

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update November 26, 2020 (10th Kislev, 5781)



[For the Yachad Report Newsletter For November 2020](#)

Terror Cell Behind IEDs is Unit 840 of Iran's Quds Force; The terrorist cell responsible for anti-personnel mines and other improvised explosive devices (IEDs) on the Golan Heights is being operated by Iran's Quds Force, according to the IDF. The Syrian cell, known as Unit 840, is a relatively secretive operational unit that plans terrorist infrastructure outside Iran against Western targets and opposition groups, the IDF said. The anti-personnel mines discovered on Monday were planted several weeks ago by local Syrians under the command of the Quds Force, IDF Spokesman Brig.-Gen. Hidai Zilberman said. Over the past few months, the IDF has been tracking Quds Force cells that have been trying to plant IEDs near the border, he said. Patrols by soldiers, drones and reconnaissance are being employed to prevent attacks, he added. In response to the explosive devices, Israel carried out a wave of strikes that hit eight targets from the Golan Heights to Damascus, killing several military personnel.

Pompeo: All Options are On the Table to Stop Iran; US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that all options are still on the table to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, according to a report by the Jerusalem Post Friday. Speaking with the Post before his departure from Israel, Pompeo said that while the Trump administration has relied heavily on sanctions to curtail Iran's nuclear ambitions, all options remain on the table. "The administration has been clear on that for its entire four years. There is no reason that would change today or tomorrow." Pompeo said the US sanctions regime against Tehran had been "pretty successful" thus far, even as he acknowledged that they had been unable to completely block Iran's uranium enrichment activities. The Secretary of State also said the administration's recent actions in support of Israel's control over Jerusalem and Judea and Samaria would likely continue.

Israel Warns Lebanon Talks May have Stalled; Israel has accused Lebanon of changing its position in talks on their disputed maritime border and warned it could lead to a "dead end" that would be damaging for the whole region. The two countries, which remain technically at war, opened negotiations on the border dispute under US and UN auspices last month to clear the way for offshore oil and gas exploration. "Lebanon has changed its stance on its maritime border with Israel seven times," Israeli Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz tweeted late Thursday. "Its current position contradicts not only its previous one but also Lebanon's stance on its maritime border with Syria, which takes into account Lebanese islands close to the border," Steinitz said.

Earlier on Thursday, Lebanese President Michel Aoun had set out his country's position on the maritime border, which he said should be "based on the line that departs on land from the point of Ras Naqoura".

Cross Border Attack Tunnel was Deepest Ever Found; The Hamas tunnel that stretched several meters into Israel and was discovered by the IDF last month near Kissufim forest was the deepest tunnel ever dug. While the military is not certain as to what its purpose was, it believes that it was intended to test the underground barrier or to be used for a cross-border raid by the terror group though not necessarily to abduct Israeli troops or civilians. It was only dug recently and was not one of 20 terror tunnels used by Hamas and Islamic Jihad and destroyed by the IDF since the end of the last war between Israel and Gaza in 2014. The tunnel which began in the Gazan city of Khan Younis was found after being notified by the new underground barrier system and by the noise of excavations which were heard by female soldiers in the Gaza Division, who are tasked with identifying such sounds.

Deputy Health Minister: Third Closure Will Probably Happen; Israel could be facing a third lockdown as early as Hanukkah, according to Health Ministry director-general Chezy Levy. "I do not know if there will be a Hanukkah closure," he said during a briefing on Thursday, noting that the increase in morbidity may lead from a cessation of restrictions to a full-fledged closure. "If there is a sweeping illness like on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, we will have to take broad steps. I can't say if it will be on Hanukkah, but it could certainly happen if the increase in morbidity continues." His words were echoed by Deputy Health Minister Yoav Kisch, who spoke Thursday evening to N12. In his interview, he warned that there is great concern that a third lockdown is on its way.

Emmanuel Macron Establishes a National Council of Imams; French President Emmanuel Macron has issued an ultimatum to French Muslim leaders, as part of his bid to clamp down on radical Islam following a string of terrorist attacks. On Wednesday, Macron issued a "charter of republican values," giving the French Council of the Muslim Faith 15 days to sign on to the document. The charter establishes a national council of imams, which would be empowered to accredit religious Muslim leaders, or, conversely to strip leaders of accreditation. In addition, the charter defines Islam in France as a religion and not a political movement, and bars "foreign interference" in Muslim groups. Macron has promoted French secularism, following a string of terrorist attacks by Islamists in France, including the beheading of a teacher over cartoons of Muhammad shown to a class last month.

