

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update July 31, 2015



NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN ALL OVER AGAIN: The Neville Chamberlain story has been used appropriately and astutely in regards to the Obama/Kerry Deal with Iran. Who was Neville Chamberlain? He served as British Prime Minister from 1937 to 1940. He signed the Munich Agreement in 1938 surrendering the Sudetenland to the Nazis as a means of appeasement. He believed war should be avoided at all costs much as President Obama espouses. Indeed, the President is frighteningly similar to Neville Chamberlain in many ways. Just as Chamberlain scaled back the military as Germany was advancing theirs, so too has the President. Chamberlain said, "The longer the war is put off the less likely it is to come at all." Both the President and his Secretary of State have stated and intimated that it is this Deal with Iran or War. Kerry has said this is a "good deal for the world." Chamberlain said the deal with Germany would lead to "peace for our time." In Vienna Secretary of State Kerry said that, I went to war and it became clear to me that I never wanted to go to war again. That's what this was all about; trying to settle these matters through diplomacy and peaceful means."

Chamberlain wrote to his sister that "Hitler definitely liked me and thought he could do business with me." Kerry must have the same notion about the Iranians. William Manchester wrote about Chamberlain, "more than any man except Hitler-and Hitler could not have done it without him-Chamberlain was responsible for the transformation of Germany into the most powerful military state in Europe." It is eerily similar to what is now happening to Iran thanks to the President and his Secretary of State. Iran is being transformed into a Superpower by our [America's] very own leaders. (Israel National News)

KERRY HAS 'INTENSE EXCHANGE' WITH JEWISH LEADERS OVER IRAN DEAL: Secretary of State John Kerry had an "intense exchange" when he tried to sell the Iran nuclear deal to skeptical Jewish leaders in New York. A day after GOP senators

blasted him for getting “fleeced” by Iran, Kerry faced another tough crowd in a closed-door meeting with about 120 Jewish leaders at the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. “It was a very intense, serious exchange,” the group’s vice chairman, Malcolm Hoenlein, told reporters. Kerry faced pointed questions from a crowd of Israel supporters concerned that the deal could allow Iran to get relief from sanctions while still maintaining a nuclear infrastructure that could threaten Israel. One critic was former Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman, Kerry’s former Senate colleague, who “made some impassioned comments,” against the deal according to Hoenlein. The State Department requested the meeting as the Obama administration works to secure enough support in Congress to fend off a motion of disapproval and prepares for a possible override of a promised presidential veto. Earlier, at the Council of Foreign Relations, Kerry said Israel would get the blame if Congress votes down the nuclear deal. (NY Post)

STEINITZ: ISRAEL NOT TO BE MUZZLED CONCERNING ISSUES OF

NATIONAL SECURITY: Efforts to muzzle Israeli voices in the USA debate over the Iran nuclear accord are unacceptable, illogical and even immoral, Energy and Water Minister Yuval Steinitz told Israel Radio on Sunday, 26 July, 2015. "To demand from a country which Iran threatens publicly to destroy, to wipe it off the map, that it not express its opinion on something so relevant for our national security, future and existence, is an illogical and even immoral demand. This hint that if the agreement will be rejected by Congress, then Israel will turn into a scapegoat, is unacceptable to us," he said. "Congress is sovereign to make any decision. If it rejects it that means there is a big majority among the Republicans and also many Democrats who think the accord is full of holes, and needs to be rejected." USA Secretary of State John Kerry’s said Friday, 24 July, 2015 during a speech at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York, “I fear that what could happen is if Congress were to overturn the deal, our friends in Israel could actually wind up being more isolated and more blamed.” The talk at the Council of Foreign Relations came hours after Kerry warned Israel that a unilateral strike on Iran's covert nuclear program would be a "huge mistake." (J.Post/INN)

HUCKABEE LASHES BACK AT OBAMA: TAKE IRAN THREAT SERIOUSLY:

