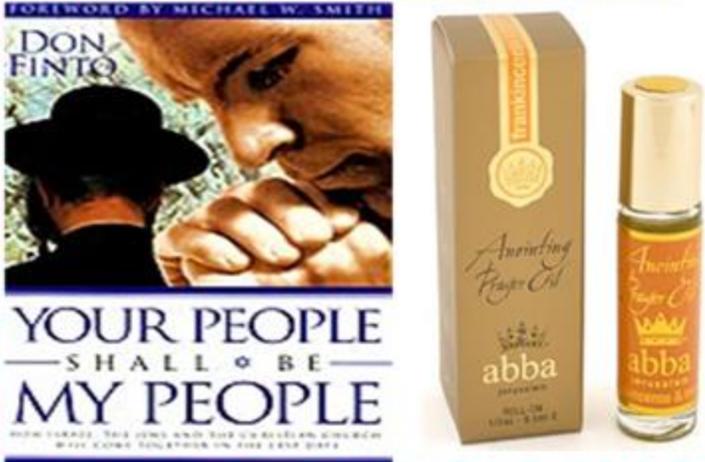


Yachad Ministries'
Israel's News Update January 23, 2014

Yachad Ministries
is now offering free shipping for orders over \$50.00 on all CDs, Books, Jewelry and Judaica items at: www.yachad.com



The advertisement features a book cover on the left and two perfume bottles on the right. The book cover is for 'YOUR PEOPLE SHALL BE MY PEOPLE' by Don Finto, with a foreword by Michael W. Smith. The cover art shows a man in a black hat looking down. The perfume bottles are 'Anointed Prayer Oil' by Abba, one in a box and one in a glass bottle.

13 STABBED IN TERROR ATTACK ON TEL AVIV BUS: 4 BADLY HURT: A Palestinian terrorist armed with a knife stabbed 13 people during rush hour on Wednesday morning in a terror attack on a bus in central Tel Aviv. Four of the victims were badly hurt in the attack. At roughly 7:15 am, Hamza Matrouk, a 22-year-old from the town of Tulkarm, boarded Dan bus number 40 in Tel Aviv. He immediately stabbed the driver and more than a dozen passengers before fleeing the scene. He was quickly tracked down by Israel Prison Service officers present in the area, shot and apprehended. Of the wounded, four are in serious condition, three sustained moderate wounds and the rest were lightly hurt. People were also treated for shock after the attack. (Ynet)

ISRAELI WOMAN STABBED BY PALESTINIAN TERRORIST FIGHTING FOR HER LIFE: A 69-year-old woman stabbed on a bus in Tel Aviv by a Palestinian on Wednesday remains in serious condition and is still fighting for her life. The bus driver, Herzl Biton, 62, is still attached to a respirator and remains in serious condition after being repeatedly stabbed in the stomach. Biton put up a fight with the attacker and afterwards slammed on the brakes, which jolted the attacker who was on his way to the back of the bus crowded with passengers, and enabled many passengers to escape. Daniel Felah, 25, is in serious condition after being stabbed in the stomach. Another man is in serious to moderate condition after suffering a severe stab wound to the stomach. An

additional woman is also hospitalized in moderate condition after undergoing surgery to her neck. (Ynet)

‘I THREW MY BAG AT THE TERRORIST AND SMASHED THE WINDOW,’ SAYS EIGHTH GRADER WHO SURVIVED TEL AVIV ATTACK: Liel Suissa, an 8th grader from Bat Yam, was on his way to his high school Wednesday morning, when a Palestinian terrorist armed with a knife began to attack people on a bus in central Tel Aviv. “I was sitting on the bus and I heard people shouting. The terrorist had suddenly gone to the driver and stabbed him. He was shouting things. I saw him stab the driver, and I ran to the back with others to get away from him. He approached us, I broke the window and got out.” Suissa added: “I threw my bag at the terrorist as he approached so he would not come closer. The driver hit the brakes when the terrorist approached us. The terrorist flew into the air and I used my elbow to break the window so that we could get out. The driver opened the door as well. He chased us even after we left the bus, with the knife in his hand. I ran behind some cars, and when the security guards came to chase him, I pointed to where he had run. They said afterwards they had shot him in the leg. I was nervous at first, but I got over it. It felt like a movie, not like something real. There was a lot of stress.” (Ynet)

