

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update August 7, 2015



ANCIENT MIKVEH WITH RARE INSCRIPTIONS FOUND IN JERUSALEM:

During the construction of a kindergarten in the Jerusalem, Arnona neighborhood, an ancient mikveh (ritual bath) from the Second Temple period nearly 2,000 years ago was found - and with it extraordinary inscriptions. The mikveh was discovered during a routine inspection by the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA). An anteroom, flanked by benches, led to the Jewish ritual bath, and alongside it a winepress was also excavated. But the most unusual aspect of the mikveh was its walls, which were treated with ancient plaster and bore numerous wall paintings and inscriptions, written in mud, soot and incising. The symbols drawn on the wall include a boat, palm trees and various plant species, and what looks to be a menorah. "There is no doubt that this is a very significant discovery," said excavation directors. "Such a concentration of inscriptions and symbols from the Second Temple period at one archaeological site, and in such a state of preservation, is rare and unique and most intriguing." The drawing that might be a menorah is exceptional because in Second Temple days, Jews largely abstained from portraying the sacred object which was located in the Holy Temple. "On the one hand the symbols can be interpreted as secular, and on the other as symbols of religious significance and deep spirituality," said excavators. (Arutz-7)

IDF ENLISTMENT OF CHRISTIAN ISRAELIS SET TO BREAK RECORDS:

Israel's Arab and Aramean Christian population has long been an untapped resource in recruitment for the IDF, largely because of threats and incitement against young Christians thinking to join the army, but that appears to be changing as an unprecedented number of over 200 Christians are predicted to enlist next year. There are over 130,000

Christian citizens in Israel, most of who identify as Arab, with a potential annual enlistment of 1,400 new recruits. However, only several dozen signed up each year until three years ago, when the numbers started to rise to over 100 amid efforts to promote enlistment in the community. Col. Pini Gonen, an initiator and leader of the Gadna youth battalion project for Arab Christian youth said Tuesday, 4 August, 2015 that a seminar has recently been opened for 48 Arab Christian youths, including two women . "They arrive with very high motivation for military service," said Gonen. "I believe that the number of recruits will rise. Already today you can see (Arab Christian) officers at the rank of major in the teleprocessing branch, navy and other units. Even more senior rankings are just a matter of time." (INN)

OBAMA SUFFERS KEY DEM DEFECTION ON IRAN DEAL AHEAD OF MAJOR SPEECH: A top-ranking Democrat came out against the Iranian nuclear deal ahead of a major speech Wednesday, 5 August, 2015 where President Obama made his public case for the agreement. Rep. Steve Israel, D-N.Y., told reporters he will oppose the plan. The defection is a blow to the president as he tries to shore up party support ahead of a vote in Congress expected next month. Israel is policy and communications chairman for House Democrats and the chamber's highest-ranking Jewish Democrat. Trying to keep a rebellion at bay, Obama headed Wednesday morning to American University, where he argued that the looming congressional vote on the Iran nuclear deal is the nation's most consequential foreign policy debate since the authorization of the Iraq war. Ahead of the speech, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., pointed to "growing bipartisan concern" over the deal. "It's widespread and it's well-founded," he said, citing recent defections. Republicans unveiled legislation on the House side Tuesday 4 August, 2015 to oppose the deal. Obama's address is part of an intense summer lobbying campaign by both supporters and opponents of the nuclear deal. Congressional lawmakers will vote next month on a resolution either approving or disapproving of the pact. Some key Democratic lawmakers announced their support this week, including Senators Tim Kaine of Virginia, Barbara Boxer of California and Bill Nelson of Florida. However, the administration lost the backing of three prominent Jewish Democrats - Nita Lowey and Florida Rep. Ted Deutch, in addition to Rep. Israel. House Republicans already have announced they have the 218 votes lined up to oppose the deal. But, if the Senate also opposes the agreement, both chambers would need to muster a two-thirds majority to override an expected presidential veto. (Fox)

