

Israel News

Faxx



**Weekend
Edition**

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255

E-mail: [dcanaan \(at\)israelfaxx\(dot\)com](mailto:dcanaan@israelfaxx.com) Visit our archival web site at www.israelfaxx.com
July 13--July 17, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 137W (2009_07-13_2009_07-17)

***Welcome to the
Israel News Faxx
Weekend Edition (July 13, 2009- July 17, 2009)
incorporating
news, features & opinion.***

- O Israeli warships cross Red Sea in apparent signal to Iran*
- O Syria. no Golan retreat, no peace talks*
- O 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince,' the Jewish angle*
- O Study: Israelis pay majority of salary to taxes*
- O Germany's BND denies report on Iran bomb timing*
- O Anti-rocket defense system Iron Dome aces first live try*
- O Rabbi: Blind men are allowed to feel their dates*
- O Terrorists issue threat against 'Bruno' star*
- O Obama: 'Never Forget' applies to both slavery and Holocaust*
- O Israel to test Arrow missile on U.S. Pacific range*
- O Two Israeli warships sail through the Suez Canal*
- O Abbas 'helped Israel kill Arafat'*
- O FBI's wanted man says his Jewish girlfriend is pregnant*
- O Hamas: Israel is dispensing gum that arouses sexual appetite*
- O Israel dismisses EU official's peace timetable*
- O Demjanjuk indicted in Germany for 27,900 WW2 killings*
- O Gaza: Marry a terror widow and get cash*
- O Arab activists demand removal of 'insensitive' TV ad*
- O Moscow circus presents monkeys posing as Jews*
- O 18th Maccabiah opens*
- O Massive dust storm heads toward Middle East*
- O Netanyahu calls for peace summit with Palestinian leaders*
- O Combat kashrut supervisors board navy boats*
- O Israel to Maccabiah athletes: \$3,500 if you remain*
- O Donater blood--Get El Al frequent flyer miles*



Massive Dust Storm Heads Toward Mideast: A large dust storm carrying two billion tons of sand and soil that descended on Iraq last week is moving toward the Mideast, warned a meteorology report quoted by Ma'an. According to the Al-Arabiyya satellite TV station, this storm is the same one which also hit Saudi Arabia on Thursday. A NASA satellite recently picked up images of the dust storm from space that revealed its sheer scale which covers a vast swathe of northwestern Iraq.

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255 Access the IsraelNewsFaxx.com searchable archive

E-mail: [dcanaan \(at\) israelfaxx \(dot\) com](mailto:dcanaan@israelfaxx.com) Visit our archival web site at www.israelnewsfaxx.com
July 13, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 133 (2009_07_13) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

Netanyahu Calls for Peace Summit with Palestinian Leaders

By Robert Berger (VOA-Jerusalem) & IsraelNationalNews.com

Israel's hawkish Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu called for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to meet with him for the first time. Speaking at the weekly Cabinet meeting, Netanyahu urged the Palestinian Authority to cooperate with Israel on economic projects to promote the peace process.

He said many investors want to help boost the Palestinian economy and Israel is doing its part by easing travel and trade restrictions. He said there is no reason not to meet. But the Palestinians have refused to resume peace talks since the right-wing Israeli government assumed power three months ago. Palestinian spokesman Yasser Abed Rabbo described Netanyahu's offer as a publicity stunt.

In remarks broadcast on Israel Radio, Abed Rabbo said Netanyahu is not prepared to compromise on core issues, like the expansion of Jewish settlements and the creation of a Palestinian state.

Netanyahu's strategy is to begin with economic prosperity, something on which both sides can agree. He said that would create a positive atmosphere for tackling the tougher issues of the peace process. But the Palestinians say a full stomach is no replacement for freedom and independence.

Netanyahu invited Abbas to meet with him: "There is no reason why I should not meet with the Chairman of the Palestinian Authority anywhere in Israel in order to get the diplomatic process going, and it could even be right here in Be'er Sheva," Netanyahu said. This is the first time that he has made a public invitation of this nature.

Netanyahu noted that almost exactly 30 years ago, in late 1979, Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat held their historic first meeting in Be'er Sheva - a meeting that led to the signing of a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. "I call upon the leaders of the Palestinians and the Arab nations: Let's meet, let's cooperate," he said.

