

# ISRAEL INTERCESSORY PRAYER ITEMS

November 8-15, 2019

## **1. ON ALIYAH DAY, ISRAEL CELEBRATES 28,000 NEW OLIM IN THE PAST YEAR** - The

Ministry of Immigration and Absorption on Monday (Nov 4) evening launched events celebrating Aliyah day in honour of the Olim, new immigrants to Israel. During a special ceremony, Minister of Immigration and Absorption Yoav Galant awarded a prize to Olim whose special achievements were determined as “an extraordinary contribution to society and the country.”

The winners included Professor Karl Skorecki, a world-renowned physician and scientist in the field of genetics, Yaakov Friedman, the coach of Israel’s national fencing team, and Ronit Avera, who has developed a culture-oriented program to prevent and contend with domestic violence in the Ethiopian community.

“On Aliyah Day we honor the immigrants to Israel through the generations – the people who left everything and immigrated to Israel,” Galant stated. “The bravery, determination and unique contribution of each one is felt very well in all aspects of life in the country.” He said that “every Jew around the world should see his home and his future in the State of Israel, even if his current place of residence is different.”

Established in 2016, Aliyah Day is celebrated on the seventh day of the Hebrew month of Cheshvan, coinciding with the reading of the “Lech Lecha” Torah portion in which Avraham is told by God to leave his home to go to Israel. The day is marked with celebrations in the Knesset, a special cabinet session, and events at the president’s residence, schools, and army and police facilities.

The past year saw an increase in the number of Olim to Israel. Since the beginning of 2019, more than 28,000 new immigrants from all over the world immigrated to Israel and the positive trend continues. In 2018, 26,000 Olim came to Israel. The majority of Olim this year came from Russia and Ukraine.

Some 3.5 million Jews have made Aliyah since 1948, making up 42 percent of the total population. In 2019, over 70 years after the Holocaust, the world’s largest Jewish population lives in Israel. This figure represents 43 percent of world Jewry.

To view a great video teaching by Dean Bye on how Aliyah changes the climate of the world, go to:

[https://youtu.be/zJK\\_qCPio0Y](https://youtu.be/zJK_qCPio0Y)

*Lord, please send a dramatic shift in policy in the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Absorption. Make these ministries to actively welcome new immigrants. Also provide the appropriate infrastructure to be in place to make the regathering of Your people much more successful. You have set watchmen on the walls of Jerusalem (Isa, 62:6) who are told to remove via prayer the obstacles that stand in the way of Aliyah. Go through, go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Take out the stones; lift up a banner for the peoples! (62:10). While we know that humanly speaking, bureaucratic changes happen extremely slowly, we plead to You for a miracle, that these changes may happen quickly. As Yahweh Jireh, the God who provides (Gen. 22:14), we ask You for affordable housing and practical work options for new immigrants – and we ask for it is going to take a miracle to do this! With all the new road*

*and light rail construction that is happening around Israel, may the transportation between the periphery and Israel's center aid the new immigrants (Isa. 49:11-12) Prepare the hearts of those who are immigrating for the change that is before them (Prov. 16:9). In the coming year, increase the number of olim greatly, we pray!*

**“Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that it shall no more be said, ‘The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘The Lord lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had driven them.’ For I will bring them back into their land which I gave to their fathers. “Behold, I will send for many fishermen,” says the Lord, “and they shall fish them; and afterward I will send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain and every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks.” (Jeremiah 16:14-16)**

## **2. ISRAEL ELECTION SNIPITS:**

**The latest negotiations between the Blue and White and Likud parties have failed to lead to a breakthrough that would allow for the formation of a coalition government, the two sides announced in a joint statement on Wednesday (Nov 6) evening after further talks.** The big gaps between the parties remain intact, but the atmosphere of the talks good, serious and interesting according to party officials. A follow-up meeting will take place in the coming days. Negotiators representing the two sides met in Kfar Maccabiah in central Israel on Wednesday afternoon for the third round of negotiations since President Reuven Rivlin tasked Blue and White leader Benny Gantz last month with attempting to form a coalition.

**National Union chairman and Transport Minister Bezalel Smotrich on Tuesday (Nov 5) morning responded harshly to a news report regarding police questionable conduct in interrogations of former Netanyahu aide Nir Hefetz who later turned state’s witness.** “Reports on an investigation involving Nir Hefetz and their cover-up attempts reduce public confidence in the police in Netanyahu’s cases to below zero,” Smotrich said. The Justice Ministry obtained a gag order on publishing Segal’s findings that the police had applied extraordinary pressure in order to get Netanyahu’s former adviser Nir Hefetz to sign a state’s witness agreement. Case 4000 against PM Netanyahu (the Bezeq-Walla Case) is largely based on the testimony of his former adviser, and transcripts of the latter’s interrogation leaked to the media raise questions about the entire testimony. According to those transcripts, after signing an agreement with the state, Hefetz told interrogators about meetings that never happened, changing his versions several times, in what appears to be his attempts to please his interrogators. At the same time, information that reached the media raises the suspicion that police interrogators used improper pressures against Hefetz in order to get him to sign a state’s witness agreement and to replace his attorney with one that would be more acceptable to the police.

*Ultimately, Lord, the government is on Your shoulders and You reign over all (Isa. 9:6-7). We do not understand the cause of the blockage that prevents this process from moving forward. When You are ready to bring release in this area, show us how to intercede so that Your will prevails (Amos 3:7). Block from the new government all haters of Zion and those who would divide Your land. You know what is being negotiated in secret (Mark 4:22), and as You are the righteous judge, bring forth those who negotiate in righteousness (Gen. 18:25b; Prov. 14:34).*

“First of all, I exhort that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence, for this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

### 3. ISRAEL TERROR ATTACKS UPDATES:

Israel Security Agency head Nadav Argaman said Thursday (Nov 7): "In the past year, we have thwarted over 450 significant terror attacks." Argaman credited these successes to specialized technologies used by the service, its cooperation with other Israeli security forces, and its "synergy with our counterparts around the world." In addition to conventional intelligence-gathering techniques, the ISA uses advanced algorithms to scan social media and other databases for indications of terrorist activities.

*We ask You, Lord, to station Your angelic hosts on all of Israel's borders and if needed, for them to be revealed to both Israel and Israel's enemies (2 Kings 6:16-17; Psalm 35:5-6; Malachi 1:5). Protect Your people, we pray. May each Israeli turn to You for their protection and covering. Use the tension and fear to draw each Israeli to Yourself, we pray. Lord, keep security forces alert in Jerusalem's Old City, at checkpoints, and elsewhere (Psalms 121:4). Guard over Israel's mass transportation system of trains and buses (Isaiah 31:5). Aid the security forces, many of whom are only teenagers, to be quick to know who are the perpetrators of violence and who are the innocent caught in the wrong place and the wrong time (Jeremiah 31:10). Remove all distractions from Israeli security forces – whether mobile phones, friends, the opposite sex, the weather, etc. (Psalms 48:12-13) We trust in You to constantly watch over Israel (Psalms 37:40). Especially, protect the residents of Judea-Samaria who face so much violence on a daily basis.*

“He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honour him.” (Psalm 91:15)

### 4. GOLAN HEIGHTS/SYRIA/LEBANON/IRAQ UPDATES:

#### Golan Heights

The Head of the IDF's Operations Directorate, has warned of the increased threat posed by Iran in the Golan Heights. He reported that there are Iranian Revolutionary Guards Quds forces in the Golan Heights, "and that's not fear-mongering, they're there." Based on the "sophisticated" attack on the Saudi Arabian Aramco oil facilities "that managed to evade both American and Saudi defenses", Israel is aware of what Iran is capable of.

#### Lebanon

Banks in Lebanon reopened last Friday (Nov 1) after having been closed since October 18, the day after grassroots protests erupted across the country. Customers waiting to withdraw US dollars at ATMs and those in the banks expecting to transfer funds abroad discovered, however, there were new limits on the transactions. Funds could only be transferred abroad to repay loans, for payments to educational or health

institutions, family support or commercial commitments. (Note: The anti-corruption protests that have swept Lebanon over the past two weeks are in open defiance of Hezbollah, the Iranian-backed militia that dominates Lebanese politics. Hezbollah has been deeply wounded by what happened; Hezbollah had been nearly untouchable in Lebanon until this wave of demonstrations.)

**The White House last Thursday (Oct 31) froze a \$105 million in security aid for the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), at a time when the country is in the midst of a political and economic crisis, with its prime minister having just resigned following several weeks of riots.** The freeze of aid to the LAF appears to be based on a sound evaluation of its real value in resisting the greatest threat to Lebanon's democracy: the terrorist group Hezbollah. The State Department informed Congress that the White House budget office and National Security Council had decided to withhold the foreign military assistance. The decision has to have been made only in recent days, since last month State Department officials notified Congress the USA was moving ahead with the aid package to the Lebanese military.