BUS TERRORIST: I LEARNED EVERYTHING ON THE INTERNET: Hamza Matrouk, the terrorist who stabbed passengers on a Tel Aviv bus Wednesday morning, learned his craft from the Internet, he told interrogators. Matrouk, who was shot in the leg and arrested as he tried to escape after stabbing a dozen people on a bus in Tel Aviv Wednesday, was apparently a big consumer of online videos relating to Islamic theology, anti-Israel and anti-Semitic philosophy – and training videos on attacking Jews. There are many such training videos circulating on the Internet. In one, translated by Palestinian Media Watch, a video portrays young children wearing uniforms, holding rifles and participating in military training. The children are shown marching and carrying out mock attacks on their “enemies,” and are exhorted to “carry the knife” and “carry machine guns” to attack Israel. Other videos show the specific techniques needed to slash someone’s throat or stab them in the side, what spot to aim for in order to kill someone, etc. Following the Wednesday terrorist attack, in Tulkarm, the home of Matrouk, residents praised the attack, calling the terrorist a “real man” and a “hero.” Likewise, Izzat al-Risheq, a member of Hamas’ political bureau, called the attack “a bold, heroic act.” (Ynet/INN/Ha’aretz)

PALESTINIAN CARTOON PRAISES TEL AVIV STABBING ATTACK: Palestinian media rejoiced Wednesday over the gruesome Tel Aviv stabbing attack with a series of celebratory cartoons. The first cartoon was posted within 90 minutes following the assault. It shows a smiling terrorist holding a bloody knife and praising the attack, which wounded 13 people. The figure stands in front of a sign that reads “Occupied Tel-A-rabia,” a play on the words Tel Aviv, and a bus with the route number of the target bus and a Jewish star. Blood is depicted pouring from the doors and onto the street. Another

caricature shows a smiling cartoon knife next to the text, "Good morning, Palestine" in Arabic. The blade of the knife forms the Palestinian flag, with the red portion made by blood. Behind the cheerful weapon is an Israeli flag covered in blood. Israel's PM Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday: "The terrorist attack in Tel Aviv is the direct result of the poisonous incitement being disseminated by the Palestinian Authority against the Jews and their state. This same terrorism is trying to attack us in Paris, Brussels and everywhere." (PMW/J.Post)

BOEHNER INVITES NETANYAHU TO ADDRESS CONGRESS ON IRAN, AFTER OBAMA VETO THREAT: House Speaker John Boehner announced Wednesday he is inviting Israeli PM Netanyahu to address Congress next month about the threat from Iran, in a sharp rebuke to President Obama. The invitation comes as lawmakers weigh legislation, supported by Republicans and some Democrats, to tee up more sanctions against Iran in case negotiations fail to curtail the country's nuclear enrichment program. Obama vowed Tuesday during his State of the Union address to veto any such legislation. But Boehner signaled he wants Netanyahu to explain the stakes of the debate, as he pledged to press ahead with the legislation. "In this time of challenge, I am asking the prime minister to address Congress on the grave threats radical Islam and Iran pose to our security and way of life."

Critics of Obama and his foreign policy say the president has failed to keep close ties to Israel, a long-time US ally and a key country in providing Middle East stability. Among their concerns is that the Obama administration has not done enough to curb Iran's suspected pursuit of a nuclear weapon. Boehner told members of the GOP House Conference on Wednesday morning: "The president warned us not to move ahead with sanctions on Iran, a state sponsor of terror. His exact message to us was: 'Hold your fire.' He expects us to stand idly by and do nothing while he cuts a bad deal with Iran. Two words: 'Hell no'." He said: "Let's send a clear message to the White House – and the world – about our commitment to Israel and our allies." Netanyahu has accepted the invitation to speak in front of Congress on February 11. (Fox)

IRANIAN MISSILE THAT 'CAN REACH FAR BEYOND EUROPE: Iran has built a 27-meter-long missile capable of delivering a warhead "far beyond Europe," and placed it on a launch pad at a site close to Tehran, Israeli Channel 2 television reported Wednesday, showing what it said were the first satellite images of the missile ever seen in the West. The missile could be used to launch spacecraft or deliver warheads around the world. (Times of Israel)