The Cabinet meeting is being held in the municipal offices of the city known as the "capital of the Negev" in order to emphasize the government's commitment to developing the region. Silvan Shalom, the Minister for the Development of the Negev and Galilee, said at the start of the meeting, "Our goal is to bring 300,000 new residents to the Negev in the coming decade, and to this end we are working on infrastructures and more."

Netanyahu called on the Palestinians to relinquish the right of return demand as a prerequisite to a comprehensive peace agreement with Israel. Speaking Sunday evening at a State ceremony marking the 105th anniversary of the death of Theodore Herzl, the father of modern political Zionism, Netanyahu said "They (Palestinians) must abandon their demand to settle the descendants of Palestinian refugees in Israel and gradually 'eat away' at the State of Israel after a peace agreement is signed."

Combat Kashrut Supervisors Board Navy Boats

By IsraelNationalNews.com

They are ready to fight the enemy at sea but usually content themselves with waging war on 'treif' foodstuffs and unclean kitchens. They are the navy's new combat kashrut supervisors, and they can now be found on the decks of the IDF's missile boats.

IDF magazine BaMachaneh reported that the Navy has begun the process of stationing kashrut supervisors on its missile boats, and that all of them are required to have a combat-grade physical profile. They will be treated as combat soldiers and will receive combat certificates in the course of their service.

"Until now, the supervisors mostly did their work when the ships

were at the port," explained navy Rabbi Benayahu Jamus. "But there is a need for constant supervision, and the move is a great advantage."

The navy is also looking into the possibility of installing combined oven-refrigerators in the vessels that carry out routine security patrols. The device is a refrigerator that can turn into an oven at a pre-set hour. It is currently primarily in use in hotels, and if it is modified and installed in ships, it will make it possible for religious sailors to eat warm food on the Sabbath.

Until now, religious sailors solved the problem of warming food on Sabbath by leaving an oven turned on at a low setting throughout the Sabbath. "For years it has been known that mitzvah-keeping soldiers cannot eat warm food on Sabbath during a voyage," a Rabbinic official said. "If the oven-fridge is approved for use, it will be turned on and programmed before the Sabbath and thus the soldiers will have no reason to carry out any cooking over the weekend."

In recent weeks, the Navy has begun handing out coupons for 100 shekels (\$25 dollars) to sailors who serve aboard the security patrol boats on Sabbaths, to use for purchasing salads and processed meat products at food chains. Sailors on "vessels that go out to sea on Sabbath can use the coupon to diversify the foodstuffs at their disposal over the weekend," Rabbi Jamus explained. "That way the soldiers will not have to spend their own money for this purpose."

Israel to Maccabiah Athletes: \$3,500 if You Remain

By IsraelNationalNews.com & Ha'aretz

Foreign Maccabiah participants who decide to stay in Israel can qualify to receive up to \$3,500 from the Immigrant Absorption Ministry. On Sunday, the Ministry for Immigrant Absorption announced the first time ever program which offering participants a special assistance package of nearly NIS 15,000 in addition to standard assistance given to immigrants.

Also included are a one-time stipend of NIS 4,000 for sports equipment and a monthly stipend of NIS 1,200 for nine months during the first year in university or college for anyone beginning school before 2011. The ministry said it would also subsidize salaries given to the new immigrants by their employers for a period of two years.

However, in a last minute decision, a last-minute effort to show solidarity with Gilad Shalit at the Maccabiah's opening ceremony Monday ended in disappointment for the British and American delegations, after organizers forbade them from wearing yellow ribbons.

Activists working for Shalit's release had suggested that every Maccabiah participant wear a yellow ribbon over one shoulder at the opening ceremony. One activist said she thought the organizers "torpedoed the initiative" because "they didn't want to embarrass the government officials at the ceremony." Organizers denied this.

Donate Blood - Get El Al Frequent Flyer Miles

By YnetNews.com

Magen David Adom's blood services are once again predicting a shortage of blood units this summer. But this year they have found a creative solution aimed at encouraging people to donate blood: Each donor will receive free membership in El Al airline's frequent flyer club, plus a gift of 20 frequent flyer miles.