**It is imperative that the USA and Israel's other allies in the western world ensure that Lebanon not become another Afghanistan—a terror-group masquerading as a state.** This is a real danger now, and Israel is gravely imperiled by it. Middle East experts maintain that America—and all well-meaning peoples—must continue to isolate Hezbollah and its slave-government in Lebanon until sanity and civilization return to "the Paris of the Middle East." Israel should be worried, because Hezbollah, with its economic and political power threatened, could lash out at its Jewish neighbor to the south as a unifying distraction for its outraged citizenry. A repeat of Hezbollah's terror-missile war of 2006 would be a far more lethal version of that earlier conflict, which aimed to eradicate the "Zionist entity" on Lebanon's southern frontier. Since Hezbollah is a wholly owned subsidiary of Iran and Iran's terrorist Revolutionary Guard, Iran can be expected to play a key role in Lebanese affairs at this critical juncture. And where Iran gets involved, Israel becomes the ultimate target.

**Twitter on Saturday (Nov 2) suspended the accounts of Lebanese Al-Manar TV, as well as other Hezbollah and Hamas affiliated media accounts.** Al-Manar's Twitter accounts in Arabic, French, English and Spanish have all been suspended until further notice. Twitter's decision to suspend accounts affiliated with terror organizations came after a bipartisan group of USA Congressmen last week demanded the removal of all accounts affiliated with Hezbollah and Hamas. The congressmen said Twitter is "blatantly violating US law" by allowing content from US-designated terrorist groups to appear on its platform. Twitter responded to the suspension of the accounts after being questioned by reporters, saying that its social media platform is not the place for such groups.

## Syria

**Five USA armoured vehicles were reportedly seen patrolling the border with Turkey in northeastern Syria alongside Kurdish troops last Thursday (Oct 31) for the first time since President Trump ordered them pulled out less than one month ago.** President Trump's order came in response to Turkey's announcement that they were moving into the region. The situation was problematic for the USA since Turkey is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and therefore an ally of the USA. At the same time, the Kurdish forces in Syria were an invaluable ally in the fight against the Islamic State. (Note: The President Trump announced last week that some USA troops would be positioned in Syria to protect oil assets from ISIS elements. American infantry troops and tanks arrived in Syria's Deir Az Zor region and are expected to head to the northeast to ensure the safety of the oil fields. The revenue from Syrian oil has been a major source of income for ISIS to

continue its reign of terror in the region. An agreement signed between Turkey and Russia gave Turkey control over a 75-mile wide section in the center of the border. Military forces of Syrian President Bashar al Assad will control sections to the east and west of that region.)

**Very few Turkish soldiers have participated in Turkey's offensive into northeast Syria, with Turkey opting instead to use Syrian rebel forces to do the heavy lifting.** These forces, who are a mix of jihadists and rabble, loot homes, murder civilians, mutilate dead bodies, and shout ISIS slogans about beheading infidels. They fire mortars at medics and at USA patrols. They even seized Syrian regime soldiers and Russia had to get them released. The "revolutionaries" who once fought Assad are being sent to attack Kurds in eastern Syria. Turkey purposely doesn't train or arm them well, leaving many of the factions to act like little more than armed gangs or militias. Turkey just wanted to give them some berets and redirect them to eastern Syria, hoping that they would fight to the death to smash the American-backed SDF.

**Israel will help the Kurds in Syria in any way it can, Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely told the Knesset on Wednesday (Nov 6). "Israel has received many requests for aid in diplomatic and humanitarian matters. We are aiding them in various channels."** In addition, the Foreign Ministry has helped non-governmental organizations send humanitarian aid to the Kurds. Israel's support for the Kurds is based on "historic ties...[and] shared and varied interests," she said. "There are many Kurdish Jews in Israel who maintained ties with their place of origin. Kurds are a moderate and pro-Western factor in the Middle East."

**Rear Adm. Bill Byrne said Thursday (Nov 7), "The military mission in Syria continues. It is the defeat of ISIS, like it has been since 2014, shoulder-to-shoulder with our SDF [Syrian Democratic Forces] partners...**The securing of the oil fields is a subordinate task to that mission, and the purpose of that task is to deny ISIS the revenues from that oil infrastructure....Back in 2015 when they [ISIS] were in control of that infrastructure, it was pumping out 45,000 barrels per day, to the tune of \$1.5 million a day, to support their operations, and we're just not going to let that happen again." Jonathan Hoffman, Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, said control of the oil fields will "provide the Kurds in the area and the SDF forces to actually have a revenue stream and an ability to work on building up their strength for the D-ISIS [Defeat-ISIS] campaign. So, it's preventing ISIS from getting it and allowing the Kurds and the SDF in there to have control of it, as well."

## **Iraq**

**As the latest round of protests in Iraq enters a second week, at least 264 have been killed and more than 12,000 wounded.** On Wednesday (Nov 6), the biggest wave of anti-government demonstrations in decades spread across central Baghdad. Two government officials said that Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi had planned to resign, but was pressured not to do so by advisers and officials linked to Iran. "He wanted to resign, but after a long meeting, they convinced him not to," said one official. "The Iranian side considers this as their government, and for the first time they have control of the decision-making. They don't want to lose that easily." Harith Hasan of the Carnegie Middle East Center said, "This is the largest grass-roots movement in Iraq's modern history. The government lost the narrative in the face of a very vibrant movement."

**Flash points in Lebanon and Iraq jeopardize the huge amount of money, knowhow and manpower that Iran has invested for decades and threaten to erode its influence, if not smash it to bits.** Iran's most important base of control is in Iraq, which is controlled by a Shi'ite majority and headed by a pro-Iranian coalition. Iraq,

whose trade with Iran reaches about \$12 billion a year, is essential for Iran to evade American sanctions. Iran has demanded that the Iraqi government use greater force against the protesters. Iraq opposes the use of force against the protests and has warned against the "intervention of foreign and international powers that intend to subvert the will of the Iraqi people" - mainly referring to Iran. (Note: The protesters are demanding the removal of Iranian influence in Iraq and the dissolution of the Shi'ite militias funded and supported by Iran. This position joins that of Muqtada Sadr, who headed the largest bloc in the 2018 election.)

**Hamas is joining forces with Iran to foil widespread anti-corruption protests in Lebanon and Iraq. Iran has dispatched Khaled Mashaal, Hamas' former top leader, "to warn Arabs about the consequences of their demands for reform and democracy."** The former Hamas leader also warned Arabs and Muslims to be aware of Israel's 'influence over internal policies in their countries. In Lebanon, students have left school to join the demonstrations. Iraqi protesters told the media they don't fear a confrontation with Iran-backed militias, saying they have nothing left to lose...it is that desperate.

**Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi has allowed his country's security forces to be pushed aside as members of the Asaib Ahl al-Haq, Badr Organization and Kata'ib Hezbollah militias shoot protesters.** More than 250 mainly Shi'ite protesters have been killed and thousands wounded in an organized campaign of oppression. For the protesters, the hidden hand of Iran is behind the attacks. Many videos show security forces and police or soldiers talking to the protesters. That means that it is not the army or police doing the killing.

**Israeli Foreign Minister Yisrael Katz's statement in support of the broad demonstrations taking place in Iraq in recent weeks was warmly accepted by the protesters.** Tens of thousands of Iraqis have taken to the streets in recent weeks to protest Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abd al-Mahdi's corrupt government, unemployment and poor public services, and by extension, Iran's involvement in the country. Hundreds have been killed during the violence, many by Iran-backed Shi'ite militias operating in the country. Katz published a message in Arabic on social media on Monday saying that "we sympathize with the Iraqi people's protest for freedom and dignity." Katz "strongly" condemned the protesters' "repression and murder" led by Iranian general Qassem Soleimani and the Iranian Revolutionary Guards (IRGC). (**Note:** Israel has over 250,000 followers on its Twitter account in Arabic. More than 1.5 million Arabic speakers from 22 Arab countries follow Israel in Arabic on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, with content viewed hundreds of millions of times annually. The use of social media enables Israel to share a message of diversity, peace, and coexistence, as well as information on current political and security developments with millions of Arabs around the world.)

**Growing insecurity in Iraq and on its border could lead to a fresh exodus of Christians from the country, warns a partner of 'Release International', which is supporting refugees in the country.** The Turkish invasion of Syria and growing protests in Baghdad could drive even more Christians out of the country, believes Jamal Liddawi, a partner of Release International, which provides aid to persecuted Christians. Only around 300,000 Christians remain in Iraq from a peak of 1.8 million in the year 2000. They've been driven out by conflict and insecurity. And many more are now anxious to leave, says Jamal: 'Most of the Christians have lost hope. Many of them are applying to leave the country, and if they can, they will.'