OBAMA TRIES TO REASSURE AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS ON IRAN-SAYS ISRAEL IS THE ONLY COUNTRY TO OPPOSE THE DEAL: USA President Obama tried to persuade a group of 22 American Jewish leaders to back his recent nuclear deal with Iran at a Tuesday, 4 August, 2015, White House meeting that was at times contentious, according to participants. Several Jewish leaders confronted Obama on his recent comments that opposing the Iran deal is tantamount to supporting war with Iran - and made a direct appeal that the debate over the Iran nuclear accord not be framed that way. Obama delivered a major address on the nuclear accord reached with Iran, on Wednesday morning 5 August, 2015. Obama called the deal the strongest "non-proliferation agreement ever negotiated." He said that the entire world has expressed support for the Iran deal "with the exception of the Israeli government." (CNN/J. Post)

REPORT: IRAN SANITIZING SUSPECTED NUCLEAR MILITARY SITE:

Congress has been informed by American intelligence of evidence that Iran was sanitizing its suspected nuclear military site at Parchin, in broad daylight, days after agreeing to a nuclear deal with world powers, media sources reported on Wednesday 6, August, 2015. For senior lawmakers in both parties, the evidence calls into question Iran's intention to fully account for the possible military dimensions of its current and past nuclear development, the report said. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Iran have a side agreement meant to resolve past suspicions about the Parchin site, and lawmakers' concerns about it have already become a flashpoint because they do not have access to its text. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence briefed lawmakers about the evidence Monday, 3 August, 2015. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Bob Corker noted the report calls into question Iran's intention to be forthright about the possible military dimensions of its nuclear program. "The intel briefing was troubling to me; some of the things that are happening, especially happening in such a blatant way," he said. "Iran is going to know that we know." He added the new information gave him "a lot of concerns" about Iran coming clean on military dimensions of its nuclear work. Satellite evidence in 2014 and in 2012 suggested that nuclear bomb triggering devices are being tested in Parchin. (Arutz-7)

ISRAELI MINISTER: IF I WERE AMERICAN, I WOULD OPPOSE THE IRAN

DEAL: After USA Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz told a delegation of Israeli reporters that if he were Israeli, he would support the nuclear deal with Iran, Israel's Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz said this week, "if I were American, I would oppose the agreement. I would oppose the agreement because it ensures from the start that 10 years from now, Iran will become a nuclear power capable of producing dozens of atomic bombs per month. I would oppose the agreement because, even in the short term, inspections are not immediate, or invasive enough, as was promised from the start. I would oppose the agreement because it hurts the national security of the USA, Israel and of all the Western nations." (J. Post)

AIR FRANCE WIPE ISRAEL OFF OF THE MAP:

An Air France in-flight map omits Israel, according to a passenger who sent a photo to the Facebook page of the pro-Israel organization Stand With Us. In the photo of the map, there were only indicators of where Judea & Samaria and the Gaza strip are. In a letter to Air France chairman, Frédéric Gagey, a Simon Wiesenthal Center representative noted that "French members of our center have sent us shots from the English and French language of an Air France flight-path, taken last week between New York and Paris, and the locations 'Israel' and 'Tel Aviv' are glaringly absent." The letter noted that "We are asked whether Air France has succumbed to the BDS [Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions] campaign to delegitimize the Jewish State by literally wiping it off the map?" Air France issued an apology, saying they "deeply regret this incident, due to a map scale and display problem which is currently being resolved." In 2009, British Midland International Airlines, a subset of British Airways, apologized for omitting Israel from their in-flight maps. They also attributed the omission to a technical error. (J. Post)

NEARLY 1 IN 4 ROMANIANS WANT THEIR COUNTRY FREE OF JEWS:

Nearly a quarter of Romanian respondents in a survey on Jews said their country should

have no Jewish residents. The results of the recent survey were published last week by the Elie Wiesel National Institute for Holocaust Studies in Romania. Eleven percent described Jews as “a problem for Romania” and 22% said they would like them only as tourists. Romania had a Jewish population of over 750,000 before its pro-Nazi regime, led by Ion Antonescu, collaborated in the murder of about half of Romanian Jewry in the Holocaust. Antonescu’s troops also massacred 120,000 Jews in present-day Ukraine. Some 54% of survey respondents called Antonescu “a patriot.” Romanians who survived the Holocaust mostly left for Israel and now Romania has only a few thousand Jews, mostly living in Bucharest. (Times of Israel)