ARGENTINE PHONE CALLS DETAIL EFFORTS TO SHIELD IRAN: Transcripts of intercepted conversations between representatives of the Iranian and Argentine governments, made public by an Argentine judge on Tuesday, point to a long pattern of secret negotiations to reach a deal in which Argentina would receive oil in exchange for shielding Iranian officials from charges that they orchestrated the bombing of a Jewish community center in 1994. The transcripts are part of a 289-page criminal

complaint written by Alberto Nisman, the special prosecutor investigating the attack, who was found dead in his apartment on Sunday, the night before he was to present his findings to Congress. The complaint asserts that the negotiators included Argentine intelligence operatives and Mohsen Rabbani, a former Iranian cultural attaché in Argentina charged with helping to coordinate the bombing. (NY Times)

TEN ISRAELI TOURISTS HURT IN ANTISEMITIC ATTACK IN ARGENTINA:

Three assailants burned, robbed and beat ten Israeli tourists in an anti-Semitic attack at the Onda Azul hostel in Lago Puelo, in southern Argentina, on Monday, local media reported. The attackers, neighborhood residents who live very close to the hostel, also threw stones and Molotov cocktails, and shot guns at the site. (JTA)

70 CHURCHES DESTROYED IN ‘ANTI-CHARLIE HEBDO’ PROTESTS:

The Christian community in Niger says it is in shock in the wake of last weekend violence that claimed the lives of 10 people and led to the destruction of dozens of places of worship and Christian homes. The protest, which started in the country's second city, Zinder, on Friday, Jan. 16, quickly spread to surrounding areas before reaching the capital Niamey on Saturday. At least ten people died, and 45 churches burned down in the two days of violence, police said. But information gathered by World Watch Monitor revealed that more than 70 churches were destroyed, along with numerous Christian schools and organizations, including an orphanage "The Good Samaritan" run by the Assembly of God Church. The 40 children of the orphanage are currently in "disarray" under the care of police. Over 30 Christian homes were believed to be looted and burnt down. Those affected say the violence has left them with "only the clothes on our backs." (Charisma)

YEMENI PRESIDENT ABD RABOH MANSUR HADI, WHO THE WHITE HOUSE HAS CALLED A STRONG PARTNER IN FIGHTING TERRORISM,

and his government resigned Thursday in the face of attacks by the Iran-backed Houthis. The Houthis have reportedly been trained, financed, and armed by Iran since 2011, and their slogan is "God is great, death to America, death to Israel, damn the Jews, victory to Islam." A member of the Iranian parliament, Ali Reza Zakani, who is close to Khamenei, said that Sanaa has become the fourth Arab capital to join the Iranian Revolution (after Beirut, Damascus, and Baghdad). A senior Iranian official told Reuters that a "few hundred" military personnel of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' (IRGC) Quds Force (designated a terrorist organization by the U.S. Treasury Department) are in Yemen to train Houthis and that approximately 100 Houthis have trained near the Iranian city of Qom. An intelligence source told the paper Asharq Al-Awsat last September that Hezbollah operatives were fighting in Yemen alongside the Houthis. Ali Akbar Velayati, a senior international affairs advisor to Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, made statements intimating that he believes the Houthis will play a role in Yemen analogous to the one Hezbollah plays in Lebanon. Also Thursday, Houthi fighters launched an attack against a Yemeni government base in Marib province, east of Sanaa, an area that contains

much of Yemen's oil infrastructure. The Houthis' leader, Abdul Malik al-Houthi, had threatened Hadi Tuesday night with further "measures" if the latter did not agree to capitulate to Houthi demands. Earlier Thursday, the Houthis had agreed to, and then backed out of, a deal. The Houthis, members of the Zaydi branch of Shia Islam, captured Sanaa last September. After agreeing to join the government in November, Houthi fighters launched an assault on Monday against government forces that culminated in the seizure and encirclement of the presidential palace on Tuesday.