USA presidential candidate Mike Huckabee lashed back at President Barack Obama on Monday, 27 July, 2015, noting that Obama does not regard the Iranian nuclear threat. "What's 'ridiculous and sad' is that President Obama does not take Iran's repeated threats seriously," Huckabee said. "For decades, Iranian leaders have pledged to 'destroy,' 'annihilate,' and 'wipe Israel off the map' with a 'big Holocaust.' 'Never again' will be the policy of my administration and I will stand with our ally Israel to prevent the terrorists in Tehran from achieving their own stated goal of another Holocaust," he added. The back-and-forth between the two began Sunday, 26 July, 2015 when Huckabee stated that the Iran deal "will take the Israelis and march them to the door of the oven." Obama called the remarks "sad" and "ridiculous" in a response hours later. (Arutz-7)

USA SILENT AFTER KHAMENEI'S 'AMERICA SUICIDE' TWEET: The Obama administration remained silent Sunday, 26 July, 2015 more than 24 hours after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei published a humiliating and intimidating graphic on his Twitter feed, showing a silhouette of USA President Barack Obama pointing a gun to his own head. The combined texts of the tweet and graphic read: "USA president has said he could knock out Iran's military. We welcome no war, nor do we initiate any war, but if war happens, the one who will emerge loser will be the criminal USA." The tweet indicates that Iran is continuing the intimidating psychological warfare against the USA that typified the negotiation process that led to an agreement to gradually allow Iran to develop nuclear weapons. Reports from the negotiations told of explosive outbursts by the Iranian negotiators against the USA team. (Arutz-7)

PALESTINIAN RIOTERS ATTACK POLICE ON TEMPLE MOUNT: Dozens of masked Palestinians hurled rocks, firebombs and firecrackers at police at the Temple Mount compound in Jerusalem Sunday morning, 26 July, 2015 before being pushed back into the Al-Aqsa Mosque by security forces. The Palestinians had stockpiled explosives inside the mosque, with the intention of attacking thousands of Jewish worshippers gathered nearby for prayers at the Western Wall on Tisha Av, a fast day that commemorates the destruction of the first and second Jewish Temples. (Times of Israel)

SURPRISE IDF DRILL SIMULATES STRIKES FROM NORTH AND GAZA: Thousands of Israel Defense Forces reservists were required to present themselves to their units in a surprise emergency drill starting Monday, 27 July 2015 that simulated rocket attacks from Lebanon and the Gaza Strip as well as cyber-attacks. The drill is scheduled to end on Wednesday, 29 July, 2015. The exercise was set to simulate incidents in the Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and on the Lebanese border, and throughout Israel. In addition to the thousands of reservists taking part in the exercise, hundreds of thousands more were contacted as part of the drill. A senior officer said that the exercise constituted "the army's largest surprise drill in recent years." During the emergency drill, the Home Command was set to simulate defending attack sites, the air force to practice counter-attacks, and the navy to simulate protecting vulnerable sites. The army's new cyber defense unit was set to simulate a response to a digital attack. The reservists, most of who are company and battalion commanders, received a phone call Monday informing them of the drill, with some required to arrive at emergency locations. (Times of Israel)

IN THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY, ISRAELIS TURN VEGAN: Nana Shrier, owner of the stylish Georgian restaurant Nanuchka in downtown Tel Aviv, shocked Israel's culinary world when she removed all animal-based products from the menu. A year later business is thriving, defying those who predicted its demise. Nanuchka is part of a growing trend that has transformed Israel's financial center into a haven for meatless cuisine. Some 400 food establishments are certified "vegan friendly." Like vegetarians, vegans don't eat meat, but they also eschew animal-based products including eggs, dairy

and honey. Even the Israeli army has started offering vegan meals on its bases and supplies vegan soldiers with leatherless boots and wool-free berets. A study prepared for the Globes newspaper and Israel's Channel Two found five percent of Israelis identify as vegan and 8% as vegetarian while 13% are weighing going vegan or vegetarian. This compares with an estimated 2% of the US and UK populations being vegan and just 1% in Germany. (i24)

DEMOCRATIC LAWMAKERS GRILLED SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN KERRY, ENERGY SECRETARY ERNEST MONIZ, AND TREASURY