Upon donating the blood, donors will be given a card containing a special link through which they will be able to log into El Al's website and register to the club for free, thus saving the \$20 registration fee. They will also get the 20 points. Donors who are already members will win the 20-point gift. From here on, each donation will earn the donor another 20 points.



Hamas: Israel Dispensing Gum that Arouses Sex Appetite: A Hamas police spokesman in Gaza alleged that Israeli intelligence sources were trying to corrupt the young generation by distributing chewing gum that arouses one's sexual appetite. The case started when a Gaza resident's daughter felt side effects from the gum. The police say they have arrested a number of people for distributing the gum. A Gaza drug dealer said he was supplied by Israeli agents near the Kami commercial crossing.

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255 Access the IsraelNewsFaxx.com searchable archive

E-mail: [dcanaan \(at\) israelfaxx \(dot\) com](mailto:dcanaan@israelfaxx.com) Visit our archival web site at www.israelnewsfaxx.com
July 14, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 134 (2009_07_14) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

Israel Dismisses EU Official's Peace Timetable

By VOA News

Israel's foreign minister has dismissed a European Union call for the United Nations to recognize a Palestinian state if Israelis and Palestinians fail to reach a peace agreement. Avigdor Lieberman told Israeli radio Monday that peace must be negotiated, not "imposed."

Lieberman was responding to a speech by EU foreign policy Chief Javier Solana, in which he called for the international community to set a timetable for a peace agreement between Israelis and Palestinians. Solana said it was up to mediators to set a deadline. He also said the international community's solution should be put in place if the Israeli and Palestinian governments failed to meet the deadline. Palestinian officials welcomed Solana's suggestion.

On Sunday, Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu urged Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas to meet with him immediately to restart peace talks. Netanyahu told his Cabinet he is ready for talks with the Palestinian leader on political issues and economic cooperation.

Abbas' government in the West Bank has said it would not restart peace talks unless Israel stops all settlement activities in the territory. The Palestinian and Israeli leaders have not met since Netanyahu took office in March.

Demjanjuk Indicted in Germany for 27,900 WWII Killings

By IsraelNationalNews.com

State prosecutors representing the government of Germany have formally charged 89-year-old John Demjanjuk with 27,900 counts of accessory to murder for his alleged role as a Nazi guard at the Sobibor death camp during World War II. Sobibor was located in Nazi-occupied Poland.



There have been prior attempts to charge Demjanjuk with Nazi war crimes; he once faced an Israeli courtroom as the suspected Ivan the Terrible, a murderous SS guard at the Treblinka and Sobibor death camps during 1942-1943. He was later acquitted on the charges of being the particularly savage Ivan, but now faces charges of being a Nazi guard of a different identity.

Demjanjuk claims he is innocent and that the case against him is one of mistaken identity. Born in the Ukraine, he claims he was a Red Army soldier who was captured by the Germans and spent the war as a prisoner of war.

The evidence obtained by the U.S. Justice Department appears otherwise: among the documents it presented is a photo ID that shows Demjanjuk was a guard at Sobibor. The ID also reveals that he was credentialed at Trawniki, a special SS training facility for Nazi personnel that was located in German-occupied Poland.

Demjanjuk arrived in Germany in May after years of fighting extradition procedures in the United States, where he had immigrated to following the war. A federal judge in Cleveland cleared the retired auto worker for deportation several weeks ago.

"This is obviously an important step forward," commented the Simon Wiesenthal Center's top Nazi hunter, Efraim Zuroff, in response to Germany's submission of formal charges. "We hope that the trial itself will be expedited so that justice will be achieved and he can be given the appropriate punishment," Zuroff said. "The effort to bring Demjanjuk to justice sends a very powerful message that the passage of time in no way diminishes the guilt of the perpetrator."

His attorneys have tried to delay and even altogether avoid having Demjanjuk face a German judge, claiming he was too frail. But doctors earlier this month determined that he was fit to stand trial, provided that the proceedings are limited to two 90-minute sessions per day.