A FEDERAL JUDGE IN ARGENTINA RELEASED A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT YESTERDAY ALLEGING THAT THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT HAD ATTEMPTED TO NEGOTIATE A DEAL WITH IRAN THAT WOULD WHITEWASH IRAN'S ROLE IN THE 1994 BOMBING OF THE AMIA JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, in return for trade deals that would provide Argentina with cheap Iranian oil. The complaint included transcripts of intercepted conversations between officials from the Iranian and Argentinean governments that corroborate this accusation. The complaint was written by Alberto Nisman, who led Argentina's state investigation into the attack in 2006 and who died under mysterious circumstances that Argentinean President Cristina Kirchner said was not a suicide. His earlier investigation had concluded that the Iranian regime and Hezbollah were responsible for the AMIA bombing, which killed 85 people. The investigation led to the indictment of eight high-level Iranians, including former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and former Defense Minister Ahmad Vahidi. Interpol put out arrest warrants for them. However, in 2013 the Argentinean government agreed to set up a joint commission with Iran, the very country accused of carrying out the attack, to investigate the bombing. Many found this to be a travesty of justice. An Argentine court later ruled that the joint commission was unconstitutional, and Interpol refused to lift the arrest warrants they had issued.

NISMAN WAS SCHEDULED TO PRESENT EVIDENCE AT A CONGRESSIONAL HEARING IN BUENOS AIRES THIS WEEK in support of his allegations that President Kirchner and Foreign Minister Foreign Minister Hector Timerman were trying to absolve Iran of its involvement in the 1994 bombing. But the day before the hearing, Nisman was found dead in his apartment with a gunshot wound to his head. No suicide note was found and no gunpowder residue was detected on his hands. The service door to his apartment was not fully locked and a third entrance to his home was found which connected his apartment to another apartment that was occupied by a foreign national. Police are currently investigating a footprint and fingerprint found inside this passageway. Nisman had been receiving death threats for years from Iranians. Iran has expanded its influence in Latin America where it maintains intelligence networks that conduct terror attacks on targets in the Western Hemisphere.

CLOUD STORAGE PROVIDER DROPBOX HAS ACQUIRED ISRAELI STARTUP CLOUDON FOR AN UNDISCLOSED PRICE. The Herzliya-based cloud service offers users the tools to edit Microsoft Office documents from their mobile

devices. The CloudOn team thanked its users in a blog post while announcing the buyout. “From the beginning, my co-founders and I built CloudOn to change the way people edit, create, organize and share docs on any platform,” writes CloudOn CEO Milind Gadekar. “What we’ve achieved alongside our 9 million users – the driving force behind CloudOn – has been pretty incredible: over 90 million documents have been edited, created or shared on CloudOn.” CloudOn announced that it will close its service on March 15, 2015 and transition its users to Dropbox. According to reports, Dropbox hosts more than 35 billion Office documents on its servers. (via Israel21c)

DURING A HEARING AT THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, Ranking Member Senator Robert Menendez (D -NJ) said “the more I hear from the administration in its quotes, the more it sounds like talking points that come straight out of Tehran.” Menendez’s comments come a day after President Obama delivered his annual State of the Union address, in which the President vowed that he would veto any conditional sanctions legislation. In his State of the Union speech, President Obama said that “we’ve halted the progress of its nuclear program.” However, many experts say the Iranian nuclear program has not been halted. The Joint Plan of Action (JPOA) allows Iran to continue to enrich uranium to 3.5% and according to the Institute for Science and International Security, Iran has produced enough enriched uranium for almost two bombs in the last year. The JPOA did not halt Iran’s ballistic missile development, the Associated Press reports that Iran has continued construction for the Arak reactor which is now 87% complete, and President Rouhani recently announced that Iran will build two new reactors. To restore the P5+1’s leverage, Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Menendez are co-sponsoring the Nuclear Weapon Free Iran Act of 2015, which would re-impose sanctions waived against Iran during the interim agreement, if negotiations fail to produce an agreement by July 6th. The legislation would include no new sanctions during the course of the negotiations extension and would also include a presidential waiver. During the Senate hearing, Senator Menendez claimed that Iran’s “breakout time is shorter than the amount of time it would take to make new sanctions.” Additionally, Senator Corker (R –TN) stated that he wants to pursue legislation that would allow Congress to weigh in on any potential deal with Iran. However, Deputy Secretary of State Antony Blinken stated that the administration opposes a congressional up-or-down vote on a nuclear deal.