Israeli Basketball Player Deni Avdija Drafted to the NBA; Israeli-Serbian basketball player Deni Avdija was selected by the Washington Wizards, 9th overall in the NBA draft on Wednesday night, making him the first Israeli to be drafted in the top ten in NBA history. "Israel is a small country and I am proud to represent it, it's something amazing. I'm excited and looking forward to taking my game to the next level and seeing what happens," said Avdija after the draft. He added, "I love my family, friends and fans. I will make you proud." Avdija, 19, has played for Maccabi Tel Aviv of the Israeli Basketball Premier League and the EuroLeague. Avdija, the son of basketball player Zufer Avdija, joined Maccabi Tel Aviv in 2013 and excelled as a youth player. He debuted for their senior team in 2017, at age 16, becoming the youngest in club history. Two years later, he became the youngest player to ever win the Israeli League Most Valuable Player (MVP) award and led his team to the Israeli League championship.

Second Israeli Will Enter Space; This week, Israel announced that Eytan Stibbe will become the country's second Israeli in space, joining a mission to the International Space Station at the end of 2021. Eytan Stibbe is a 62-year-old former IAF fighter pilot, and he will be conducting a large number of scientific experiments while onboard the International Space Station. The Ramon Foundation is coordinating the program for the mission, together with the Space Systems Division of Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI). The Foundation was founded in memory of Ilan Ramon, Israel's first astronaut in space who was killed in 2003 when the space shuttle carrying him and his fellow astronauts back to Earth broke apart; and of his son Assaf, who was killed

in an army training accident. Arutz Sheva spoke with Inbal Kreiss, director of innovation at the Space Systems Division of IAI, to hear more about this momentous mission.

10 Dead in Israeli Airstrikes on Syria; At least 10 people were killed and more injured in Israeli airstrikes in Syria overnight, a monitor group reported Wednesday morning. Israeli military aircraft struck Syrian air defense batteries and an army base used by Iran's Quds Force in Syria late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning. The Israeli aircraft bombed a Syrian army air defense center, as well as a regional headquarters for the Quds Force in Syria and supply depots and weapons caches used by pro-Iranian forces. The targets were struck in Damascus and south of the capital, including in Sayyidah Zaynab and Kiswah. A total of 10 fatalities were reported, all of them combatants, the SOHR said. The casualties included three Syrian air defense personnel, five Iranians, and two pro-Iranian fighters whose identity has yet to be confirmed. They are likely either Lebanese or Iraqi nationals, the SOHR report said.

IEDs Found Near Syrian Border; The IDF has found improvised explosive devices (IEDs) in Israeli territory near the border with Syria in the southern Golan Heights, the military said on Tuesday. Engineering units neutralized the explosives that were found close to where the IDF thwarted an attempt by terrorists to place explosives about three months ago. "The IDF considers the Syrian regime responsible for any action taken in its territory and will not allow any violation of Israeli sovereignty," the military said in a statement. Defense Minister Benny Gantz, who was on a tour of the Northern Command on Tuesday said that the Syrian state was responsible for the explosives that were found.

Education Minister Galant Opens High School in Samaria; Education Minister Yoav Galant (Likud) and the head of the Samaria Regional Council, Yossi Dagan, attended the event marking the inauguration of a yeshiva high school building in the community of Bruchin in the heart of the Samaria region. The event, held according to Health Ministry guidelines, was also attended by the deputy head of the Regional Council, Davidi Ben Tziyon, various officials from the Education Ministry and the Amit educational network, community leaders from Bruchin, and the dean of the new institution, Rabbi Yair Shtebun. Speaking at the event, Minister Galant said: "I am delighted to be here in order to celebrate the inauguration of this new building for a yeshiva high school in Bruchin, together with my good friend Yossi Dagan, who has done so much to develop Jewish settlement in the Samaria region and specifically to advance the educational network here. This new building will serve all the students of the local communities and neighborhoods that have been established in the area in the last few years."