SECRETARY JACK LEW on various aspects of the Iran nuclear deal at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on Tuesday. Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) said, "I continue to have concerns that international inspectors will not have immediate access to undeclared sites... That potential length of time [24 days or more] gives me pause. I'd like to know how we can be sure Iran cannot use these delays to sanitize sites and get away with breaking the rules. Already, we're seeing Iran's leadership declare that military sites will be off-limits to inspectors." Brad Sherman (D-Calif.) expressed his concern that there are "a number of entities listed... for their nuclear activities [set to receive sanctions relief] that deserve to be listed for their terrorist activities, it's just you haven't had time to put them on that second list." Ted Deutch (D-Fla.) brought up the question of possible military dimensions (PMDs): "If we don't address PMD..., then it's impossible for us to believe that the IAEA will have the credibility it needs going forward." Deutch is also perturbed by the cash windfall that will accrue to Iran as part of the deal: "It's been reported that \$200 million a year is the amount that they use to fund Hezbollah. So if only \$1 billion... were to go to Hezbollah, we would double the amount of support for five years, at which time the arms embargo comes off and they're considerably more dangerous."

David Cicilline (D-R.I.) questioned the fact that, while the IAEA is to submit its report on whether or not Iran has addressed its concerns on PMDs by December 15, Congress will have to vote whether or not to support the deal at an earlier date. Alan Grayson (D-Fla.) asked Secretary Kerry, "Will implementation of the agreement increase Iran's support for terrorism?", to which Kerry responded, "We have no way to know. I presume, in some places, possibly, only in the sense that they are committed to certain things that we interpret as terrorism, they don't, and we're going to continue to conflict on those issues."

AMERICAN JEWS DISAPPROVE OF THE NUCLEAR DEAL WITH IRAN, AND OVERWHELMINGLY REJECT THE DEAL WHEN PRESENTED WITH MORE INFORMATION ON IT, A NEW POLL HAS FOUND.

The poll, which is the most extensive survey of American Jews and their views on the Iran nuclear deal to date, showed that 47 percent of respondents oppose the nuclear deal, with 44 percent in favor. But when given further background on the deal and its implications, that margin jumped to 58 percent disapproval and only 30 percent approval. The poll was produced on behalf of The Israel Project, which publishes The Tower. Earlier today, Algemeiner broke

excerpts of the poll earlier, comparing it to less rigorous polling data about the Jewish American community that has been circulating lately. In addition to showing significant opposition to the deal, today's poll shows, in the words of Algemeiner, "that the more [American Jews] know about it, the less they like it." The survey of 1,034 people was conducted by Olive Tree Strategies on behalf of pro-Israel advocacy group The Israel Project. It claims a margin of error of 3 percent, and is the most extensive yet to be conducted on the issue. It comes as a wide array of U.S. Jewish groups have announced opposition to the deal, which is believed to endanger Israel and U.S. security. ...

Speaking to The Algemeiner about the poll, Omri Ceren, managing director of press and strategy at The Israel Project, said, "The more that Jewish Americans learn about the details of the Iran deal, the more they believe that Congress should reject it." According to Ceren, the "poll shows that when you educate Jewish Americans about the downsides of the deal, which ultimately involve funding and arming the Iranian regime, they end up deciding that the costs are not worth the very unlikely benefits."

TIP's poll surveyed 1,034 more than twice as many respondents as other recent polls of the American Jewish community.

While nearly 60 percent of respondents approved of President Barack Obama's overall performance, 49 percent disapproved of his handling of foreign policy (compared to 44 percent approval). Respondents disapproved of his managing of the nuclear issue by a margin of 52 to 42 percent.