IRAN HAS NOT GRANTED ACCESS TO ITS SCIENTISTS AND MILITARY OFFICIALS SO THAT THE UN’S ATOMIC WATCHDOG AGENCY can conduct essential interviews to resolve the outstanding questions over Iran’s past work on weaponization. Previously, administration officials deemed Iran coming clean on past work as critical to any final deal. For over a decade, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has sought such access to address its concerns. The final deal, reached on July 14 in Vienna between Iran and the P5+1 global powers, requires the IAEA to provide an assessment over the possible military dimensions (PMDs) of Iran’s nuclear program by December 15. To do this, the IAEA needs access to “scientists, military sites, and documents” to clarify Iran’s past atomic work. However, since the final deal was reached, reports have emerged indicating that Iran will not actually provide the access needed. The Wall Street Journal revealed in late July that in a report delivered to Congress, “The administration said it was unlikely Iran would admit to having pursued a covert nuclear weapons program, and that such an acknowledgment wasn’t critical to verifying Iranian commitments in the future.” Furthermore, the Associated Press (AP) broke the story that Iran's provision of soil samples could be substituted for physical access for IAEA inspectors. The AP reported that Iran wants to take soil samples at a military facility, Parchin, largely believed to be the site of past nuclear weapons development work, instead of granting UN inspectors access, and IAEA officials said they may agree. At a hearing before Congress on Wednesday, the lead U.S. negotiator of the Iran nuclear deal, Wendy Sherman, indicated that IAEA inspectors will not have physical access to every nuclear and military site. Senator Bob Menendez (D-N.J.) declared in a separate hearing that “chain of custody means nothing if, at the very beginning, what you’re given is chosen and derived by the perpetrator. If that is true, it would be the equivalent of the fox guarding the chicken coop.”

SENATORS FROM BOTH PARTIES LEFT A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING TODAY WITH THE UN’S NUCLEAR AGENCY TODAY UPSET BY THE AGENCY’S LACK OF CLARITY, raising more questions than they had going in, The Hill reported today. Multiple Senate lawmakers emerged fuming from a nearly two-hour closed-door briefing with the globe’s top nuclear watchdog on Wednesday, frustrated by what they perceived as unnecessary stonewalling. The Foreign Relations Committee briefing answered few questions about the secret “side deals” attached to the nuclear agreement with Iran, many said. Instead, the meeting with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Yukiya Amano left many Republicans feeling more frustrated than before. After the meeting, committee chairman Sen. Bob Corker (R – Tenn.) said that “most members left here with greater concerns” about how inspections

should work. Sen. David Perdue (R – Ga.) called the meeting “valuable,” but added that Amano’s response “was not very reassuring.” Sen. Ben Cardin (D – Md.), the leading Democrat on the committee, admitted frustration, saying “[e]very time I get more information it raises other questions.” One item of special concern, according to The Hill, was Iran’s refusal to give the IAEA access to Iranian nuclear scientists for interviews. (via TheTower.org)

ISRAELIS WIN 61 MEDALS AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS IN LA: The 2015 Special Olympics World games came to a close in Los Angeles on Sunday night, 2 August, 2015 with an emotional ceremony. Israel’s delegation to the games are returning home to a hero’s welcome after winning 61 medals over the past week. The Israelis claimed 25 golds, 18 silvers and 18 bronzes. Over 6,500 athletes from 165 countries competed this year. Special Olympics is a global movement aimed at empowering people with intellectual disabilities to become accepted and valued members of their communities, which leads to a more respectful and inclusive society for all. Using sports as the catalyst and programming around health and education, Special Olympics is fighting inactivity, injustice and intolerance. (J. Post)