***Thank You, Lord, for the panic we are seeing in Iran's leaders as the Iraqi and Lebanese people openly protest against their government's links with Iran (Psa. 35:26; Jer. 49:37). Lord, please expose all of Hezbollah's plans to attack Your nation (Job 12:22). Let Israel be able to hear what is being plotted in Hezbollah's headquarters***

*(Luke 12:2-3). Lord, Israel needs Your supernatural intervention in dealing with Hezbollah. (Psa. 35:4-6) Please draw them into the net that they have prepared for the innocent (Psa. 35:7-8). Weaken their influence in Lebanon and may the Lebanese see how dangerous they are. May the Lebanese government take bold steps to disengage themselves from Hezbollah. Dry up all the funds that they receive from Iran (Isa. 14:29-32). Protect the northern communities from all the evil plans of the enemies that have gathered on their borders.*

**“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid, neither dismayed. For YHWH your God is with you in all places where you go.” (Joshua 1:9)**

## **5. GAZA UPDATES:**

**Palestinians in Gaza launched ten rockets at Israel last Friday (Nov 1) evening.** Eight were intercepted by the Iron Dome missile defense system. A house in Sderot was hit by shrapnel, which also damaged several vehicles. In response to the attack, Israel struck a wide range of Hamas targets in Gaza. Israel holds Hamas, the ruling power, responsible for all attacks emanating from Gaza. The Gaza Health Ministry reported one dead and two wounded in an Israeli airstrike. The residents of the house, a couple and their children, ran into a protected area when the sirens sounded and none were hurt. Security sources identified the commander of Islamic Jihad's northern brigade, Baha Abu al-Ata, as behind the recent rocket attacks.

**On Saturday (Nov 2) night, in retaliation, IDF fighter jets attacked a wide range of terrorist targets inside the Gaza Strip, including a military compound of the Hamas terrorist naval force, a military compound of the organization's air defense system, a military compound containing an anti-missile firing simulator, training compounds, a weapons production site, a military compound which is being used as a weapons warehouse, and underground infrastructure of the Hamas in the northern, central and southern Gaza Strip.** The attack was carried out in response to the launch of ten rockets from the Gaza Strip at the town of Sderot in Israel, population 26,500, earlier on Friday night.

**As the year comes to an end, the Gaza Strip is preparing to return to the familiar, suffocating financial crises that is sure to result from Qatar's ending its grant to poor families.** Qatar has informed Hamas and other terror factions there that his government is having difficulties renewing the grant. These funds did not cover all of Gaza's poor families, and the most each lucky family received was \$100 each month, but it was a reliable stopgap measure to stave off the explosion that's sure to come without this charity. There will be two more payments until the end of 2019, after which they are on their own. Over the weekend, Hamas made it clear that it was blocking the security escalation with Israel and is not interested in keeping it up. Reports from Gaza reveal unofficial operations to induce as many as 200,000 Gazan youths to using drugs, mostly hashish and opiates – to help them forget the hardships of their daily lives.

**Saudi Arabia has announced it has severed all ties with the Hamas terror organization.** The Saudis reportedly made the announcement in a meeting with the United Nations' Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process who has been attempting to mediate between the Saudis and Hamas after the Kingdom rounded up several Hamas operatives and imprisoned them several months ago. The Saudis also announced they will not

release the senior Hamas officials, who are being held on charges of financing terrorism. Saudi authorities are holding Hamas official Mohammed al-Khoudari along with his son. Al-Khoudari oversaw Hamas' relations with Saudi Arabia for over two decades. They further warned that Hamas operatives who will enter their territory will be immediately arrested and charged with financing terrorism.

**Hamas chief in Gaza Yehya al-Sinwar stressed Monday (Nov 4) that Iran "has the greatest credit in building our strength....It has provided us with weapons and money, without which we would not have reached this point.** He said, "It is no secret that we have hundreds of kilometers of tunnels, thousands of ambushes, anti-armor and locally manufactured rockets." He added that Hamas has formed a joint operations room with 13 Palestinian factions to confront Israel.

**Iran has enlisted Khaled Masha'al, former head of the "political bureau" of Hamas, to warn Arabs about the consequences of their demands for reform and democracy.** Iran's leaders see Arab demands for reform as damaging Tehran's effort to dominate Arab countries and prepare for war against Israel. Speaking at the "Jerusalem Pioneers Conference" in Turkey this week, Masha'al expressed concern that the anti-corruption protests would divert Arab attention from the Palestinian issue.

**A rare public anti-Hamas protest took place in Gaza after three Hamas police officers threw Anan Abu Jameh, 28, out the window of his upstairs room after arresting him in Khan Yunis last Friday (Nov 1).** He sustained a serious head injury and later died. During his funeral, participants chanted: "Hamas are murderers."

**A group of hikers in southern Israel discovered a bomb hidden in a book on Saturday (Nov 2) while they were out for a walk along a riverbed at Kibbutz Re'im near the Gaza border.** Israel Police were called to the scene, along with sappers from the bomb squad, to examine the improvised explosive device (IED). Police said the device was probably attached to a balloon and flown across the border from Gaza. But it's not clear when that took place, and for how long the bomb sat on the group waiting for a potential victim to pick it up. "We are urging the public to be aware of any suspicious object. If you come across any suspicious object, call the emergency hotline and leave it to be examined by the professionals," police said in a statement

**IDF Lt.-Col. Avi Marciano, a Golani Brigade commander who just completed four months of securing the Gaza border, says it is a challenge to deal with the riots on Fridays:** "You have to manage it and not let it manage you. The soldiers in the field receive clear instructions. When there is a life-threatening event, of course, the threat is removed. The differences between different situations are very clear to the soldiers. We talk to them directly at the beginning of operational deployment, explaining...in what situation they shoot and when they don't; what are the conditions for shooting; and who is the commander who approves the shooting and the target....Over time, you know how to characterize the people who are on the other side. The achievements required from us are very clear: to prevent penetration into Israeli territory, to prevent damage to the fence, but also to minimize damage to the other side. At the end of the day, it is mainly teenagers and children, and we have no intention or interest to unnecessarily hurt them. We're not like that."

***Lord, if the IDF must pre-empt an attack on Gaza, give them the timing, courage and wisdom to do it (Isa. 41:14-16). From all Israeli leaders who are responsible to make these decisions, remove the fear of man – or the fear of the nations – and replace it with Your fear... 'the fear of God' (Prov. 29:25; Isa. 35:4). Any IDF plans that are not from You, toss them and impart Your plans only (Prov. 19:21). Supply any lack in training,***

*finances and equipment so that Israel can defend itself (Psa. 44:3-4). Continue to enable Israel's intelligence gathering to be miraculously accurate (Job 24:1; 28:11). Guard all of Israel's spies and collaborators from Your enemies (Psa. 83:3). Thank You that Qatar is halting its \$30 million monthly support to Hamas. Depoliticize all that has to do with Israel's security – so that Israel can defend its people even in this period of only having a temporary government (1 Tim. 2:1-4). Give PM Netanyahu wisdom from on high (Eccl. 7:19; 9:18). Guide the physical placement of Israel's Iron Dome batteries, its air force and submarines (Prov. 16:9).*

**“Let them be humbled and put to shame, those who seek after my soul; let them be turned back and be brought to confusion, those who plot evil to me. Let them be as chaff before the wind; and let the Angel of the LORD drive them away. Let their way be dark and slippery; and let the Angel the LORD pursue them. For without cause, they have spread their net for me in a pit; without cause, they have dug for my soul. Let destruction come upon him, he will not know; and let his net which he has concealed catch him, let him fall in it, into destruction. (Psalm 35:4-8)**

## **6. PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY UPDATES:**

**The Israeli research group Palestinian Media Watch (PMW) reports that nearly \$2 billion in international aid that has been donated to the Palestinian Authority is missing or misused.** The international community gives hundreds of millions of dollars in aid to the PA every year, but PMW argues that lack of accountability has allowed the money to end up in the hands of terrorists. "While the PA has constantly complained about its financial difficulties, scrutiny of the PA's own financial records for the years 2011 - 2018, shows that the PA transferred from its coffers over 7 billion shekels (\$1.99 billion) to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), some of which was then given to terrorist organizations." PMW published Monday (Nov 4). (Note: While international donors have demanded that the PA show financial transparency, the PLO is not subject to any such demands. In that same period, the PA also spent \$120 million to fund non-functioning institutions. The PA Parliament has not met since the last elections in 2006. However, PA financial records show that for the years 2011-2018 the PA spent \$35 million on its Central Election Committee and \$110 million shekels on the PA Legislative Council.)