Charges of accessory to murder in Germany carry a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison, and if convicted, Demjanjuk could conceivably receive consecutive sentences that would total thousands of years – well past the length of whatever life the elderly suspected Nazi has left.

Gaza: Marry Terror Widow, Get Cash

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Hamas held a ceremony over the weekend in which 100 widows of Hamas terrorists were remarried. The women were widowed during Operation Cast Lead earlier this year, when IDF troops battled Hamas in Gaza for three weeks in response to years of terrorist rocket attacks on Israel's south.

In order to round up grooms, Hamas offered each man willing to wed a widow \$2,800. Most of the brides married members of their husband's family, particularly brothers-in-law. Only 20 married someone not related to their deceased husbands.

Many of the widows have children. The children attended the ceremony dressed in white dresses or black suits, while the widows, adhering to a strict Islamic dress code, wore black veils, floor-length shapeless dresses and gloves.

Many of the grooms are already married, but are taking on a second or third wife, as is common in Gaza. "I believe I'm the one who should take care of my brother's wife and their children," one told the Qatar-based Gulf Times in explanation of his actions.

Hamas has held several mass weddings in Gaza in recent weeks, and is planning more in the near future. Prior to the 2007 Hamas takeover of Gaza and the subsequent Hamas-Fatah dispute, the terrorist group arranged several mass weddings in Judea and Samaria as well, including events at which several hundred couples were wed.

The weddings allow Muslim couples to marry without facing the normally prohibitive costs of arranging a wedding, while gaining popularity and political support for Hamas. The families of engaged Arab couples in Judea, Samaria and Gaza are expected to pay for elaborate weddings that are beyond the means of many.

Hamas weddings are much cheaper than traditional weddings. Instead of paying for a gown and stylist, brides appear in black robes, headscarves, and Hamas banners. In some mass weddings the brides have not been seen at all, and young girls in white dresses play the part of bride during the event.

Arab Activists Demand Removal of 'Insensitive' TV Ad

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Arab activists and their Israeli supporters have demanded that Israel boot a cellphone commercial which they say is insensitive to Arab suffering, depicting Israeli soldiers playing soccer with unseen PA Arabs over the separation wall. <http://tinyurl.com/m3dcs3>

Pro-Arab Israelis and anti-Israel Arab Knesset members alike have blasted Cellcom's new advertisement, which depicts a ball falling on an Israeli army jeep over Israel's separation wall between some Arab and Jewish areas in Judea and Samaria. After kicking the ball back over, a game between the soldiers and people who are presumed to be PA Arabs ensues, with a voiceover enthusing "After all, what are we all after? Just a little fun."

The advertisement was produced by McCann Erickson, part of U.S. Interpublic Group. Cellcom representatives said the ad was intended to illustrate the potential for communication between diverse groups and the pursuit of mutually-enjoyable entertainment.

Arab Knesset member Ahmed Tibi, who is known for his vehemently anti-Israel presence in Israel's parliament, decried the ad as minimizing the injustice done to Arabs as a result of the wall.

The Cellcom ad came out almost exactly on the five-year anniversary of an International Court of Justice (ICJ) decision that Israel has no right to attempt to maintain security by building a fence through land that was restored to the Jewish state in the 1967 Six Day War.

Moscow Circus Presents Monkeys Posing as Jews

By YnetNews.com

Micky Saidov, an Israeli businessman living in Russia never would have imagined that a trip with his daughter to one of the most talked about circuses in Moscow would go from an entertaining experience to a full-blown anti-Semitic one.

During one of the Nikulin Circus skits, the performers simulated a "Jewish Wedding", with the leading roles being filled by four monkeys, acting as the bride, groom and their parents. "It was humiliating, embarrassing and even spine-chilling. My 14-year-old daughter Linoy was shocked, with her mouth wide open. She was so upset she wanted to throw trash into the ring to make it stop," Saidov told Ynet.

Following the incident, he decided to send a letter to the Israeli embassy in Moscow to inform them of the show's content. "I wanted to bring their attention to this very anti-Semitic, offensive, strident and chilling point with regards to Jewish feelings," he said.