ISRAELI ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNCOVER CITY GATE IN GOLIATH’S HOMETOWN: Archaeologists at Bar-Ilan University have discovered the fortifications and entrance gate to the biblical city of Gath, which was once the home of the giant Goliath. Excavations of the ancient city of Gath, which was the largest city in the land during the 10-19th century BC, are being conducted in the Tel Zafit national park, located between Jerusalem and Ashkelon. The city was destroyed in 830 BC by Hazael, the king of Damascus. The gate is among the largest ever found in Israel and provides substantial evidence that Gath was once one of the most influential cities in the region. In addition to the gate, an impressive fortification wall was discovered as well as various buildings which serviced the city, including a temple and an iron production facility. (Jerusalem Post)

ROSKAM CONFIDENT HE’LL GET VETO-PROOF AGAINST IRAN DEAL: A new Congressional resolution calling to end the Iran nuclear deal has already received the support of at least 218 Republican lawmakers within just two weeks, and is well on its way to obtaining a two-thirds majority that USA President Barack Obama will be unable to veto, according to its sponsor. The majority support in the House for the resolution drafted by Representative Peter Roskam (R-IL) comes during the 60-day Congressional review period of the deal. Having rallied impressive Republican support, Roskam now intends to convince Democrats to support the measure during the August recess so as to ensure Obama's desperate veto efforts will fail. The representative said this week that more lawmakers are backing the move to squash the Iran deal every day. "Time is not the friend of this deal. The more time Members spend evaluating this agreement, the more they realize it’s an historic mistake,” said Roskam. (INN)

POLL: 6 IN TEN AMERICANS DISAPPROVE OF IRAN DEAL: Nearly six in 10 American voters, 58 percent, disapprove of the recently reached nuclear pact, while 30% approve, found the new Quinnipiac University poll. Republicans strongly oppose the deal, which is considered a signature achievement of President Barack Obama, 86% to

3%, the poll found. Democrats support the foreign policy move, 52% to 32%. "There's not a lot of love for the proposed nuclear deal with Iran. Only a bare majority of Democrats support the pact," Quinnipiac University Poll director Tim Malloy said in a statement. A majority of Americans (56%) also disapprove of how Obama is handling the Iran situation, compared to just 35% who approve. Monday's 3 August, 2015 poll follows one released last week which found that a majority of Americans would like Congress to reject the nuclear deal with Iran. (Arutz-7)

APOCALYPTIC IRAN HEAT WAVE NEARLY BREAKS WORLD RECORD: On the same weekend in which it threatened to "annihilate" Israel following the nuclear deal it struck with global powers, Iran experienced a mind-boggling 164 degrees (73 Celsius) heat index reading Friday, 31 July, 2015 in what some might see as a warning by the Almighty Himself that all options are on the table. The heat index, also known as the "feels-like" temperature, combines air temperature and humidity to give an accurate reading as to how the human body perceives the relative temperature. As Iran entered the current heat wave breaking on the Middle East last Thursday, 30 July, 2015, temperatures at the airport in southwest Iran's Bandar Mahshahr, home to over 100,000 people, hit 109 degrees, with a dewpoint of 90 degrees. Those figures compute out to an incredible 159 degrees (70 Celsius). It got even hotter on Friday, with the Weather Channel reporting that the same site reached 114.8 degrees and a dewpoint of 89.6 degrees, yielding an inhuman 164 degrees. Meteorological experts said Iran is experiencing some of the hottest temperatures "ever endured by humankind." (Arutz-7)

ELECTRICITY DEMAND SURGES AS JORDAN VALLEY HITS 120 DEGREES: Israel has not been exempt from the Middle East heat wave, expected to continue throughout the week, although temperatures have not been as severe as those in Iran. As temperatures escalated on Sunday 2, August, 2015 to the highest level yet this season, electricity consumption breached all-time records. Extreme heat plagued much of the country during the day, rising to as high as 49°C (120°F) in the southern Jordan Valley, the Israel Meteorological Service reported. In several places, temperatures nearly reached – and in some cases surpassed – the maximum values ever recorded in those locations. On the eastern slopes of the Galilee, and in the Jezreel Valley, temperatures reached 42-43°C, while those in the central mountains climbed to 40-41°C. The IMS predicted that conditions going forward would be less intense than those on Sunday, though forecasts warned of continued heavy heat stress in most regions around the country. Despite the reserve power available, the IEC warned that if a system malfunction were to occur, electricity outages are possible. (Jerusalem Post)