Palestinian firefighters trained at the Israel Fire and Rescue Academy in Rishon LeZion on Tuesday (Nov 5). They learned new methods to deal with fires in buildings and cars and ways to quickly rescue injured persons in blocked areas. In recent years, Palestinian firefighters have helped Israel battle major fires.

**Palestinian Authority Central Elections Commission announced on Sunday (Nov 3) told state-owned Palestine Radio that Chairman Mahmoud Abbas would soon issue a decree to hold legislative elections in February, followed shortly thereafter by presidential elections.** A delegation representing the Commission will arrive Sunday in the Gaza Strip to inform Hamas and all the other terror factions about the decision, and the delegation will return to Ramallah to report the meeting's results to Abbas. The PLO and Hamas are not expecting the chairman's move to succeed in Gaza and in eastern Jerusalem. Also, Hamas has yet to recognize the Central Election Court's right to supervise the elections. It is demanding guarantees about the "integrity of the elections," and adherence to its outcome. (Note: The last time the PA held legislative elections, in 2006, a Hamas proxy party won 44.45% of the vote and 74 seats, and the PLO won 41.43% of the vote and 45 seats. In

the last presidential elections, in 2005, Mahmoud Abbas won 62.52% of the vote, defeating his opponent Mustafa Barghouti, who only won 19.48%)

**Hezbollah has used social media to recruit Israeli Arabs and Judea-Samaria-based Palestinians to attack Israeli targets.** It uses social media to establish contact with potential recruits before transitioning to more encrypted communications platforms, transferring funds, and issuing instructions to form cells, conduct surveillance, and carry out terrorist attacks. While every virtual plot has been foiled thus far, Israeli authorities must spend time and resources disrupting these schemes.

*Thank You for restoring to Israel its biblical heartland in the 1967 Six Day war (Psa. 44:1-8). Make the generals over the security forces in these areas as the fire brands of Zechariah 12:6. Quicken all the security forces in this area, especially those on guard during the feasts and not at home with their families, and remove from them all distractions (Psa. 127:1; Isa. 21:11-12; 52:8). Give the IDF commanders revelation of all the plans of the enemy (Job 28:11b). Send forth angelic protection on the roads from attacks by rocks, car-rammings or traffic accidents. May Your plans be shown to Israel's leaders – both political and military – to know what to expect, and what to do, on the day after Palestinian President Abbas is removed (Psa. 33:11). May Your safety and Your joy during these feasts be over all the residents – both Jewish and Arab – who live in these areas (Psa. 121:4; Neh. 8:10).*

**“Teach me Your way, O LORD, and lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies. Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and such as breathe out violence.” (Psalm 27:11-12)**

**7. LIGHT SHINES INTO THE DARKNESS** *(This weekly commentary documents incidents where God shines his light into the darkness and exposes pending attacks, injustices and terror incidents. It also documents situations where the goodness of God breaks through into evil circumstances)*

**PM Netanyahu on Monday (Nov 4) contacted Israel Police Acting Commissioner Motti Cohen regarding a man on Facebook named “Tzvika Sabag” who has called for Netanyahu’s murder and that of his family.** He asked the Acting Commissioner to open an investigation of the matter “immediately.” In one post, “Tzvika Sabag” called on the police to “prepare to direct traffic for the funerals of Benjamin, Sarah and Yair Netanyahu.” In another post, “Sabag” stated that he “hates with a deadly hatred Benjamin, Sarah and Yair Netanyahu and whoever cooperates with them.” Netanyahu filed the complaint on the 24th anniversary of the assassination of PM Yitzchak Rabin.

**Russia has succeeded in capturing a missile shot by the advanced David’s Sling missile interception system.** On July 23, 2018, two David’s Sling missiles were launched against several missiles that had been fired from Syria at Israel. One of the two interceptors missed its target and fell in Syrian territory. A Syrian military force was dispatched to the area and found the Israeli missile, which had suffered only minor damages in the fall. The missile was taken to a Russian-Syrian base and then flown to Moscow, most likely for reverse engineering. Moscow has not confirmed the report. (Note: David’s Sling, formerly Magic Wand, is a joint product of Rafael Advanced Defense Systems and USA defense contractor Raytheon. It is designed to intercept enemy planes,

drones, tactical ballistic missiles, medium- to long-range rockets and cruise missiles, at a range of between 25 and 185 miles.)

**During the past two years since a young prime minister has taken over as the new leader of Ethiopia, more than 30 churches have been attacked with more than half of the buildings burned to the ground.** In addition, clergy and church members have also been killed trying to defend their church buildings against attacks from ethnic mobs. The churches being targeted belong to the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church (EOTC), which has a long and colorful history in the African nation.

**The International Judo Federation (IJF) announced in a statement LAST Saturday (Nov 2) that Iranian judoka Saeid Mollaei has received official notice from the German Office for Migration and Refugees that he may now legally benefit from the status of "Recognized Refugee."** Mollaei, 27, made headlines after ignoring Iranian demands to throw a match, or to withdraw from the World Judo Championships in order to avoid competing against an Israeli judoka. The athlete subsequently fled to Germany to apply for asylum as a refugee. The IJF noted that the administrative procedures are not yet complete, and that Mollaei must still obtain papers in order to travel and participate in World Judo Tour competitions, in order to continue to collect valuable points at the World Ranking List. Still, his current status gives Mollaei the right to live in Germany legally and safely, where he now trains and is preparing to resume his career – which he was forced to suspend following his flight from Tokyo in August. (Note: In response to Iran's ongoing boycott of Israeli athletes, the International Judo Federation has banned Iran from all international competitions. The ban will remain in effect "until the Iran Judo Federation gives strong guarantees and prove that they will respect the IJF Statutes and accept that their athletes fight against Israeli athletes".)

**A flood of crude will arrive, even as worldwide oil demand is slowing. It is coming from Brazil, Canada, Norway and Guyana.** The four countries stand to add nearly a million barrels a day to the market in 2020 and nearly a million more in 2021, giving Western policymakers an added cushion in case there are renewed attacks on oil tankers or processing facilities in the Persian Gulf.

**Saudi Arabia, the most puritanical of Islamic societies, is increasingly mirroring Western mores.** Teenage Saudi girls scream hysterically at a performance by a Korean band in Riyadh. Young Saudi women with bared faces run a 5K through city streets clad only in short-sleeved T-shirts and tight leggings. Groups of young men and women relax together in Starbucks. Hotels are no longer permitted to ask Saudi couples for proof of marriage at check-in. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, 34, effective ruler of the kingdom, has decided to press ahead full speed with economic and social change, absolutely convinced his reforms are essential and urgent. The once-powerful religious authorities have been reduced to mouthpieces for the regime and are widely ignored by the public. The government is spending billions on bringing entertainment - wrestling, tennis, car racing, expensive restaurants, musical performers - to the kingdom to jump-start tourism.

**On Sunday (Nov 3), Melpomeni Dina, 92, reunited with siblings Sarah Yanai and Yossi Mor in an emotional meeting at Yad Vashem when they introduced their rescuer to almost 40 family members.** During World War II, Dina and her older sisters risked their lives for almost two years to help the Jewish family in Veria, Greece, to hide from the Germans. The vice president of the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous, said that "to the best of my knowledge, this is the last reunion [of rescuers and survivors] that will ever take place." She said that she

has been organizing such reunions once a year since 1992, but today, either the rescuers have died, the survivors have died, or they are too frail to travel.

**Juma, a brother of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, traveled several times to Istanbul from northern Syria in the months before the terror chief's death, acting as a trusted messenger for information about the group's operations in Syria, Iraq and Turkey.** The ability of one of the most senior members of ISIS to commute to Istanbul freely to meet other ISIS members raises questions about the Turkish security services.

**Since 2012, the Turkish intelligence service MIT, under the direction of Turkish President Erdogan, has been providing material assistance to ISIS, while Turkish border officials turned a blind eye to ISIS recruits flowing across Turkey into Syria and Iraq.** Scores of ISIS fighters captured by Kurdish forces in northern Syria showed Turkish exit stamps on their passports, and otherwise boasted of the direct assistance they had received from Turkish authorities. In 2016, Wikileaks published emails documenting the involvement of Erdogan's son-in-law, Berat Albayrak, in helping ISIS market oil stolen from Syria and Iraq. Sumeyye Erdogan, the president's daughter, reportedly set up an entire medical corps including a hospital to treat wounded ISIS fighters in Turkey close to the Syrian border. ISIS evacuated severely wounded fighters across the border in Turkish army trucks.

