biblical figure: Haman. Thereupon the king removed his signet ring from his hand and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the foe of the *Yehudim*. **Esther 3:10**.

Haman was, like Soleimani, an evil underling in the Persian Empire, both dedicated to killing Jews. Like Haman's evil actions resulted in the deaths of his ten sons, ten people were killed in the drone strike that eliminated Soleimani.



IRANIAN THREATS



- * A day after the U.S. eliminated Iran's top general in a targeted airstrike, a series of rockets were launched at the Green Zone, which houses the U.S. Embassy.
- * Nasrallah: US military will leave 'humiliated' – and take Israel with it.
- * Iran Threatens to Attack White House as Parliament Chants 'Death to America'.
- * Iran Offers \$80 Million Reward to Kill Trump
- * Iran Threatens to Attack Tel Aviv, Haifa in Revenge Strikes
- * Soleimani assassination prompts Iran to abandon nuclear deal
- * Iranian hardliner: Major Israeli cities could be among retaliation targets
- * Trump threatens 'disproportionate' response to any Iranian attacks on US targets



IRAN STRIKES



More than a dozen ballistic missiles hit the Ain Al-Asad and Irbil Iraqi air bases in western Iraq early Wednesday morning there, with Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) taking responsibility for the attacks. The bases house U.S. troops. No casualties have been reported.



Almost immediately after the attack, in a rare move, Iran's foreign minister, Javad Zariff cited international law to justify their strike. He then asked the US not to escalate the war in a tweet saying: "Iran took & concluded proportionate measures in self-defense under Article 51 of UN Charter targeting base from which cowardly armed attack against our citizens & senior officials were launched. We do not seek escalation or war, but will defend ourselves against any aggression."



RUSSIA RESPONDS



Condemning what it called "an adventurist act," a Foreign Ministry statement said, "The move by Washington is fraught with grave consequences for regional peace and stability. We regard such actions as detrimental to finding solutions to complex problems of the Middle East and rather contributing to escalation in violence." Later, the ministry also said, "Soleimani devotedly served the national interests of Iran."



JETLINER DOWNED



US officials said Thursday it was “highly likely” that an Iranian anti-aircraft missile downed a Ukrainian jetliner late Tuesday, killing all 176 people on board. They suggested it could well have been a mistake.



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, whose nation lost at least 63 people in the apparent shootdown, said much the same at a news conference in Toronto. He said the strike appeared to involve a surface-to-air missile and “may have been unintentional.”



Iran won't hand over black boxes from Ukraine airliner that crashed, killing 176 By Times of Israel—Iran is refusing to hand over for analysis the black boxes from a Ukrainian airliner that crashed near Tehran to the plane's manufacturer Boeing, Iranian media said Wednesday. The crash, whose cause is still unclear, came shortly after an Iranian missile barrage on US forces in Iraq.



US HEZBOLLAH CELLS



There has never been a greater threat of terror attacks on U.S. soil than there is right now. In the aftermath of the killing of Iranian military chief Qassem Soleimani, top Iranian leaders are vowing revenge.

Many of the talking heads on television are speculating that Iran may hit American targets in the Middle East, but what they are forgetting is that Iranian-backed terror groups already have a substantial presence in North America.

In particular, Hezbollah has been involved in the North American drug trade for a very long time. Over the years, the mainstream media gave Al-Qaeda and ISIS a lot of attention, but the truth is that Hezbollah is far better funded and far better armed than either of those groups ever were, and now the man at the top of the military food chain that gave Hezbollah their marching orders has been killed by the United States.

If Hezbollah sleeper cells are ever going to be unleashed in the United States, now is the time when it will happen.



NYC ANTI-SEMITISM



New York City saw an increase of 26% in antisemitic incidents in 2019, according to the latest annual crime statistics released by the NYPD on Monday.

The number of reported crimes rose from 186 incidents in 2018 to 234 in 2019.

The vast majority of incidents, between 70 and 75%, were swastikas and antisemitic graffiti found in public spaces.