AT LEAST 17 ISRAELIS WERE INJURED WEDNESDAY WHEN A PALESTINIAN TERRORIST BOARDED A TEL AVIV BUS AND ATTACKED COMMUTERS WITH A KNIFE BEFORE BEING APPREHENDED BY ISRAELI POLICE. In recent months, there has been increased incitement to violence by Palestinian Authority (PA) and Fatah officials, which was recognized by Secretary of State John Kerry in the aftermath of November’s attack on the Har Nof synagogue. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cast blame for the latest attack on the leadership of the PA: “The terrorist attack in Tel Aviv is a direct result of the poisonous incitement being disseminated by the Palestinian Authority against the Jews and their

state.” Several members of Hamas, a terrorist organization which has joined the PA unity government, praised the attack, including Izzat al-Rishq, based in Qatar, who called it “heroic and brave.” Cartoons appeared in the Palestinian media glorifying the attack. Mark Regev, Prime Minister Netanyahu’s spokesman, said, “Hamas, by praising this morning’s attack, is once again demonstrating what Hamas is: a brutal and vicious terrorist organization...President Abbas...cannot have it both ways. He can’t link arms with world leaders in Paris to condemn terror when he links arms with Hamas back at home.” The assailant was identified as 23-year-old Hamza Mohammed Hassan Matrouk, a resident of the Tulkarm refugee camp in the West Bank. In a CCTV video, Matrouk can be seen stabbing a pedestrian in the back while being chased by officers of the Israel Prison Service who happened to be nearby. In an initial interrogation, Matrouk reportedly told Israeli police that he was motivated by, among other things, the recent tensions in Jerusalem. The chairman of the Labor Party and leader of the opposition in the Knesset, Isaac Herzog, called for an “uncompromising war on terror, in any place where there is a threat on Israelis.”

THIS MONTH, TWO ISRAELI PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES RECEIVED GOOD NEWS FROM THE US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA).

Jerusalem’s Gamida Cell was granted orphan product development status for NiCord, its enriched stem-cell treatment for acute lymphoblastic leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia, Hodgkin lymphoma and myelodysplastic syndrome. Orphan drug designation promotes the development of promising products for the treatment of rare diseases or conditions. Misgav-based cCAM Biotherapeutics got the green light to proceed with a Phase 1 trial for CM-24, a first-in-class immunomodulatory monoclonal antibody for treating various types of cancers. Gamida Cell develops cell-therapy technologies and products for transplantation and adaptive immune therapy. The company’s pipeline of products in development address conditions including blood cancers, non-malignant hematological diseases such as sickle-cell disease and thalassemia, neutropenia and acute radiation syndrome, autoimmune diseases, solid tumors and genetic metabolic diseases. “Receipt of orphan drug status for NiCord in the US and Europe advances Gamida Cell’s commercialization plans a major step further, as both afford significant advantages,” said Gamida Cell president and CEO Dr. Yael Margolin. Two days after the FDA announcement, Gamida Cell revealed that the first person has been successfully transplanted with cryopreserved (frozen) NiCord in the company’s ongoing Phase I/II clinical study for blood-cancer patients. Until now, NiCord has been transplanted as a “fresh” product that must be infused into the patient within a limited number of hours from the moment the product is released from the manufacturing site. (via Israel21c)

ISRAEL ATTACKS FORCES HEZBOLLAH CLAIMS WEREN’T THERE: An Israel Air Force helicopter gunship fired at least two missiles into the Syrian border town of Quneitra on Sunday, killing a top Hezbollah terrorist commander and a number of his deputies and advisers. Six members of the Iranian Revolutionary guards were also reportedly killed in the strike including an Iranian commander. An Israeli security source

said the terrorists were preparing an attack on Israel and that the airstrike took place near Quneitra, close to the ceasefire line separating Syria and Israel. Hezbollah officials were incensed and vowed that a harsh response would be forthcoming. This was curious, since just days earlier Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah claimed his militia had not deployed any forces to the Syrian side of the Golan Heights. At any rate, Israeli and Western intelligence confirmed the slain commander, Jihad Mughniyeh, son of assassinated Hezbollah operations chief Imad Mughniyeh, had led a large and powerful Hezbollah cell that was planning attacks against northern Israel. Hezbollah officials are calling the younger Mughniyeh's death "an unbearable blow," and threatening revenge against the Jewish state. Hezbollah "will launch between 4,000–5,000 rockets at Israel and will destroy hundreds of targets per day." Hezbollah is estimated to have a stockpile of well over 50,000 missiles. (Israel Today)