**Israel remains the one country the USA can rely upon to defend itself by itself and in coordination with American interests. The following list of Israeli assets was developed in 1979 as a guide to security cooperation:**

- A secure location in a crucial part of the world; a well-developed military infrastructure; the ability to maintain, service, and repair USA-origin equipment; an excellent deep-water port in Haifa; modern air facilities; a position close to sea lanes and ability to project power over long distances; an air force larger than many in Western Europe; a democratic political system with a strong orientation to support the U.S.
- Added in 1996: Israel's military research and development capabilities complement those of the USA. Its intelligence services cooperate closely with ours - to our benefit. And large numbers of American troops train in Israel.
- Added in 2006: The establishment of police-to-police counterterrorism training in Israel.

**Zionist watchdog group 'Im Tirtzu' on Wednesday (Nov 6) released a video showing Israeli police officers physically blocking Jewish visitors on the Temple Mount from using the compound's water fountain.** Im Tirtzu's Tamir Baram, who was among the Jews prevented from drinking water on the Temple Mount, said: "We've gotten to such an absurd situation on the Temple Mount in which something so elementary as drinking water is being prevented from Jews. For those who forgot, the Temple Mount is Judaism's holiest site – and we deserve to be treated there with respect rather than with discrimination."

**After months of legal proceedings and court hearings, Israel's High Court of Justice on Tuesday (Nov 5) ruled that the work permit of Omar Shakir, the Israel and Palestine Director at Human Rights Watch (HRW), should not be renewed and that he should be deported from Israel.** The ruling states that Shakir is a long-standing Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) activist and that his role at HRW has been to advance BDS and related

anti-Israel campaigns. Shakir has 20 days to leave Israel. **This is the first instance in which a new Israeli law enabling the deportation of anti-Israel activists has been enacted and upheld by the courts.**

*Lord, let Your light shine into the darkest areas of the earth. Expose all plots to harm Your people...both Jews and Christians. Thank You that there is increasing coordination between the agencies who are in charge of security and protection. We bless the security forces and police forces around the world...they have an impossible job to protect all the people all the time. Give them much wisdom and great alertness, we pray!*

"YHWH discovers deep things out of darkness, and brings the shadow of death to light." (Job 12:22)

## **8. ANTI-SEMITISM UPDATES:**

**NY Police recorded three attacks involving a passenger car that was cruising for Orthodox Jewish pedestrians in Boro Park late Friday (Nov 1) night.** The first unprovoked attack took place on New Utrecht Avenue and 53rd Street, where the car stopped when its passengers noticed a Haredi man walking on the pedestrian crossing. They rushed out of the car and gave chase as the man had turned around and ran for his life. Another unprovoked attack took place on 48th Street, where a Jewish victim was almost pinned against a parked car, one of the passengers punched him, and the cruising vehicle fled the scene. The third attack took place near 14th Avenue and 51st Street, where the assailants rushed out of their vehicle to assault a Jewish victim, who started screaming. As the attackers were returning quickly to their vehicle, a local resident took down their license plate number. All three incidents the victims were walking home alone when the group attacked them and took off. (**Note:** Anti-Semitic crimes in New York City are still on the rise, with NYPD official figures showing 170 anti-Semitic crimes since Jan, up 53% from 111 incidents in the same period in 2018.)

**The number of anti-Semitic hate crimes recorded in Sweden rose to a record high last year, jumping 53% over the 2016 figures, government statistics show.** The 2018 report, which the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention published last week, listed 280 anti-Semitic hate crimes that year compared to 182 in 2016. The latest numbers are the highest on record since at least 2006 when the Council began collecting aggregated data. Overall, the number of hate crimes with a racist motive rose by 69% over 2016 in Sweden to 4,865 cases last year, the report stated. The council decided not to publish hate crime figures for 2017 without explaining the decision. In one attack from 2017, the Jewish assembly synagogue in Gothenburg was firebombed by approximately 10 men protesting Israel's policies. Anti-Semitic motives represented the largest increase from 2016 in hate crimes and were the largest hike in anti-Semitic crimes on record, the report said. Anti-Semitic attacks accounted for 4% of all hate crimes in 2018. **The Jewish population of 20,000 comprises approximately 0.2% of Sweden's population.**

**A 2018 poll found that nearly 86% of British Jews believe the Labour leader is anti-Semitic, compared to just 8.3% who believe he is not.** In spite of all the evidence to the contrary Corbyn tried to reassure Jewish voters in Britain earlier this week that they have nothing to fear from a possible Labour government. He said British Jews have no reason to fear his possible election as Prime Minister in next month's general election. "Anti-Semitism and racism is an evil within our society," said Corbyn. "We want this country to be safe for all people. An attack on a synagogue, an attack on a mosque, an attack on a church – an attack on a person walking down the street

because they're perceived to be different from the rest of us – we simply can't tolerate it." The hypocrisy of Corbyn's words is deafening. Two weeks ago, a 'Survation' poll conducted for The Jewish Chronicle found that merely 7% of British Jews would even consider voting for Labour in this December's general election. Even worse, British Jews will leave the UK en masse if Jeremy Corbyn is elected Prime Minister next month, a senior Conservative Party member warned last weekend. James Cleverly, chairman of the Conservative Party's delegation in Parliament, said that many British Jews would flee the country if Corbyn "got anywhere near the levers of power."

**A 19-year-old Jewish student was attacked Tuesday (Nov 5) night in Germany by a man working out at a gym in southwestern Germany.** The attacker, a gymnast in the town of Freiburg, took the student's kippa from his head and threw it in the trash, shouting at him "Dirty Jew!" and "Get out of here, stinky Jew!" Freiburg Police have launched an investigation into the case.

**A man yelling anti-Semitic epithets tried to break into the Or Torah School in Nice, France, on Tuesday (Nov 5).** Security guards at the school swiftly overcame the intruder and hauled him outside, where he carried on yelling threats until the police came.

**The FBI on Friday arrested Richard Holzer, 27, a self-proclaimed white supremacist who planned to blow up Temple Emanuel in Pueblo, Colo., and poison congregants on Monday (Nov 4).** An undercover agent reached out to Holzer on Facebook in September after investigators noticed a string of hate-filled, anti-Semitic posts he made on social media.

**Security agencies in India have been warned that terror organizations including al-Qaeda and ISIS are planning to attack the Jewish community in India and even kidnap Israeli tourists.**

**The Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) has begun upgrading security at 50 Jewish institutions in 24 countries, following a spike in requests for assistance in the wake of increased anti-Semitic attacks around the world.** The Jewish Agency's Fund for Security Assistance for Jewish Communities was established in 2012 following an attack against a Jewish school in the French city of Toulouse in which an Islamist gunman murdered a rabbi and three children. Since then, the fund has provided assistance at 600 Jewish institutions in 260 communities in 60 countries at a cost of \$13 million, using money from donors in the Jewish diaspora. The funds were used to install security cameras, bulletproof glass, shatter-proof glass, security fences and walls, anti-ramming barriers, guard posts and alarm systems. 50% of the funds have gone to communities in Europe, 12% to countries of the former Soviet Union, 19% to Latin America, and the remainder to the rest of the world.

***Lord, with anti-Semitism exploding in the West, please use it to shake up Jews who are too comfortable to ever consider coming home (Jer. 16:16). Confront all Jewish Zionists who stay in exile with the double-mindedness of their position (Jam. 5:12). Use the upcoming fall feasts in to make Jews in exile "exceedingly abundantly" homesick (Jer. 50:4-5)! Often children and grandchildren are the excuse to stay in exile. Show those who use this excuse that for those very children's sake – it is imperative for them all to return (Jer. 31:16-17). Wake up the Church to its financial responsibility to help the Jews return (Isa. 60:3-6; Rom. 15:27). Give Israel a new government that will fling wide open the doors so that every type of Jew will be able to come home – including the Messianic Jews (Isa. 43:5-7). Speak to the Messianic Jews to be ready to return at Your command (Isa. 35:10; 51:11).***

**“Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will truly plant them in this land with all My heart and all My whole soul. For thus says YHWH: As I have brought all this great evil on this people, so I will bring on them all the good that I have promised them. And fields shall be bought in this land of which you say, It is a desert without man or beast; it is given into the hand of the Chaldeans. Men shall buy fields for silver, and write it in a book, and seal it, and take witnesses in the land of Benjamin, and in the places around Jerusalem, and in the cities of Judah, and in the cities of the mountains, and in the cities of the valley, and in the cities of the south. For I will cause their captivity to return, says YHWH.” (Jeremiah 32:41-44)**

## **9. IRAN UPDATES:**

**Thousands of Iranians chanted "Death to America" near the old USA embassy on Monday (Nov 4), the 40th anniversary of the seizure of the mission.** After Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution, Islamist students stormed the embassy and held 52 Americans hostage there for 444 days. Meanwhile, Iran's parliament approved a measure requiring schoolbooks to inform students about "America's crimes," as lawmakers chanted "Death to America."