Respondents wanted Congress to reject the deal by a 45 to 40 percent margin. But when arguments from the White House in favor of the deal, and from opponents of the deal, were presented to respondents, support for rejecting the deal rose to 51 percent. And once specific concerns about the deal were introduced to the survey, only 30 percent still supported approving the deal, while 58 percent wanted Congress to reject the deal and not lift sanctions on Iran. The poll showed that the top two concerns about the deal are the lifting of the arms embargo in eight years, which will allow Iran to acquire ballistic missiles that are needed only as a delivery system for nuclear weapons, and the release of \$100 to \$150 billion in frozen funds, which would allow Iran to give even more support to international terror.

The polling data is available [here](#). A series of charts explaining the polling results are available [here](#). (via [TheTower.org](#))

NEW RECORDS FOR ISRAELI HIGH-TECH INVESTMENTS AS 179 COMPANIES RAISE \$1.12 BILLION IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2015, according to the IVC-KPMG Israeli High-Tech Capital Raising Survey. The quarterly amount exceeded former record high \$1.11 billion invested in Q4/2014. "Fifty percent of the amount raised during this quarter, and even more since the beginning of 2015, results from large deals of \$20 million or more raised per round. The overall number of growth companies attracting investments continues to increase quarter over quarter, reflecting the health of the venture-backed ecosystem in Israel and the patience of investors supporting their portfolio companies to complete homeruns and grow into 'Unicorns' that are

substantial and mature,” said Ofer Sela, partner at KPMG Somekh Chaikin’s Technology group. In the first half of 2015, 342 Israeli high-tech companies attracted \$2.1 billion in investments compared to \$1.6 billion raised by 334 companies in the same time frame the year before. IVC-KPMG’s analysis of investors by type showed that foreign private equity funds and corporate investors were responsible for \$477 million or nearly 43 percent of the total investments in Q2/2015. Most of the increase in capital raising in the second quarter can be attributed to two exceptionally large deals, where private equity funds invested in growth-stage companies,” said Koby Simana, CEO of IVC Research Center. “Moreover, an investor profile analysis we conducted shows an impressive increase in the number of foreign private equity funds investing directly in Israeli technology companies – i.e., in deals where the equity capital is placed directly in the company, rather than shareholder equity changing hands.” (via Israel21c)

KERRY WARNS ISRAEL: STRIKE ON IRAN WOULD BE ‘ENORMOUS MISTAKE’: Less than a day after indicating in a Senate hearing that the Iran nuclear deal would have the USA defend Iran from Israel, Secretary of State John Kerry warned Israel on Friday, 24 July, 2015 that a unilateral strike on Iran's covert nuclear program would be a "huge mistake." Appearing on the NBC "Today" TV show, Kerry was asked if the recently signed Iran nuclear deal would make it more likely that Israel will either physically strike Iran's nuclear facilities, or else launch a cyber-attack against them. "That'd be an enormous mistake, a huge mistake with grave consequences for Israel and for the region, and I don't think it's necessary," Kerry replied ominously.

Israeli concerns about the deal have continued to grow, particularly after it was revealed in the hearing that in classified sections of the deal the USA agreed to let Iran test its own covert nuclear facilities where nuclear detonation tests have occurred. Senior Israeli diplomats responded to the revelation with fury, stating that the deal stipulations that Iran will not be subject to any real inspections. Concerns over the agreement were also raised amid the revelation Friday, 24 July, 2015 that in Syria, where the Iran-backed regime was allowed through similar self-disclosure to get rid of its chemical weapons arsenal, a large portion of the arsenal was hidden while deceiving the West. (Arutz-7)

KERRY: IF CONGRESS REJECTS IRAN DEAL, ISRAEL WILL BE BLAMED: USA Secretary of State John Kerry on Friday, July 24, 2015 July, warned that if Congress does not approve the deal recently signed with Iran, Israel might be blamed for it and become more isolated. Kerry’s comments came in a speech at the Council of Foreign Relations in New York. “I fear that what could happen is if Congress were to overturn the deal, our friends in Israel could actually wind up being more isolated and more blamed,” he said. “And we would lose Europe and China and Russia with respect to whatever military action we might have to take because we will have turned our backs on a very legitimate program that allows us to put their program to the test over these next years.” The deal, he argued, means “safety and security, I believe, for Israel and the region that no alternative presents.” (Israel National News)