IRANIAN REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CHIEF: ISRAEL SHOULD EXPECT DESTRUCTIVE THUNDER BOLTS: Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari, the commander of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) warned Tuesday that Israel could expect a "destructive" response for its role in firing at a military convoy in Syria's Quneitra on Sunday. Members of the elite unit were among those killed in an Israeli air strike attack on Hezbollah and Iranian operatives on the Syrian Golan Heights, Sunday. "The Revolutionary Guard is committed to the annihilation of the Zionist regime," Iranian media quoted Jafari as saying. "Zionists," the general warned, "should expect destructive thunderbolts." Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani said Israel was not only behind Sunday's air strike in Syria, but was also responsible for "all acts of terror" in the Middle East. Israel has not confirmed that it carried out the strike, however PM Benjamin Netanyahu has said Israel would not give up its right to defend itself against all those who wish to propagate terror and other attacks against its citizens or its territory. (Jerusalem Post)

REPORT: ISRAEL MOVES IRON DOME BATTERIES TO NORTH: Israel has deployed Iron Dome anti-missile defense systems in the country's north out of fear of retaliation following an alleged Israeli airstrike on Syria. An Iranian general and at least five Hezbollah members were killed in Sunday's attack. The Hezbollah terrorist organization and Iran have both vowed to retaliate against Israel for the attack. Quneitra, which also is located near the border with Lebanon, has been the site of heavy fighting between government forces and rebels during Syria's civil war. "The IDF is prepared, tracking all developments, and ready to act as needed," IDF Chief of Staff Benny Gantz said Monday. "This statement is not simply a speech - it's a matter of real operational preparedness." (JTA)

SLAIN IRANIAN WAS PLANNING HEZBOLLAH MISSILE BASE: The Iranian general who was killed in an Israeli airstrike near the border with the Golan Heights on Sunday was a ballistic missile expert who was visiting Syria as part of a project to set up a missile base near the border with Israel, according to a Tuesday report. General

Mohammed Ali Allahdadi, whom Tehran acknowledged was killed in an Israeli missile strike along with several Hezbollah fighters, was tasked with building four new Hezbollah missile bases near the Israel-Syria frontier. The Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps claimed Allahdadi was ostensibly dispatched to Syria to “provide military advice to the Syrian government and nation in their war with radical Sunni terrorists, and provided valuable analysis and advice in neutralizing the plots of the Zionist-backed conspiracy in the Syrian soil.” Israeli defense officials said the country is on high alert for possible strikes from the Lebanon-based Hezbollah. The fact that at three high-ranking IRGC officers were killed in Sunday’s attack highlights once more that Iran perceives Syria and Lebanon as Tehran's first line of defense against Israel. (Times of Israel)

GAZANS RALLY AGAINST FRANCE, PRAISE ISLAMIC STATE: Hamas allowed a rally on Monday by Salafi jihadists in Gaza in support of Islamic State and the deadly attacks by three Islamist gunmen in France. Demonstrators held aloft posters of the gunmen and burned French flags outside the French cultural center. "You have to await more heroes of Islam, you worshippers of the Cross," the crowd chanted. Islam "orders us to punish and kill those who offend Islam's Prophet Mohammad," said Abu Abdallah al-Makdissi. Many of the activists wore uniforms similar to those of Islamic State fighters. (Reuters)

JERUSALEM: VISITING JAPANESE PM DEMANDS RELEASE OF JAPANESE CITIZENS HELD CAPTIVE BY ISIS: Japanese PM Shinzo Abe in Jerusalem called on the Islamic State to release two Japanese hostages immediately and said the demand for a \$200 million ransom is “an unacceptable act of terrorism.” The Islamic State, or ISIS, on Tuesday morning posted a video on social media demanding that Japan pay the ransom for the hostages within 72 hours or the men would be executed. In the video, a masked man standing between the two kneeling men in orange prison jumpsuits directly addresses Abe, criticizing his decision to join the US-led coalition against ISIS. The hostages reportedly are freelance journalist Kenji Goto Jogo and rebel military consultant Haruna Yukawa. Abe on Saturday had pledged \$200 million in non-military aid for countries contending with Islamic State. Abe told the Jerusalem news conference that Japan would go ahead with the aid which is aimed at providing food and medical services in order to save those people in the region who have lost their homes and become refugees. “I believe this is the aid that is most needed by refugees," he added (JTA)