The "Jewish Wedding" is part of the Nikulin Circus production, which puts on many shows each week on Tsvetnoy Boulevard in Moscow. "I had my daughter in town and wanted to take her to the circus that is considered the best one here. Nikulin is very famous and attracts many tourists," Saidov said.

"The circus really was great, and we had a smile on our faces during the whole show, until suddenly, a religious man wrapped in a tzitzit wearing a hat and long side-locks walks in along with a few other guys dressed as Chassidics wearing white skullcaps.

"They were leading in a carriage with a quartet of monkeys – the groom and bride and their parents wearing skullcaps. For five minutes they performed before the crowd, and acted out a scene of a Jewish wedding with a chuppah, wine, and everything that comes with it. As a Jew, it was very unpleasant," Saidov said.

According to the father, the crowd knew exactly what was happening on the stage: "The crowd was entertained for five minutes, and we were in shock. I have been working in Moscow for three years as an Israeli real estate company's representative. I am not ashamed of being Jewish or Israeli and I have never come across such a thing. I have never come across anti-Semitism here and that's why I was amazed. Linoy was shocked as well."

The circus' Assistant Director-General Lidia Samoilova told a Russian entertainment website that this is the first time the show gets such an outraged reaction: "It would be funny if it wasn't so sad. Do the police have nothing better to do? Are there no problems in the country? They actually came here two days ago and laughed."

Maxim Nikulin, own of the circus' owners said, "I have a Jewish friend and he told me that every people has its fools." The monkeys' trainer Aziz Askarian said, "We consulted with representatives of the Jewish cultural center and they approved of everything. Moreover, they gave us advice on lighting that was imported from Israel."

18th Maccabiah Opens--'It's Amazing, Everyone's Jewish'

By Ha'aretz

The opening ceremony of the 18th Maccabiah - the largest one to date - began Monday evening in Ramat Gan.



Maccabiah
מכביה 18
המכביה ה-18 ישראל תשס"ט
18th MACCABIAH ISRAEL 2009

Seven thousand athletes from 51 countries will take part in the "Jewish Olympics" held every four years since 1932. The athletes will compete in 31 different sports events during the next 10 days.

"It's amazing, everyone's Jewish," said Ian Mablín, of London, as he strode around the gathering place near Ramat Gan Stadium, moments before the different delegations were arranged in lines, equipped with pins, flags and hats and received marching instructions for the opening ceremony.

"My last Maccabiah was in 1993," the 61-year-old athlete continued, walking hastily to the British team's meeting point. "I won two silver siver medals and one bronze then, but now I'm a bit older, so it's going to be a bit harder. Sports is important, but the whole event itself is much more important. It's so much more."

Most athletes similarly spoke about the excitement they felt being united with so many Jews from all over the world. Ernest Strul, a 33-year-old soccer player from Offenbach, Germany - which has a Jewish community of 500 - said his personal highlight will be "on the field," but added he got goose bumps when he looked around the area and saw hundreds of athletes dressed in their national colors. "It is unbelievably beautiful to meet so many Jews from other countries."

"The most exciting thing is that the Maccabiah is a gathering of Jewish people representing their communities at a sporting event that is broadcast to Jewish households throughout the world," said Irvin Gordon, a 58-year-old squash player from Sydney. "This is a meeting of a diverse group of Jews with different backgrounds and social cultures, but at the end of the day, when they go to synagogue they pray in the same language as I do."

Sandy Kleinberg, of Rochester, New York, noted the difference of atmosphere between his first Maccabiah in 2001 and today. "We were sitting in the bus and were kind of tom. On one hand we were excited to be in Israel and be greeted by 40,000 cheering fans, but on the other hand the atmosphere was also very tense, because we were told that a terrorist attack had just been foiled.

"Even as we walked into the stadium, we felt excited and nervous at the same time. This year, it's very different," the 33-year-old volleyballer continued. There is no fear whatsoever, we're just happy and proud of the progress Israel had made in terms of security."

Benjamin Panzer, a swimmer from Vienna, already managed to visit Jerusalem's Old City and a kibbutz. "It's completely different from everything I've ever seen, and I mean this in a good way," he said. "It's a great feeling to be part of something so big." Asked how he estimated his chances of winning gold, the 19-year-old responded: "Bad. I'm swimming against [Olympic gold medalist Jason] Lezak. I'm just here to have fun."