KERRY: I'LL BE EMBARRASSED IN FRONT OF AYATOLLAH IF IRAN

DEAL IS KILLED: A congressional vote to undermine the Obama administration's diplomatic negotiations with Iran would be a major setback for the United States on the world stage and personally humiliating Secretary of State John Kerry said on Friday, 24 July, 2015. "I would be embarrassed to go out," Kerry said during remarks at the Council on Foreign Relations. "What am I going to say to people after this? Do you think the ayatollah is going to come back to the table if Congress refuses this and wants to negotiate again?" John Kerry really wants Iran's Supreme Ayatollah to like him so he can get invited to all his cool "Death to America" parties. Kerry's slip acknowledges that the entire facade of the "moderate" president is meaningless and it's the Ayatollah that matters. Also the Ayatollah hasn't actually approved the deal. (Front Page Mag.)

FROM THE ARAB PRESS: 'AMERICAN INCOMPETENCE IN A TIME OF

NEED': Many researchers of contemporary history explain that one of the reasons for the rise of Nazi Germany was British PM Neville Chamberlain's strict policy of appeasement and containment. These historians argue that Great Britain's pacifism provided the optimal environment in which Hitler could gain power and promote his forceful agenda. Today, we are witnessing history repeat itself in the form of the nuclear deal between Iran and the great world powers. The world's major powers have agreed to provide Iran with \$120 billion, in return for Teheran's reduction – not elimination – of its nuclear program. What is most shocking about the agreement is that, even if Iran complies with each one of its articles, Teheran will still be able to develop a bomb in the eleventh year.

Following 26 months of painstaking negotiations, Iran got everything it wanted from the world -without paying anything. Obama's administration believes that lifting the sanctions on Iran will allow for political reforms and democratization to take place in the country. What Obama fails to see is that the wealth generated from the lifting of the sanctions will not benefit the average citizen. This money will be "devoured" immediately by the clergy and tyrannical leadership of Iran, which will target it at stirring the region in places like Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, Pakistan, and northern Africa. Iran spent billions of dollars on secret plots in the region, all while under the pressure of heavy sanctions. Just imagine what the mullahs in Teheran will be able to do now, with their new sources of revenue. It is inconceivable that such a bad agreement could have been signed. The West is handing Iran a blank check, and allowing it to cash it however it sees fit . (Al-Watan, Egypt, Originally posted in Arabic on July 18)

AMNESTY: IRAN EMBARKING ON EXECUTION 'KILLING SPREE':

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been executing prisoners at a rate of up to three per-day in 2015, embarking on a killing-spree denounced by rights group Amnesty International as "staggering." A new report by Amnesty documents how the theocratic regime has put to death nearly 700 people over the past six months alone. 694 people were executed between January 1 and July 15 according to the report - just a day after Iran signed a deal

with world powers to lift sanctions over its illicit nuclear program. 743 were executed in all of 2014, which means that at the current rate of executions Iran will likely top that number by mid-August. The majority of those executed so far in 2015 have been for drug offenses - with trafficking even relatively small amounts of narcotics a crime punishable by death. Many others are convicted of vague "crimes" such as "enmity against God " or "spreading corruption on earth." "They are imposed either for vaguely worded or overly broad offences, or acts that should not be criminalized at all, let alone attract the death penalty," Amnesty said of many of the executions reported. (Arutz-7)

ISRAEL GIVES JORDAN HELICOPTERS FOR BORDER SECURITY: Israel has given retired USA-supplied Cobra combat helicopters to Jordan to help the Hashemite kingdom fend off ISIS and other insurgents threats on the Syrian and Iraqi borders, a USA official with knowledge of the deal said. "These choppers are for border security," the official, who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the issue, told media sources. Asked how many Cobras were transferred, the official said: "Around 16, though some may have been used by the Jordanians for spare parts" rather than kept intact. Following Egypt, Jordan made peace with Israel in 1994. But the countries had maintained discreet security ties dating back to the early 1970s and Israel has pledged to step in should Amman be threatened by ISIS or other insurgents rampaging elsewhere in the Middle East. (i24)