ISRAELI NATURAL GAS



During the last week, earth-shattering events occurred that completely disrupted the Middle East, caused intense anger in certain Arab and Muslim capitals, and threatened war in the region. In other news the Americans assassinated Iranian General Qassem Soleimani.



The non-Soleimani news that rocked the Middle East involved natural gas. On January 2, Greece, Israel and Cyprus signed an agreement to build a pipeline to transport natural gas 1,300 miles from Israel's Leviathan natural gas field in the Mediterranean first to Greece, then to Italy, and from Italy into the heart of Europe. Scheduled for completion in 2025, the "EastMed pipeline" ultimately might provide 4% of Europe's natural gas imports. It also would compete with two pipelines being built by Russia, the NordStream 2 pipeline in the Baltic Sea to Germany, and the TurkStream project from Russia to Turkey.



KAY WILSON



In the post that Twitter censored, Wilson explained that the terrorists who injured her and killed her friend “receive a Palestinian Authority salary, \$3000 a month, taken from UK @DFID foreign aid,” a reference to UK’s Department for International Development, which is responsible for administering overseas aid.

Twitter inexplicably deemed the post “gratuitous gore that can be harmful, especially if the content is posted with intent to delight in cruelty or for sadistic pleasure.”

“Posting this photo was certainly not gratuitous,” Wilson told *United With Israel (UWI)*. “It’s rather ironic that photos of my injuries would hurt someone else. They certainly hurt me more than anyone else.”

After the attack, with enormous determination, Wilson miraculously stumbled to a road, barefoot, bleeding, with broken bones, a punctured lung, gagged, and with bound hands. A passerby found Wilson, after which doctors at Hadassah hospital in Jerusalem saved her life.



FRANCE – ISLAMIC REPUBLIC



"Not a month goes by... without a murderous attack with the cry of 'Allahu Akbar' taking place on our soil.... But what is the point of fighting the effects of Islamism if we do not tackle the origins of this ideology of death? On that front, however, denial continues to compete with naiveté. Nothing has changed in the last five years. On the contrary.

"Anti-Semitism today is so blatant that it would be difficult to hide it without falling into ridicule," said the historian Georges Bensoussan. "What is taboo is the anti-Semites" -- meaning that today, in France, it is taboo to say that Islamism is the most important source of anti-Semitism.



7 TRUMP TAKE AWAYS



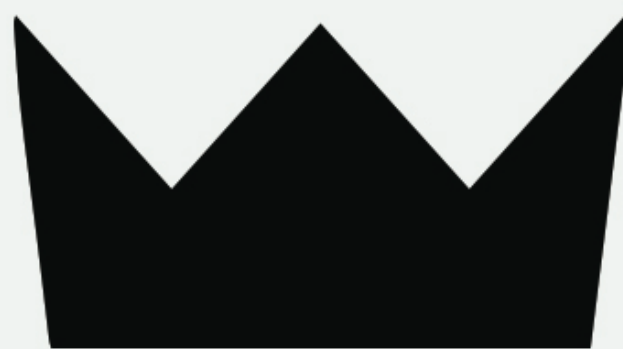
1. Trump said that "no American or Iraqi lives were lost."
2. Iran fired 15 missiles (not 22 as reported) at Iraqi bases housing US forces - 4 of the missiles (nearly 1/3) failed to detonate.
3. After the counter-attack, Iran "appears to be standing down,"
4. The US will now impose even more economic sanctions of Iran
5. Trump did not signal that the US would launch an immediate military retaliation - however, he did say that all "options" are available to him, this clearly reserving the right to use force if additional events warrant.
6. Trump said the missiles used by Iran were built with the billions the Obama admin gave Tehran.
7. Trump criticized past US administrations and the world powers for not being tough enough against Iranian aggression and made it clear that it was time for a change!



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

According to Pew Research, four in ten Americans between the ages of 23 and 38 now say they are religiously unaffiliated. This is the biggest drop in religiosity between generations ever recorded.





KFIR

DAILY PSALM
DAILY BIBLE READINGS
WEEKLY MIDDLE EAST UPDATE
WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

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!