**Security forces in Iran closed major routes leading to Pasargadae, the site of Cyrus the Great's tomb, in anticipation of the annual commemoration of the first king of the ancient Persian Empire.** In 2016, a large crowd congregated around the mausoleum and chanted slogans in support of monarchy and national values versus religious government. In subsequent years authorities tried to prevent a gathering. Allies of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei oppose paying any homage to Iran's kings and its pre-Islamic history. **(Note:** USA Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Tuesday (Nov 5) praised Cyrus the Great for his respect "for human rights and religious freedom," adding, "The USA stands with the Iranian people, who are blocked by the regime from celebrating his legacy.") **(Further Note:** Cyrus was the Persian [Iranian] king that allowed the Jews deported and exiled following the ravages of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar II to return to their homeland. This incident reminds the world that the Temple was in Jerusalem, the capital of Judah, and acknowledges the Jewish presence in Israel long before Islam and the Palestinians. This runs counter to the Palestinian narrative which claims that the Jews are not the indigenous people.)

**The International Atomic Energy Agency's top inspector, Massimo Aparo, told diplomats in a closed-door meeting in Vienna on Wednesday (Nov 6) that Iran is evading attempts to discover the source of uranium particles detected at a warehouse in Tehran earlier this year at a site identified by Israel.** The findings threaten to open a new front in the confrontation over Iran's nuclear program. The IAEA has satellite images showing that the Turquz-Abad site where the particles were found was cleared out after Israeli PM Netanyahu presented documents that Mossad spies smuggled out of a secret warehouse in Tehran. **(Note:** Israeli intelligence and national security officials contended Thursday (Nov 7) that the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspections earlier this year, including analysis of samples taken from the site, had shown that Iran stored nuclear material at the Turquzabad site that had been converted from raw uranium but not yet enriched. The Israelis said the material's characteristics and age did not correspond with any nuclear facility previously disclosed by Iran. In other words, the inspection pointed to the existence of a secret Iranian nuclear conversion facility which, if confirmed, amounted to a fresh violation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty's safeguards agreement.)

**PM Netanyahu said on Thursday (Nov 7): "A year ago, speaking at the UN, I exposed Iran's secret nuclear warehouse in Turqezabad. This morning, a special board meeting of the IAEA published its findings on Iran's activities in the no-longer secret facility. The IAEA now confirms that Iran lied. And that Iran continues to lie. Everything I told you a year ago has now been confirmed by the IAEA. The IAEA has confirmed that Iran has been violating the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Iran continues to hide its secret nuclear weapons program. It's time for the nations of the world to resist Iran's aggression and terror. It's time to snap back sanctions. It's time to pressure Iran until it changes its ways. Iran must stop attacking the nations of the Middle East. Iran must stop threatening to destroy Israel. Europe must stop stalling. It must act against Iranian aggression now."**

**Iran, on Monday (4 Nov), announced that it is doubling the number of advanced centrifuges it operates, calling the decision a direct result of President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the nuclear agreement.** Tehran's nuclear chief says its domestically made centrifuge is 50 times faster than those allowed under the 2015 accord. Tehran has gone from producing some 450 grams (1 pound) of low-enriched uranium a day to 5 kilograms (11 pounds), said Ali Akbar Salehi, the head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran.

**After Iran announced Tuesday (Nov 5) it would start injecting uranium gas into over a thousand centrifuges at its fortified Fordo nuclear facility,** the USA State Department said: "Iran has no credible reason to expand its uranium enrichment program, at the Fordo facility or elsewhere, other than a clear attempt at nuclear extortion that will only deepen its political and economic isolation." The UK Foreign Minister said on Tuesday that Iran's actions to reduce commitments to the 2015 nuclear deal "clearly contravene the deal and pose a risk to our national security...Iran needs to stand by the commitments it made and urgently return to full compliance." As well, the head of Iran's nuclear program said Monday (Nov 4) that **Iran is now operating 60 IR-6 centrifuges in violation of the nuclear deal, twice as many as previously known.** An IR-6 can produce enriched uranium 10 times as fast as the IR-1s allowed under the accord.

**Iran has begun to inject uranium gas into advanced centrifuges at the underground nuclear facility at Fordow.** The Atomic Energy Organization (AEO) delivered 2,000 kilos of UF<sub>6</sub> (uranium) to the Fordow plant on Wednesday (Nov 6) under the supervision of United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors. Iranian nuclear chief Ali Akbar Salehi said Tuesday the enrichment would reach five percent at Fordow. The JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) nuclear deal signed by Iran with world powers in 2015 bans nuclear material from Fordow. With the uranium gas entering the centrifuges at midnight the facility will transform in its status from a "permitted research plant" to become instead an active nuclear site.

**Israel is following the developments in the nuclear field in Iran very closely.** If there are visible things happening that Iran declares, there is a likelihood that there is progress and steps being taken by Iran in secret channels as well. This obligates the IDF to develop the military capability to harm Iran's nuclear program if such a need arises. The level of preparedness and possible plans for a military option for action against Iran is again on the table. However, this is a future scenario. The Iranians are still very far from obtaining military nuclear capabilities and so, too, Israeli military action against Iranian nuclear facilities is still distant. At the same time, Israel takes seriously the possibility that Iran may attempt to attack Israeli targets, and therefore, at this stage, this subject stands at the head of all assessments of the security situation in Israel.

**The USA accused Iran of intimidating a nuclear inspector after a woman from the UN atomic agency was blocked from entering the country's main enrichment site and briefly stopped from leaving the country last week.** The USA ambassador to the IAEA, Jackie Wolcott, called the move an "outrageous provocation" and harassment of the agency's monitoring work. Before the nuclear deal, Iran repeatedly denied IAEA inspectors access to sites and accused the agency of sending in spies.

**Iran has been able to successfully embed itself across the Middle East, according to a new 217-page report published Thursday (Nov7) by the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).** "The Islamic Republic of Iran has tipped the balance of effective force in the Middle East in its favour," says the report. It has achieved this "by countering superior conventional forces with influence operations and use of third-party forces." (Note: Iran has developed a capability to conduct warfare in battlefields across the Middle East through third parties. In recent and ongoing conflicts, this effective force has given Iran a strategic advantage over adversaries reliant on conventional capabilities. Its deployment has encountered no effective international response but has consistently delivered Iran advantage without the cost or risk of direct confrontation with adversaries. It has become Iran's weapon of choice. When involved in conflict, Iran calibrates the level and tailors the style of its involvement in such a way as to avoid escalation that could endanger the regime. It has maintained plausible deniability while providing an enduring platform for influence.)

#### **How Iran Keeps Afloat Financially:**

- A year ago, the USA kicked off a "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran. After withdrawing from the Iran nuclear deal in May 2018, in November it re-imposed a raft of economic sanctions squeezing Iranian oil exports and curtailing the country's access to the international financial system.
- Iran expected that other parties to the nuclear deal would help shore up its economy. But European governments could not force private companies to defy USA sanctions. Nor did other friendly governments - China, Russia, and India - pick up the slack. They face little pressure from the oil market to go out on a limb for Iran. Global demand is slowing, supply is abundant, and prices are low - so why risk USA sanctions to buy Iranian oil?
- The International Monetary Fund and World Bank predict that Iran's economy will rebound from a recession to near zero percent growth in 2020. Iran's fluctuating currency, the rial, has stabilized. The Iranian economy stays afloat in part because it is diversified. In 2017, crude oil accounted for 43% of Iranian exports, so Iran's service, agricultural, and non-oil industrial sectors were able to cushion the blow from the collapse of oil revenues under sanctions.
- Moreover, the government can draw upon its \$100 billion of reserves to cover any gaps and to ensure the continued strong social spending that Iranians expect. The writer is an analyst at Eurasia Group.

**According to the State Department's latest 'Country Reports on Terrorism 2018', published last Friday (Nov 1), Iran "has spent nearly one billion dollars per year to support terrorist groups that serve as its proxies and expand its malign influence across the globe...[including] Hezbollah, Hamas, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. It also has engaged in its own terrorist plotting around the world, particularly in Europe. Furthermore, Tehran continued to allow an al-Qaeda facilitation network to operate in Iran, which sends fighters and money to conflict zones in Afghanistan and Syria, and it has extended sanctuary to al-Qaeda members residing in the country."**

**Majid Ghorbani, 60, an Iranian citizen and USA permanent resident, pleaded guilty Monday to violating USA sanctions. Ahmadreza Mohammadi-Doostdar, 39, a dual Iranian-USA citizen, pleaded guilty Oct. 8 to conspiracy and acting as an undeclared agent of the Iranian government, court filings show.** Both were accused of conducting surveillance and collecting information about Americans involved with the Mujahideen-e Khalq, an Iranian dissident group.