INTERNATIONAL TOURIST VISITS TO ISRAEL DROPPED 25% IN FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2015: Tourist entries to Israel plunged 25% in the first six months of 2015, according to figures published this week by the Israel Hotel Association economic department. Still hurting from Operation Protective Edge last summer tourist overnights (one-day visits) in January-June totaled 4.1 million, 25% less than in the first six months of 2014; tourist overnights were down 20% in June 2015 alone, the report showed. According to the Hotel Association, the drop was steepest in the southern coastal city of Eilat, where overnights totaled 303,000, 46% fewer than in the corresponding period last year. Hotel Association head Noaz Bar-Nir said, "The crisis in incoming tourism has caused a loss of 2.7 million tourist overnights in Israel, costing hotels NIS 1.2 billion in lost revenue. We haven't seen such a long and deep crisis for a decade." (i24)

ROMANIA OUTLAWS HOLOCAUST DENIAL: The president of Romania signed into law days ago a bill criminalizing Holocaust denial with a prison sentence of up to three years. President Klaus Iohannis endorsed the legislation which Romanian Parliament approved last month. The new law also disallows fascist, racist and xenophobic organizations and symbols and places a ban on supporting people found guilty of crimes against humanity. Anyone convicted of violating the newly implemented prohibitions faces a three year prison sentence. According to the bill, Holocaust denial refers to invalidating the role Romania, an ally to Nazi Germany during World War II, played in exterminating both Jews and Roma between 1940 and 1944. Some 280,000 Jews and 11,000 Roma were brutally murdered under fascist dictator Marshal Ion

Antonescu's rule. In addition to Romania, France and Germany are two of the major European nations that have so far criminalized Holocaust denial. In February, 2015 the Italian Senate also approved a bill outlawing Holocaust denial. (INN)

ILLINOIS GOVERNOR SIGNS UNPRECEDENTED ANTI-BDS BILL INTO

LAW: Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner signed into law on Thursday, 23 July, 2015 a bill to combat the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. The law specifically targets taxpayer-funded public pension funds that invest in any company that has adopted boycott, divestment or sanctions measures against Israel. Rauner said states must stand up to combat antisemitism and anti-Israel advocates in favor of BDS. The governor's office called the law the first state-based concrete action taken against the anti-Israel boycott movement. State legislators in Tennessee, Indiana and New York recently passed resolutions condemning BDS, but those were non-binding. The bill concerns companies "engaging in actions that are politically motivated and are intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or otherwise limit commercial relations with the State of Israel or companies based in the State of Israel or in territories controlled by the State of Israel." (Algemeiner)

CONTINUING NEWS: A 'VERY BAD DEAL' WITH IRAN: JNN editors continue to update you with wide-spread, ongoing responses to the Tuesday, 14 July, 2015 nuclear agreement reached with Iran - including those in neighboring Arab states. Not only Iran's continued threats to wipe out the state of Israel and the increasing nuclear capability it will have to do so, but Iran's widespread support of terrorists groups targeting Israel and the lifted sanctions enabling it to pump millions of dollars more into terrorist coffers requires a major shift in Israel's strategies in dealing with the Islamic Republic - including military options. Please carry these concerns to you prayer groups and gatherings.

THOUSANDS RALLY IN NYC'S TIME SQUARE AGAINST IRAN DEAL: An estimated 10,000 people turned out earlier this week at New York's Times Square in protest over the Iran nuclear deal. They urged the USA Congress to reject the agreement brokered in Vienna. Speakers at the rally included New York's former governor George Pataki, Jerusalem Post senior editor Caroline Glick, former Manhattan district attorney Robert M. Morgenthau, former congressman Allen West and Steven Emerson, founder of the Investigative Project on Terrorism. Pataki addressed the crowd, saying that "this isn't a bad deal, it's a God-awful deal. It must be rejected. Congress must do its job and stand up for the American people, stand up for our safety and say 'no' to this Iranian deal." Claiming that "we know what the outcome of this deal will be," Glick said that "our responsibility as free men and women is to stand up and ensure the security and continuity and strength and morality of the United States of America." (J. Post)