300 DUNAMS OF WOODLAND BURNED IN JERUSALEM: Some 300 dunams (74 acres) of woodland were consumed in the wildfire that blazed in Jerusalem's southern reaches Sunday, 2 August, 2015. The fire forced the evacuation of hundreds of residents from the hillside village of Even Sapir southwest of the capital. Chicken coops, some with the birds still inside, went up in flames as firefighters struggled for eight hours to contain the blaze on one of the hottest days of the year thus far. No residents were hurt in the blaze. The crews' efforts were hampered by the high temperatures of the heat wave, which reached 104 degrees. Only the coordinated effort, which saw teams arriving from Haifa and the Galilee, prevented the fire from spreading to Hadassah Ein Karem

Hospital, the villages of Ora and Aminadav, and the nearby Monastery of St. John in the Wilderness. It was not clear what started the blaze. In recent weeks, a wave of fires in Jerusalem suburbs burned more than 1,500 dunams (370 acres) of forest. Police suspect arsonists in some of the cases, and have found the remains of Molotov cocktails where they believe the blazes started. (Times of Israel)

PA SHEIKH ON TEMPLE MOUNT: JEWS CREATED DISEASES: The Palestinian Authority (PA) approved anti-Semitic sheikh is back at it, spreading a new libel against the Jewish people on the Temple Mount - the holiest site in Judaism. Sheikh Khaled Al-Mughrabi has already been documented using his bi-weekly lectures on Islam at the Mount to spew antisemitism, but he stepped it up a notch in a recent class last week exposed by Palestinian Media Watch (PMW), in which he claimed that Jews own 95% of the pharmaceutical industry and teach doctors to create new diseases so as to reap in profits. "Many diseases were created in labs - viruses created by doctors who were bought, trained and taught by the Rothschild family, the Freemasons, the Zionists, or the Jews to create and spread disease so they will be able to sell medicine for it," spouted the sheikh. He also mouthed the classic anti-Semitic trope that Jews control the world's wealth, claiming the Rothschild family owns 50% of the world's wealth and the entire World Bank. (Arutz-7) *Actually, Palestinian leaders, both religious and political, are occupied with spewing hatred, inciting violence, wasting billions of dollars of international aid money on terrorist tunnels and weapons against Israel instead of building their own society. Meanwhile Jews have been creating solar energy, USB drives, life saving devices, and whatever you can find that has blessed the world.*

ISRAEL'S LARGEST SOLAR FIELD BEGINS FLOWING TO THE NATIONAL GRID: Officials in the Arava have inaugurated Israel's largest photovoltaic field, completing a journey six years in the making. The system already began providing the country with electricity several days ago. "In six days, a million-and-a-half kilowatt hours have been uploaded to the national grid," Arava Power Company CEO Jon Cohen told reporters. The 40-megawatt Ketura Solar field, which is the second but biggest "large" field to go online in Israel, contains 140,343 panels spread over 133.4 acres in the southern Arava Valley. "It's been - since January 2009 - a six-and-a-half-year process from kickoff through launch," Cohen said. "Here we are in July 2015, generating about 250,000 kilowatt hours a day." From start to finish, construction - which was carried out by the EGE consortium - took seven months, he explained. Simultaneously, Israel Electric built a substation for the field, and during a slightly longer period, erected the power line to carry electricity from the facility to the national grid, Cohen said. The field is "at present, the largest solar installation in Israel," he added. (Jerusalem Post)

THE OBAMA-NETANYAHU SHOWDOWN: USA President Barack Obama and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu will go head to head this week as they seek to win over the American public and its congressional supporters to their positions on the Iran nuclear deal. On Wednesday, 5 August, 2015, Obama will speak at the American University in Washington. White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest told reporters that the speech is meant to explain to the American people how the Iran deal serves USA security interests. Obama will make his speech one day after Netanyahu delivers a talk of his own, broadcast over the Internet to representatives from over 100 American Jewish

organizations. Tens of thousands of American Jews received invitations to watch the live feed on their computers, cell phones and during screenings at synagogues across the United States. Despite initially skeptical Israeli assessments regarding prospects of scuttling the deal in Congress, Netanyahu told diplomatic correspondents last week that he senses a change. "There's movement," he said. "As people know more about the deal, they oppose it more. Several polls conducted last week among Americans indicate a majority oppose the agreement. (i24)