EU MINISTERS CALL FOR ANTI-TERRORISM ALLIANCE WITH MUSLIM STATES: EU ministers called Monday for an alliance with Muslim countries to fight the growing Islamist terrorist threat, with Europe on high alert after the deadly Paris attacks and anti-terrorism raids in Belgium. As Belgian troops patrolled the streets in the EU headquarters Brussels and other cities, the focus for the 28-nation European Union was how to prevent battle-hardened citizens returning home from the Syria and Iraq. The Arab League's secretary general was at the talks, which are being held less than two weeks after three French gunmen who caused carnage in Paris claimed they were acting

on behalf of the Al Qaeda and Islamic State (ISIS) terror groups. EU foreign affairs head Federica Mogherini said: "We need to strengthen our way of cooperating together, first of all with Arab countries but also internally," she told reporters. "The terrorist threat is not only the one we faced in Paris but also spreading in many other parts of the world." Belgium has led efforts to forge a European response to the threat and Monday's meeting will help prepare for a special summit on February 12 dedicated to fighting terrorism. But so far many EU states have been reluctant to open up their intelligence networks to anyone except their most trusted allies for fear of harmful leaks. (Arutz-7)

ARGENTINA PROSECUTOR WHO LEVELED IRAN ACCUSATIONS FOUND

DEAD: A prosecutor who had accused President Cristina Fernandez of shielding Iranian suspects in the nation's deadliest terror attack was found dead of a gunshot wound in his Buenos Aires apartment late Sunday. Sources said there was no indication anybody else was involved in the death. Alberto Nisman's body was discovered hours before he was to testify in a Congressional hearing about the 1994 bombing of the country's largest Jewish center. The death came only five days after Nisman accused President Fernandez and Foreign Minister Hector Timerman of reaching a deal with Iran that shielded some officials from possible punishment for the attack that killed 85 people and wounded more than 200. On Dec. 25, 2007, Nisman spoke at the Jerusalem Center about the cover-up. Opposition Congresswoman Patricia Bullrich said Nisman told her he had received threats after denouncing the president. Israel's foreign ministry expressed "deep sorrow" over Nisman's death, calling him "a courageous, venerable jurist who acted with determination to expose the identities of the terrorists and their dispatchers." Nisman was appointed 10 years ago by Fernandez's late husband, then President Nestor Kirchner, to investigate the 1994 bombing of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association in Buenos Aires. Argentina has one of the largest concentrations of Jews outside of Israel, with estimates ranging around 200,000, mostly in Buenos Aires. (CBS)

100 GREAT GRANDCHILDREN: Israelis Michael (92) and Marion (90) Mittwoch have recently celebrated the birth of a new great-grandchild – their 100th. After escaping Nazi Germany, the Mittwochs immigrated to Israel where they became the first couple to be married at Kibbutz Lavi. All children and grandchildren live in Israel. (Ynet)

A CONVOY OF HEZBOLLAH VEHICLES TRAVELING ALONG THE ISRAEL-SYRIA BORDER WAS HIT BY AN ISRAELI AIRSTRIKE ON SUNDAY,

according to reports, killing six Hezbollah members and several members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), including senior commanders expert in missiles and cross-border raids. Israel has not formally taken responsibility for the strike, which occurred within the context of escalating Israeli-Hezbollah tensions and three days after Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah declared that Hezbollah would "enter into Galilee and...go even beyond the Galilee." Israeli military analyst Amos Harel wrote an analysis last December indicating that Hezbollah has built up a terror infrastructure in the Golan Heights with Syrian and Iranian assistance. Among the dead was Jihad