**The International Maritime Security Construct (IMSC) - to protect ships transiting the Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and Bab el-Mandeb - was formally launched in response to a series of attacks on vessels and onshore facilities blamed on Iran.** "Over the last six months, we have seen increased threats in these waters," said USA Vice Admiral James Malloy, commander of America's Fifth Fleet, based in Bahrain. Frigates and destroyers will guard critical chokepoints and smaller vessels will patrol the seas, while airborne surveillance will monitor traffic through "high risk areas," the USA Navy said. **Coalition members include the UK, Australia, Bahrain, the UAE and Saudi Arabia.**

**Lest there be any doubt as to the Islamic Republic's sentiments towards the USA, Iran last weekend unveiled new anti-American murals on the walls of the former USA embassy. The accusatory message of the artwork is one of the blood-thirsty USA eager for war and bent on tightening its grip on the world, yet weakening despite its military might.** The new murals were painted in white, red and blue, the colors of the USA. One of them showed a crumbling Statue of Liberty, its right torch-bearing arm having broken off. Another depicted the triangle of the Eye of Providence, the symbol used on the back of the USA dollar bill, in a sea of blood in which skulls are floating. A third showed the American Global Hawk drone that was shot down by Iran in June 2019 over the Strait of Hormuz, with bats flying out of it. Tehran prepared to mark on Mon. 4 Nov. 2019 the 40th anniversary of the hostage crisis, an act that continues to poison Iran-USA relations. On 4 Nov. 1979, less than nine months after the toppling of Iran's American-backed shah, students overran the complex to demand the United States hand over the ousted ruler after he was admitted to an American hospital. It took 444 days for the crisis to end with the release of 52 Americans. The USA broke off diplomatic relations with Iran in 1980.

***Thank You, Father, that the Iranian breaking out of the restraints of the nuclear deal has even the UN and the EU concerned, and now much of the world is now warning of how dangerous this could be (Psa. 50:15). As Iran's leaders respond to sanctions in great pride, use that to bring them down (Prov. 16:18). Iran has used its finances to curse Israel...so we ask You to cut off its ability to provide money to all its terrorist proxies (Num. 24:9; Isa. 14:29-32). Thank You for increased sanctions on Iran's leaders by America. Now confront the EU to join in this righteous effort to stop the world's leading terror sponsoring state (Eccl. 8:11). As per Jeremiah 49:38a, "You are setting Your throne in Iran via the growth of the Body of Messiah." Please watch over the next part of that verse and destroy Iran's "king and princes"! Confound all of Iran's plans and communications that are aimed at destroying Israel (Psa. 129:5). Thank You for sending warnings to Iran through natural disasters: earthquakes, droughts, and floods (Psa. 99:1). Cause an increase in the frustration and anger of the common Iranians to once again protest against their demonically-driven government leaders (Psa. 94:1-11). Continue to grow and protect the Body of Messiah in Iran!***

**"I am going to break the bow of Elam, the mainstay of their might. And I will set my throne in Elam, and destroy their king and officials, says the Lord." (Jeremiah 49:35,38)**

## **10. UNITED NATIONS UPDATES:**

**Pierre Krahenbuhl, a Swiss national who heads UNRWA - the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA), has resigned amid an internal probe into alleged mismanagement and ethical abuses, the UN said** Wednesday (Nov 6). According to an internal confidential report, the allegations include senior management engaging in "sexual misconduct, nepotism, retaliation, discrimination and other abuses of authority, for personal gain, to suppress legitimate dissent, and to otherwise achieve their personal objectives." Several countries suspended their contributions to the cash-strapped UNRWA when reports of sexual misconduct, nepotism, discrimination and other abuses of authority first surfaced. Krahenbuhl will be replaced on an interim basis by Christian Saunders, UNRWA's deputy chief.

**Israel views with great concern the recently published findings of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) investigation into UNRWA, the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson** said Wednesday (Nov 6). These findings strengthen Israel's claims that deep and comprehensive change in the operational model of the agency is required. The recent developments prove that the automatic renewal of UNRWA's mandate for three more years is absolutely absurd, immoral, and unreasonable. Minister of Foreign Affairs Israel Katz stated: "UNRWA's conduct illustrates that the agency is part of the problem, and not part of the solution. The agency perpetuates the refugee issue in a political manner, and in doing so distances any possibility for a future resolution. The international community needs to find a new model that will provide humanitarian assistance to those who truly need it, and must remove from the agenda the futile idea of the return of the refugees."

**The UN General Assembly voted 187-3 on Thursday (Nov 7) to condemn the American economic embargo of Cuba for the 28th year, with the USA, Israel and Brazil voting "no," and Colombia and Ukraine abstaining.** Last year, the assembly voted 189-2 with the U.S. and Israel voting "no." General Assembly resolutions are not legally binding.

***O Lord, deal with the United Nations! Deal with the UNRWA! Deal with the Human Rights committee! Deal with UNESCO! May the many countries in the UN realize that their opposition to Israel is opposition to You...and that will only bring judgment on them! Shake up the whole organization...it continues to be on the wrong path despite the cuts in its budget. We pray that You would move in the lives of the delegates at the UN...bring them to salvation, we pray!***

**"Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling to all the peoples all around... And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all peoples. All who lift it shall be slashed, and all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it." (Zechariah 12:2-3)**

## **11. JORDAN REFUSES ISRAEL'S REQUEST TO EXTEND LAND LEASE IN NAHARAYIM, ARAVA FOR JEWISH FARMERS TO HARVEST CROP**

- Jordan has refused an Israeli request to extend a deadline for return of 25-year leased fields in the northern Arava and Naharayim enclaves, in order to enable the Jewish farmers time to harvest their crops before relinquishing the lands leased from Amman for the past 25 years.

Israel had asked Jordan to allow farmers time to continue to cultivate and harvest their fields until the end of the current agricultural season, about six months. But Jordan has not agreed. Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman al-Safad has suggested to Israel's National Security Adviser Meir Ben-Shabbat at their meeting in Amman on Monday that instead of extending the deadline, Jordan would pay farmers financial compensation for the produce that must be abandoned in the fields.

Safadi reportedly made it clear to Ben-Shabbat that there will no longer be any agreement between the two governments regarding the lands, and that if any agreements are to exist at all, they will be solely between Israeli and Jordanian private companies or farmers.

Israeli farmers in the Jordan Valley received a message on Thursday (Nov 7), however, that effective this coming Sunday, they will no longer be allowed entry to the Naharayim enclave from the Israeli side of the area.

***Father, we pray for a reversal of the decision that Jordan has made. We pray that the leaders of Jordan would realize that blessings will flow onto their country when they bless Israel. Protect the farmers that are caught in the middle of this dilemma, we pray!***

**"For YHWH is our judge, YHWH is our lawgiver, YHWH is our king; He will save us." (Isaiah 33:22)**

## **12. CODEPINK HOOLIGANS DISRUPT SHMULEY BOTEACH INTERVIEW WITH NETANYAHU'S SON**

- PM Netanyahu's son, Yair, on Wednesday (Nov 6) night was in the middle of an interview with Rabbi Shmuel Boteach in New York in a live-streamed conversation on Facebook, when four protesters from the anti-Zionist organization CODEPINK disrupted the event and started shouting at Netanyahu's son.

Code Pink: Women for Peace (a.k.a. CODEPINK) is a leftist NGO that describes itself as a "grassroots peace and social justice movement working to end US-funded wars and occupations." Critics have accused CODEPINK of working closely with "terrorist organizations and state sponsors of terrorism" in Gaza and in Iran. The group endorsed the "Cairo Declaration to End Israeli Apartheid" which calls for a sweeping boycott of Israel.

Rabbi Boteach chastised the CODEPINK activists, who had earlier received his permission to attend the interview peacefully. He told them: "You disgraced yourselves and you disgraced good faith. Unbelievable that you lied to me. Disgusting. Disgusting. Absolutely vile." Boteach added: "For those of you who wonder why Yair goes to war on social media every day, now you see a demonstration, because it's one thing to disagree with Israel's policies, but to have no integrity, to have no truth, to lie through your teeth... I'm astonished."

Before the disruption, Yair Netanyahu said (the following contains translations from the Hebrew transcript offered by Mako): “Not a day goes by that I don’t receive death threats against me or my parents.” He described the media attacks against him: “I was five when my father became prime minister and the media were wicked. The lynching had started and it’s not over yet, and when you’re five it’s more difficult to take. It’s difficult for politicians in their 50s, too, but that’s life and some things are harder.”