IRAN PROMISES TO 'ANNIHILATE' ISRAEL IN NEW BOOK: When the Iran deal was announced last month, USA President Obama said "it is possible to change" while referencing Iran's threats to "eradicate Israel," and called for a "different path of tolerance" from the Islamic regime. But Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has published a new book this week - on the topic of outwitting the USA and destroying Israel. It lists Khamenei as "the flag bearer of Jihad to liberate Jerusalem" - and justifies the eradication of the Jewish state not as European antisemitism, but as an outcropping of "well-established Islamic principles." One of these principles is the idea that land conquered by Muslims cannot ever be ceded to non-Muslims - a principle which, in Islamist ideology, justifies the takeover of any number of modern-day countries, spanning from Europe to China. According to media sources, Khamenei places conquering the Jewish state at an even higher level, as the "ally of the American Great Satan," for acts of war which brand it a "hostile infidel," and for "Judaizing" the Jewish holy city of Jerusalem, which Khamenei insists is Islam's third holy city. He promises a "one-state solution" - the State of Palestine, established by a UN mandate, wherein Israelis would have little to no rights - and people claiming "Palestinian heritage" could flood the region via a Right of Return. (Arutz-7)

IRANIAN OFFICIAL: SENATE CANNOT REVIEW OUR AGREEMENT WITH IAEA: Iran's envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency, Reza Najafi, on Saturday, 1 August, 2015 voiced his objection to the United States Senate's demand to be briefed about the contents of the recently signed roadmap of cooperation between Tehran and the IAEA, reports the semi-official Fars news agency. Najafi warned the UN nuclear watchdog to avoid disclosing its secret agreements with Tehran. "The agreements signed between a member country and the IAEA are definitely secret and cannot be presented to any other country at all," he said. Referring to the discussions in Congress about the deal between Iran and the six world powers, Najafi stated, "The discussions revealed that the secret texts between Iran and the Agency have not even been provided to the USA administration. For the very same reason, they cannot be presented to the Senate members either." Some members of Congress have asked that more information be made public relating to the IAEA's part in verifying Iran's implementation of the pact. Congress has until Sept. 17, 2015 to accept or reject the agreement, though Obama has threatened to "veto any legislation" passed by Congress blocking the deal. (Arutz-7)

IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL PROMPTS ISRAEL TO REDEPLOY IRON DOME ALONG NORTHERN BORDER: Defense Forces Col. Yoni Marom, commander of Israel's Active Defense Air Wing, said the Jewish state has redeployed the Iron Dome missile defense system to northern Israel amid fears the Hezbollah terror group could get an infusion of cash from Iran following the recently reached nuclear deal. "Now we are

dealing with the challenges and scenarios that we think the enemies from the north will bring. One of the scenarios could be that, like Hamas, they (Hezbollah) will try and challenge us with a variety of threats simultaneously—which is a great challenge—but we are developing our concepts of operation,” Marom said. Israeli officials believe Hezbollah may have up to 100,000 rockets in its arsenal, with several thousand capable of hitting Tel Aviv and even hundreds that can strike the entire country. The move also comes after suspected Israeli strikes on two separate terror targets in Syria days ago—reportedly major figures in Hezbollah and a pro-Syrian Palestinian terror group. According to Marom, more Iron Dome batteries are operational now than during last summer’s Gaza war, and more Israeli soldiers have been trained to operate the system. (Algemeiner)