Courtesy of Yaakov Kirschen www.DryBonesBlog.com



Obama: 'Never Forget' Applies to Slavery and Holocaust: President Barack Obama said in a CNN interview to be broadcast Monday that the legacy of slavery in the United States, like the Holocaust, "Is one of those that you don't forget about. "I think it's important that the way we think about it, the way it's taught, is not one in which there's simply a victim and a victimizer, and that's the end of the story." The interview on the "Anderson Cooper: 360" program was taped in Ghana, a former slave trading center and Obama's destination this past weekend.

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255 Access the IsraelNewsFaxx.com searchable archive

E-mail: [dcanaan \(at\) israelfaxx \(dot\) com](mailto:dcanaan@israelfaxx.com) Visit our archival web site at www.israelnewsfaxx.com
July 15, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 135 (2009_07_15) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

Israel to Test Arrow Missile on American Pacific Range

By Reuters

Israel will soon test an Arrow interceptor missile on a US missile range in the Pacific Ocean in a joint exercise that also will involve three US missile defense systems, a top US general said on Tuesday.

Army Lt. Gen. Patrick O'Reilly, director of the Pentagon's Missile Defense Agency, said the test would allow Israel to measure its advanced Arrow system against a target with a range of more than 1,000 km too long for previous Arrow test sites in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Arrow system, jointly developed by Israel and the United States, is designed to defend Israel against possible ballistic missile attacks from Iran and Syria.

"They are having a flight test soon this summer," O'Reilly told reporters. "They're limited to the range of the missile they can test in the eastern Mediterranean. There's a safety issue," he said. "That's the primary purpose of them coming to the United States to use our test range."

O'Reilly did not say when the test flight would occur and other Pentagon officials were not immediately available for comment. "The upcoming test also provides us the opportunity to have the Patriot system, the THAAD system and the Aegis system all interacting with the Arrow system so that we're demonstrating full interoperability as we execute this test," he added.

Israel carried out a successful test launch of its Arrow II interceptor missile in April, shooting down a target designed to simulate an Iranian Shehab missile over the Mediterranean. Israel Radio said the April exercise was the 16th test launch of an Arrow. A defense source in Israel said 90 percent of the tests have been successful.

At least two Arrow batteries have been deployed in Israel, which has been testing the system to improve its performance at high altitudes against multiple incoming missiles.

Two Israeli Warships Sail Through Suez Canal

By IsraelNationalNews.com

Two Israeli warships reportedly passed through the Suez Canal Tuesday in what is seen as an unusual show of cooperation between Egypt and the Jewish State, according to Arab news media.

The report has not been officially confirmed by the IDF. However, in what appeared to be confirmation by Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Ghet told journalists that the crossings were legitimate in accordance with an agreement between the countries.

The Hanit and the Eilat, both Sa'ar-5 class Navy torpedo boats, traveled from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea, allegedly to beef up Israel's military presence there.

The Eilat is the second ship of that name; the first was a destroyer sunk by Egypt shortly after the 1967 Six Day War. Forty-seven Israeli sailors died in the attack. The Hanit had already made the trip through the Suez,

according to the AFP news agency, which reported the vessel had crossed through the Canal in each direction in June.

Several weeks ago, an Israeli Dolphin-class submarine also traveled through the Suez Canal from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea and back, escorted by Egyptian navy vessels. It was the first such drill for the German-made secret vessel, defense sources confirmed to Reuters, despite a later denial by an Egyptian security officer who said the voyage had never taken place. IDF Army Radio quoted the officer as saying, "Egypt does not allow Israeli warships to enter our territory."

Usually Israeli ships and submarines travel around the Horn of Africa in order to reach the Red Sea, where an Iranian ship loaded with weapons was sunk a few months ago. More than 100 arms smugglers on board the vessel, which was headed for Gaza, were killed in the attack reportedly carried out by Israel.

The recent voyage of the Dolphin was intended by both Israel and Egypt as a message to Iran, which has continued its nuclear development activities in the face of a ban by the United Nations Security Council.