Pompeo to Visit Samaria; US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived in Israel Wednesday, following the arrival of a delegation from Bahrain. The Palestinian Authority protested as Pompeo was expected to become the first US top diplomat to visit a Jewish community in Judea or Samaria, with a planned trip to a vineyard in the Samaria town of Psagot, which named one of its wines after him. Pompeo is on a Europe and Middle East tour that has so far taken him to France, Turkey, and Georgia. He flew to Israel on the same day as the foreign minister of Bahrain, one of several Arab states that have agreed under US-brokered pacts to normalize relations with the Jewish state. Pompeo is set to meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Bahrain's Foreign Minister Abdellatif al-Zayani at the start of his two-day visit. Zayani said his trip, the first official visit to the Jewish state by a Bahraini official, marked "a further step on our journey towards a better, more peaceful, more secure and more prosperous Middle East."

Bahrain Announces Plans to Open Embassy in Israel; Bahrain's Foreign Minister announced Wednesday afternoon that his country is preparing to open an embassy in Israel, just months after formal relations were established between the two countries. "We are initiating the process of opening an embassy in Israel," said Bahraini Foreign Minister Abdullatif Rashid Al-Zayani after arriving in Jerusalem Wednesday. At the same time, Israel confirmed that it has received approval from Bahrain to open an embassy in the Bahraini capital city of Manama. Al-Zayani landed in Israel Wednesday morning, leading the first delegation

ever from Bahrain to the Jewish state. He was accompanied by Trump envoy Avi Berkowitz, and met with Israeli Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi (Blue and White) at Ben Gurion International Airport, before heading to Jerusalem for planned meetings with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Report: Iran Feeding Uranium Gas into Advanced Underground Centrifuges; Iran has begun feeding uranium hexafluoride (UF6) gas feedstock into the advanced IR-2m uranium-enriching centrifuges installed at its underground plant in Natanz nuclear facility, according to a UN nuclear watchdog report on Wednesday. The move is the latest nuclear standoff escalation by Iran with the US, Israel, and their allies. According to the 2015 Iran nuclear deal, the Islamic Republic can only accumulate enriched uranium with first-generation IR-1 machines, which are the only ones it can operate at the underground plant. The Obama-era deal is known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. A previous International Atomic Energy Agency report said that Iran had installed IR-2m machines underground. Until Iran's new breach on Wednesday, it was unclear whether Tehran had taken the incoming Biden administration into account with its moves at Natanz.

Erdan Demands Immediate Action on Hezbollah; Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations Gilad Erdan submitted on Tuesday an official letter to the UN Security Council (UNSC) demanding it takes immediate action against Hezbollah's military buildup and continued activity in southern Lebanon. Erdan's appeal to the council follows a quarterly report recently submitted by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that focuses on the implementation of UN Resolution 1701, which came into effect during the 2006 Second Lebanon War, and was meant to resolve the conflict. One of the resolution's original conditions was "the disarmament of all armed groups in Lebanon, so that, pursuant to the Lebanese cabinet decision of July 27, 2006, there will be no weapons or authority in Lebanon other than that of the Lebanese state." Guterres' report, however, pointed at severe violations of that resolution by Hezbollah, which, according to the report, has been advancing military buildup in southern Lebanon - a claim that has been made by IDF officials on multiple occasions.

Tel Aviv Among World's Most Wheelchair-Friendly Cities; Tel Aviv has been ranked as one of the most wheelchair-friendly cities in the world by London-based Truly Belong magazine. "The eclectic city has made great strides in recent years to become fully accessible to people with disabilities. Almost all of the city's intercity bus lines can be accessed by wheelchair and offer various technologies for the visually impaired, including bus stations that announce upcoming buses and line numbers over a speaker system," the magazine reported. "Stringent construction codes also ensure that all new buildings must offer wheelchair access, and almost every store and restaurant in the city is equipped with ramps." The city's municipality has worked hard over the years to ensure that the city is wheelchair-friendly to all who need it. "Wheelchair-assisted tourists exploring Tel Aviv will find the city quite navigable," the municipality website states. "It is flat in most places, so even those without a motorized chair will find moving about to be relatively easy – in crowded places as well. Several guided group tours have been designed especially for wheelchair-bound visitors."

[Donate](#)



Robert I. Solomon: Messianic Rabbi, rabbisolomon@yachad.com

Jeffery Blalock: Ministries Coordinator, jeffery@yachad.com

Yachad Ministries, 950 Pine Grove Road, Roswell, Georgia 30075

E-mail: info@yachad.com, Web Page: www.yachad.com

Phone: 770-641-3000 (ext. 6)

Sharing Yeshua in unity with both Jew and Gentile

To unsubscribe [click here](#).