Mughniyeh, Hezbollah's commander in the Golan Heights, a rising star in the organization and the son of Imad Mughniyeh, Hezbollah's international operations chief who was assassinated in Damascus in 2008. Iran confirmed on Tuesday that one of the dead was Mohammed Ali Allahdadi, an IRGC general who had been consulting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad "on how to rid their country of Salafist terrorists," according to Sepah News, the IRGC's official news agency. He was reportedly a close confidant of Qassem Suleimani, the head of the IRGC's Quds Force. Allahdadi was a ballistic missiles expert and was reportedly ordered to establish four Hezbollah missile bases on the Israel-Syria border. Israel's Channel 2 said Tuesday night that the strike was targeting this project, which was being facilitated by Mughniyeh and another Hezbollah commander killed in the strike, Mohammed Issa. Another Iranian among the dead was Colonel Ali Tabatabai, the commander of the IRGC's Radwan units in Lebanon, special forces that specialize in raids and small-unit tactics. Eyal Ben-Reuven, a retired Israeli major general, stated on Monday that the presence of the Iranian officials in the Golan Heights could mean that they were intent on "an operation against Israel on a high level." Western intelligence officials were quoted as saying that Jihad Mughniyeh was planning future attacks against Israel. Hezbollah's al-Manar TV reported that the convoy was conducting a "field reconnaissance mission."

THE WASHINGTON POST AND THE WALL STREET JOURNAL EDITORIAL BOARDS RESPONDED WITH SKEPTICISM OVER PRESIDENT OBAMA'S OPPOSITION TO NEW CONDITIONAL LEGISLATION THAT COULD IMPOSE ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON IRAN. Both pieces take aim at President Obama's logic for threatening to veto legislation that would only take effect if nuclear negotiations fail while claiming that the bill itself would undercut the nuclear negotiations. The Washington Post, in its editorial piece on Saturday, wrote, "The logic of that argument has always been a little hard to follow, since the measure the Senate is likely to take up... would mandate new sanctions only if Iran failed to accept an agreement by the June 30 deadline established in the ongoing talks." At his press conference on Friday, President Obama said that Iran could interpret new legislation as a violation of the Joint Plan of Action (JPOA) which might result in a collapse of the negotiations. However, The Washington Post challenges this view, asserting that "Common sense suggests the certain prospect of more punishment for an already-damaged economy would make the regime of Ali Khamenei more rather than less likely to offer the concessions necessary for a deal." The Wall Street Journal wrote that "Passing the bill now could help persuade Iranian negotiators that they cannot string the West along indefinitely without paying a price. Would that cause Iran to walk away from negotiations? That's a strange argument coming from an Administration that boasts that Iran agreed to the interim deal thanks to the bite of strong sanctions." At the press conference, the President also expressed concern that the current sanctions imposed could unravel if talks were to collapse, which he claims would happen as a result of the new legislation. Obama said that America's partners might not be willing to continue implementing sanctions. The Wall Street Journal responded with, "As for Western unity,

it must not be all that firm if it would collapse following a display of Congressional support for the very goal the P5+1 claim to favor. Russia didn't walk away from Iran negotiations even when it was hit with Western sanctions, so why would it do so on behalf of Iran?" The current legislation to increase the economic pressure on Iran enjoys significant bi-partisan support.

THE ISRAELI COMPANY EYESIGHT TECHNOLOGIES, (WITH A 50-STRONG STAFF AND OFFICES IN THE US, KOREA, HONG KONG AND JAPAN) A LEADER IN THE FIELD OF COMPUTER- AND MACHINE-VISION SOLUTIONS SINCE 2005, has just launched a new product that might make the clutter of multiple household remote controls a thing of the past. Onecue is a small, unobtrusive, standalone device that interfaces with TV sets, satellite and cable boxes, DVD and Blu-ray players, stereos, Xboxes and other remotely controlled electronic equipment or electrical appliances. Currently compatible with Apple TV, Nest Learning Thermostat, Philips Hue and a number of others, the new gadget — launched at the end of November and listed by CNN as one of 36 “coolest gadgets of 2014” — is a simple tool for today’s “smart” home. “Onecue actually simplifies and consolidates the whole command process,” CEO Gideon Shmuel tells ISRAEL21c at the eyeSight Technologies offices in Herzliya, while demonstrating how it works. With the opening and closing of his fist, or a wave of his hand, Shmuel changes screens on his computer, selects a TV station, turns it on, shuts it off – and even lowers the volume with a quick “shhhh” gesture of finger to lips. In fact, Onecue is built to enable users to turn on three separate devices simultaneously, all through the movement of one’s palm and fingers. Its technology is so advanced that it does not respond to random hand movements – or those made inadvertently by others in the vicinity – but recognizes the intentions of its user, conveyed by his or her specific gestures. (via Israel21c)

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