PRIME MINISTER CONDEMNS “HORRIFIC, HEINOUS TERROR ATTACK” ON PALESTINIANS: PM Benjamin Netanyahu on Friday, 31 July, 2015 forcefully condemned the arson attack on a Palestinian family - in which an infant was burned to death - as a "horrific, heinous" crime that is "a terror attack in every respect." Two homes in the Palestinian village of Duma, south of Nablus, were set alight, and Hebrew words spray-painted on their walls overnight Thursday, 30 July, 2015, apparently by Jewish extremists. An 18-month-old child was killed in the attack, while his father, mother, and 4-year-old brother were injured. The mother remains in critical condition. The prime minister said he instructed the security forces to "use all the resources at their disposal to capture the killers and bring them to justice as soon as possible." He added that "The State of Israel deals forcefully with terror, regardless of who the perpetrator s are." Netanyahu said the Israeli government was "unified in its fierce opposition to these awful, base acts." (Times of Israel)

PM VISITS INJURED RELATIVES OF CHILD KILLED IN TERROR ATTACK: PM Netanyahu paid a visit to the family of the Palestinian child Ali Dawabsha, who was murdered in an attack on his home in the Arab village of Duma early Friday morning, 31 July, 2015. The Prime Minister spent time with relatives injured in the firebomb attack, believed to be the work of Jewish extremists, at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer. Speaking following the visit, Netanyahu strongly denounced the "brutal" attack. "I just came from the bedside of four-year old Ahmed Sa'ed. Sixty percent of his body is burned. We're doing everything we can to save this young boy, give him a life," Netanyahu said. "His two parents are in other parts of the Israeli health system. We're trying to give them the best treatment to save their lives. When you stand next to the bed of this small child, and his infant brother had been so brutally murdered, we're shocked, we're outraged. We condemn this. There is zero tolerance for terrorism. Whatever side of the fence it comes from, we have to fight it and fight it together. I spoke to [PA] President Abu Mazen right before I entered the hospital. I told him of this visit and of Israel's absolute commitment to find the perpetrators, bring them to justice," Netanyahu continued, while calling for calm. (Israel National News)

DEFENSE MINISTER YA'ALON: “WE WILL NOT ALLOW JEWISH TERRORISTS TO HARM PALESTINIANS”: Israeli officials, including Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alon, expressed their shock and outright condemnation of the terror attack in the Palestinian village of Duma. Ya'alon referred to the incident as "a most

severe terrorist act that we cannot tolerate, and we condemn in every way," and he sent his condolences to the Dawabsha family. He noted that all Israeli security forces are making a "supreme effort" to find those responsible, saying, "We will pursue them until we get our hands on them. We will not allow Jewish terrorists to harm the lives of Palestinians across Judea and Samaria. We will fight them in every way, with every tool at our disposal." The IDF has deployed additional forces in Judea & Samaria to maintain stability and to respond to subsequent disturbances. "We are coordinating with PA security forces to calm the area," said IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Moti Almoz. (Jerusalem Post)

MASS-SCALE VIOLENCE IN JUDEA & SAMARIA, JERUSALEM ON SHABBAT: On the background of the arson attack that left an Arab infant dead in the Samaria village of Duma on Friday, 31 July, 2015, which the IDF has indicated Jewish extremists may have committed, Arab rioters launched wide-spread clashes with Jewish residents on Saturday, 1 August, 2015. The large-scale violence comes after Hamas that same day called on all able-bodied Arabs to attack IDF soldiers and "settlers," saying they are all "legitimate targets, in any location and situation." (INN)

CANADA TO PURCHASE TECHNOLOGY FROM ISRAEL'S ANTI-MISSILE SYSTEM: Canada has announced a deal to purchase radar technology used in Israel's highly successful Iron Dome anti-missile system. "Much like Israel's successful Iron Dome radar technology, the Medium Range Radar system will be able to instantly track enemy fire aimed at Canadian armed forces personnel and help keep them safe during operations," Canadian Defense Minister Jason Kenney said. Kenney's ministry added that the radar systems are "capable of detecting hostile indirect fire, locating the position of the enemy weapon and calculating the point of impact of a projectile, as well as simultaneously tracking multiple airborne threats." The radars will be manufactured by Rheinmetall's Canadian branch with support from ELTA Systems, a subsidiary of Israel Aerospace Industries. (Algemeiner)

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