***Lord, we ask You to deal with those Jewish organizations and NGOs that are anti-Israel. We pray for their conversion...may their hatred be turned to love when they encounter You, Yeshua. Protect PM Netanyahu and his family at this time of turmoil, we pray!***

“Blessed is YHWH, who has not given us as a prey to their teeth. Our soul has escaped like a bird out of the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. Our help is in the name of YHWH, Maker of heaven and earth.” (Psalm 124:6-8)

### **13. PRAY FOR RAIN IN THE UPCOMING RAINY SEASON:**

***Lord, thank You that the Sea of Galilee is in better shape this year than it was last year at this time. Thank You for the early rains that Israel has already received (Jam. 5:7). We bless You for enabling Israel to be a leader in desalinization techniques. Yet we ask for rain from heaven to fall in all the right areas (Matt. 5:45). Make Israel like the Garden of Eden – as You have promised (Ezek. 36:35) Use an abundance of rain as a sign of Your care and goodness to Your people (Deut. 11:11-12).***

“Be glad then, sons of Zion, and rejoice in YHWH your God, for He has given you the former rain according to righteousness, and He will cause the rain to come down for you, the former rain and the latter rain in the first month. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.” (Joel 2:23-24)

### **14. ISRAEL GOOD NEWS ITEMS:**

PM Netanyahu and his wife Sara on Tuesday (Nov 6) night honoured former Canadian PM Stephen Harper with the dedication of the new JNF-KKL Hula lake preserve visitors center named after Harper. The celebration took place at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in Jerusalem. PM Netanyahu remarked: “Israel has had the great fortune of having new friends from everywhere in the world. We have a great challenge from Iran and the radical Muslims, but we have new friends in the Arab world. We have new friends in Africa, in Asia, in Latin America. “I believe that the best friendship is the one that is not only based on common interests, and there are definitely many of those. I believe that the best friendship is the one that is based on an alliance of values. This is what we have with Canada, and this is what we have with tonight’s guest. We have it in abundance. Stephen, you have stood up for those values time and again. You’re still doing that today. (Note: PM Netanyahu also commented, “Sara is having her birthday today, and you can see our friendship when we celebrate it here with these wonderful friends.”)

**Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations (UN) Nikki Haley was honoured with the World Jewish Congress' (WJC) Herzl Award on Wednesday (Nov 6), hailing the former diplomat's "relentless support for the State of Israel, as a leading voice in the fight against the prevailing double standards and biases within the international community."** Awarding Haley the prestigious prize in a ceremony in New York, WJC President Ronald Lauder addressed Haley as "perhaps the most courageous woman in America today". The Herzl Award recognizes outstanding individuals who work to promote Herzl's ideals for a "safer, more tolerant world for the Jewish people." Haley's tenure at the UN saw the United States moving its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. The former Governor of South Carolina was frequently at the forefront of the fight against an anti-Israel bias in the UN.

**A group of doctors from Canada on Thursday (Nov 7) completed a five-day course at Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's national medical emergency service, and have joined the organization's international emergency unit. The nine doctors include specialists in emergency medicine, internal medicine, family medicine, neurology and orthopedic surgery.** The doctors are now on call and will be deployed with MDA's international emergency unit in case of a mass medical emergency that demands their expertise. MDA's international emergency unit has grown in recent years, with doctors coming from all around the world every year to become part of the unit and help MDA and the State of Israel during a major national disaster. The intense 50-hour course included shifts on intensive care ambulances, a tour of the organization's national control center and a visit to MDA's blood service center. They also took part in a drill in which they practiced treating patients at a disaster site.

**NATO has recognized the Israeli Navy as a key medical-assistance partner in the Mediterranean following a drill held last month practicing emergency evacuation of personnel.** In the drill, held on Oct. 13-23, NATO vessels from the UK, Greece, Romania and Bulgaria simulated medical emergencies at sea with the Israeli Navy.

**PM Netanyahu and Israeli Science and Technology Minister Ofir Akunis welcomed the Israeli robotics team on Wednesday (Nov 6) — students from the Megiddo Regional High School who participated in the First Global Challenge robotics Olympiad in Dubai — at the prime minister's residence.** The FIRST robotics team, which operates under the aegis of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, **won a silver medal at the competition that featured 191 teams, representing 191 countries.** The Israeli team reached the finals and won silver after finishing the preliminary stages with the highest points ranking. The team also won a special prize for its assistance to other groups. Netanyahu congratulated team members, who showed him their medal-winning robot, on their achievements in the competition

**Israeli immunotherapy company Enlivex Therapeutics announced on Monday (Nov 4) a success in trials of a drug for the treatment of severe sepsis,** a life-threatening condition which affects more than 30 million people worldwide each year. Enlivex developed 'Allocetra', which rebalances the immune system using its own natural regulation mechanisms.

- 6 of 43 patients in the trial were treated with Allocetra, while the other 37 matched controls received standard care.
- 11 of 37 (29%) in the control group died during the next 28 days, while none of the Allocetra-treated patients died.

Allocetra treatment also resulted in improved recovery.

**Israeli payments and fraud-prevention solutions provider Riskified announced Tuesday (Nov 5) the completion of a \$165 million funding round.** Riskified has developed payment and fraud-prevention solutions to optimize online purchasing for merchants, banks and consumers. The solutions allow merchants to instantly and accurately distinguish legitimate customers from fraudulent ones.

**Israeli precision agriculture start-up 'Agritask' has completed a \$8.5 million financing round.** Agritask has developed a flexible and integrative data-driven software platform for agronomic management that can integrate with over 40 hardware and software data sources. It supports the entire agricultural production process, from soil fertility management and growth monitoring to harvest logistics.

**Israeli researchers have developed an anti-bacteria coating as a way to combat infections in hospitals and nursing homes.** The coating can be used on bedding, patient gowns, socks and carpets. Aharon Gedanken, a professor of chemistry at Bar-Ilan University, used ultrasonic sound waves to insert the anti-bacteria chemicals into the fabric. The technology can also make surfaces fire-resistant, water-resistant and odor-proof.

**A team of Technion researchers was awarded a gold medal at the International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM) in Boston for producing bee-free honey.** The team, including 12 members from six Technion faculties, developed a sustainable "BeeFree" honey using engineered bacteria, which processes a nectar-like solution using secreted enzymes that mimic the honey bee's stomach environment. The development's significance is magnified by the unexplained decline of the bee populations in many parts of the world. This is the sixth medal the Technion has won since joining the competition in 2012. Teams from some 300 universities from around the world participated in this year's competition.

**Currently, 11,853 international students are studying in Israel** - 6,000 coming for a semester or summer courses and 5,000 studying for full degrees, including almost 800 PhD students.

**IDF soldiers this week rescued a badger that was caught in the fence on the Israel-Syria border in the Golan Heights.** An IDF soldier on patrol in the Tel Saki region noticed the badger struggling to get through the border fence's metal bars on the Syrian side. The Israel Nature and Parks Authority was contacted and sent a volunteer veterinarian. Uriah Vazana, an INPA park ranger, said, "We started the treatment immediately, starting with sedating the badger so she wouldn't resist our rescue attempts. After we got her out, we made sure she was unharmed and later released her near a water source in known badger territory."

**Energean Oil and Gas, the Greek firm developing Israel's offshore Karish field, said Monday (Nov 4) that its appraisal of the Karish North field has increased "recoverable volumes in Israel by 0.9 Tcf of gas plus 34 million barrels of light oil or condensate."**

**Jewish astronaut Jessica Meir, whose father is from Israel, on Friday posted pictures of Israel taken from space.** Israeli President Reuven Rivlin tweeted Sunday: "Dear Jessica, thank you for taking us with you on your space voyage. We are proud of you and send warm regards from Israel."

**Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense Systems on Monday reported that it will supply electro-optic systems for the use of USA Air Force fighter jets, a contract worth approximately \$70 million.** The advanced electro-optic

system, named Litening, will be supplied to the US Air Force in collaboration with the American Northrop Grumman Company. Rafael also received an order for an electronic warfare system from a country in Asia. Both are follow-up orders for already operational systems. Rafael has a variety of operational electro-optic systems, including the 'Litening', 'RecceLite XR' and others, which have proven valuable in combat on numerous occasions and have already been purchased by several countries. The Litening is a multi-spectral airborne targeting and navigational pod. It is fully operational day and night and features advanced sensors capable of performing under adverse weather conditions. To date, thousands of Rafael Litening systems have been sold to dozens of countries around the world, and have accrued over one million operational flight hours on 25 types of aircraft.

***Thank You, that You continue to bless Israel. Thank You that You have chosen to bless the world through the Jewish people. May the world see these inventions and discoveries as a fulfillment of Your promise to Abraham!***

**"The LORD had said unto Abram, 'Get out of your country, from your kindred, and your father's house, unto a land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed'" (Genesis 12:1-3)**