OBAMA: LIFTING OF SANCTIONS WILL INCREASE IRAN'S ABILITY TO FINANCE TERRORISTS: In a recent interview with the BBC, USA President Obama

admitted that the lifting of sanctions on Iran will increase the Islamic Republic's ability to finance terrorist organizations. Sitting down with the BBC's editor Jon Sopel, the president touched upon a whole array of topics, devoting a considerable portion to Iran. "Hezbollah for example, threatening to fire missiles at Israel, has no shortage of resources," the president said. "We have seen that even in times of distress, Iran is able to allocate resources in what it sees as its strategic priority." The president is on a full press campaign with world powers and Iran, speaking on multiple media outlets outlining his administration's signature foreign policy achievement thus far, which is currently under review in the USA Congress. Asked about the hurdles the agreement may face in the hands of lawmakers who have considerable authority over its ratification, the president said, "I am a certain that we will be able to pass the agreement" in Congress. Congress has until Sept. 17, 2015 to decide whether to approve or reject the agreement between Iran and world powers to rein in Iran's nuclear program in return for sanctions relief. Deal opponents in the pro-Israel camp believe more lawmakers can be swayed by detailed arguments about what they see as loopholes that Iran could use to skirt the agreement. Pressure from AIPAC, whose members' support is widely coveted, could also worry lawmakers up for re-election. AIPAC boasts 100,000 members. (Jerusalem Post)

KERRY INDICATES USA WILL DEFEND IRAN FROM ISRAEL: Secretary of State John Kerry indirectly conceded that the USA would defend Iran's nuclear program from Israeli sabotage in a hearing at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in which he was grilled over the deal reached last Tuesday, 21 July, 2015. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) put Kerry on the spot when he asked him whether the controversial articles in Annex III on page 142 of the 159-page deal would stipulate that the USA block Israeli attempts to thwart the Iranian nuclear threat. The articles in question state that the USA world powers and the EU obligate to "co-operation through training and workshops to strengthen Iran's ability to protect against, and respond to nuclear security threats, including sabotage."

Kerry's response was, "If you are going to have a nuclear capacity, you clearly want to be able to make sure that those are adequately protected." Responding to Kerry's hint that the clause is meant to defend Iran from "cyber warfare," Rubio asked if the deal obligates the USA to defend Iran from an Israeli cyber-attack. "I assure you that we will be coordinating very, very closely with Israel as we do on every aspect of Israel's security," said Kerry, tellingly refusing to directly answer what the deal obligates the USA to do in such a scenario. "That's not how I read this," replied Rubio. "I don't see any way possible that we will be in conflict with Israel with respect to what we might want to do there, and I think we just have to wait until we get to that point," said the secretary of state, essentially indicating that America's actions won't be clear until the moment of truth. Despite the claims of "coordination" with Israel, the Israeli response to the clause shows that the Jewish state understands it to be a promise to defend Iran's nuclear program from Israel's attempts to defend itself. (Arutz-7)

SENATORS GILL KERRY OVER NUKE DEAL: ‘YOU’VE BEEN FLEECED’:

Senators on the Foreign Relations Committee have been grilling Secretary of State John Kerry over the deal that the P5+1 countries reached with Iran over its nuclear program. Kerry was greeted with polite applause from a handful of members. But the mood changed immediately as Committee Chairman Sen. Bob Corker (R-Tenn) called the hearing to order. Corker told Kerry he's "fairly depressed" after listening to the secretary answers to lawmakers' questions Wednesday, 22 July, 2015 in a classified briefing. He compared the USA negotiators who worked out a deal with Iran over its nuclear program to "a hotel guest who leaves only with his bathrobe." "You've been fleeced," Corker said. "Instead of Iran being a pariah, you've turned Congress into a pariah." He added: "If we had dealt with dismantling Iran's nuclear program, our allies in the region would not react like they did." Kerry replied by saying that he believed there could be no better accord than the one that was reached, which he called was "a good deal for America, for the world and for our allies." (INN)

SAUDI ARABIA AS SKEPTICAL AS ISRAEL OVER IRAN DEAL: Saudi Arabia is just as wary of the deal between Iran and the West as Israel is. King Salman bin Abdulaziz voiced concerns earlier this week over the Islamic Republic's terror regime and accountability in a meeting with USA Defense Secretary Ashton Carter. During the meeting, Salman expressed doubt about the veracity of the checks and balances on the Iranian nuclear program, and questioned the "snap-back" sanctions program if Iran violated its terms, Carter told reporters. "Those are the same issues that we know will arise," he responded. Riyadh backs Israel's view that the deal will only empower Tehran and its terror proxies, the Saudi-based Al-Arabiya news site reflected, and is also convinced that Iran will be able to build a nuclear weapon regardless of the deal due to the lax terms imposed on the Islamic Republic - including ample warning before inspections and the limited development of select warheads under "laboratory conditions." Both are faults in the plan, as PM Binyamin Netanyahu has also stressed in various speeches. as the deal has developed. The juxtaposition is a rare acknowledgement of agreement between Israel and Saudi Arabia which have no formal diplomatic contact but have reportedly been growing more cooperative as the deal has progressed. (Israel National News)

ARAB TERRORISTS CALL NEW LAW AGAINST ROCK-THROWERS

‘RACISTS’: The Israeli Knesset this week approved harsher punishments against Arab terrorists hurling rocks [including gigantic stones] at Israeli cars, in attacks that have tragically proven lethal in the past. Unsurprisingly, Palestinian "human rights" organizations and terror groups have protested the measures. According to the law - which has caused mainstream Israeli media to "discover" the incessant terror phenomenon - those throwing rocks at cars can be jailed up to 10 years, while those throwing with intent to cause injury can spend up to 20 years in jail. But Palestinian Arab "human rights" organizations have censured the decree, which aims to protect the lives of Israelis, claiming it opposes international law - without detailing which law it may

oppose. Terrorist organizations have also opposed the law for stripping their "right to armed struggle" against Israeli civilians. Hamas spokesperson Sami Abu Zuhri called the law "racist," and urged the international community to take action against Israel for its defense of its citizens. He emphasized that Arabs will continue throwing rocks at Israelis regardless of the law. (INN)

ISRAELI DESALINATION FIRM NAMED ONE OF WORLD'S SMARTEST COMPANIES: IDE Technologies, an Israeli water desalination company, in July 2015 was named by the MIT Technology Review as one of the world's 50 smartest companies for 2015. IDE was ranked 18 on the annual MIT Technology Review list. "To make the list, a company must have truly innovative technology and a business model that is both practical and ambitious, with the result that it has set the agenda in its field over the past 12 months," the MIT Technology Review said. Regarding IDE, the MIT Technology Review said the company was "offering more affordable water desalination at a scale never before achieved." (Israel Hayom)

ISRAELI WATER FIRMS VISIT CALIFORNIA TO HELP COMBAT DROUGHT: A delegation of Israeli water companies, days ago, headed to California in order to promote solutions to the severe drought that the coastal state has been facing. The firms, which hail from the fields of water purification and management, are visiting the state as part of a broader effort to increase cooperation between Israel and California in the water industry. Israeli firms are meeting with representatives from a variety of companies, such as Costco, Coca Cola, Anheuser-Busch and the PSOMAS energy firm, as well as water corporations in Los Angeles and San Francisco. "I think that Israel has been a pioneer in this field for a long time now," said Prof. Jay Famiglietti, a senior water scientist at the University of California, Irvine. "The work with the irrigation was simply phenomenal. It's a real game-changer. In California we are working with a drip irrigation technology, but we still have a long way to go. The technology and water management in Israel is at a very high level. I think this is a wonderful opportunity for us to share the most critical problems and cooperate with the Israelis for possible solutions." (Jerusalem Post)

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Sharing Yeshua in unity with both Jew and Gentile