Intelligence reports indicate that Iran is intent upon building a nuclear weapon, and President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has in the past year repeatedly threatened to attack the State of Israel. Any nuclear attack on the Jewish State would affect neighboring nations as well.

Until now, Israeli naval vessels have previously avoided the Suez Canal, and some media pundits have speculated that military intelligence has tried to avoid Egyptian detection of alleged nuclear warheads aboard the ships.

Abbas 'Helped Israel Kill Arafat'

By WorldNetDaily.com

Palestinian Authority President and Fatah chief Mahmoud Abbas worked with Israel to poison late PLO Leader Yasir Arafat, a senior Fatah member charged.

"Abu Mazen (Abbas) and (Fatah strongman) Mahmoud Dahlan were part of an Israeli plan that killed Arafat," stated Farouq Qaddoumi, secretary general of the Fatah's central committee, at a news conference in Amman, Jordan. "There were a series of meetings that took place between the Israeli leadership and those Palestinian leaders," Qaddoumi said.

"There were protocols of secret meetings with the Israelis smuggled to Arafat from one of the people around Abbas. He and Dahlan were the last circle before the people that brought the poison to Arafat," claimed Qaddoumi.

At the news conference, Qaddoumi presented what he claimed were the protocols of meetings between Israel and Abbas to plot Arafat's death. "The Fatah leadership should know their leaders, especially Dahlan and Abu Mazen (Abbas) are directly responsible for killing Arafat," he said. Qaddoumi's charges are making top news in independent Palestinian media outlets.



Arafat died Nov. 11, 2004, at a military hospital in Paris. The official cause of death was not released because French law prohibits distribution of medical records to anyone other than immediate family. Arafat's widow, Suha, has refused to divulge any details of his illness.

Arafat had the deadly HIV virus in his bloodstream when he died, the late PLO leader's personal physician disclosed in an interview with the Arab news media in August 2007.

Dr. Ashraf al-Kurdi, Arafat's personal physician, began telling Al Jazeera during a live interview he knew that Arafat had HIV in his bloodstream at the time of his death, but the satellite Arabic network immediately cut him off when he made the accusation.

Hours later, a Jordanian news website in Amman quoted al-Kurdi as saying someone injected HIV into Arafat's body before he died and that the real cause of the Palestinian leader's death was poison.

Al-Kurdi was Arafat's doctor for 18 years up to a few months before the PLO leader died. He played no role in Arafat's medical care during the final weeks of the Palestinian leader's life and refused to divulge the source of the AIDS information. He claimed the virus was put into Arafat's blood in an effort to blur the traces of poisoning, which he says was the "real" cause of death.

Al-Kurdi told the Jordanian news website Arafat's sickness and death leave open many questions that should be investigated. "I would usually be summoned to attend to Arafat immediately, even when all he had was a simple cold," said al-Kurdi. "But when his medical situation was really deteriorating, they chose not to call me at all," the doctor said.

Al-Kurdi said Suha Arafat refused to allow him to visit Arafat in the private Paris hospital where he was being treated and that he was later denied access to Arafat's body.

The Palestinian Authority in 2005 obtained a copy of Arafat's medical report as part of an internal investigation into Arafat's death, but the PA never disclosed what it found.

In July 2007, during an interview, an occasional Arafat confidant and well-known terrorist leader stated the confidential medical report released to the PA from the French hospital in which Arafat died revealed the Palestinian leader succumbed to AIDS.

Ahmed Jibril – the infamous Damascus-based PFLP chief who at times was a close Arafat confidant – said in an interview with Hizbullah's Al-Manar television that PA President Mahmoud Abbas and his team told him the French medical report listed AIDS as Arafat's cause of death. While Arafat was ill and after his death, some publicly speculated he was dying of AIDS.

The homosexual site <http://www.365Gay.com>, which deals regularly with issues related to HIV/AIDS, ran a piece reminding readers that for several years it had been suggested Arafat was bisexual and could have contracted the disease. "If suggestions that Arafat has AIDS are true, it is doubtful it would be made public," wrote its European bureau chief Malcolm Thornberry.

National Review diarist David Frum suggested in a column Arafat contracted AIDS from homosexual sex with his bodyguards. Ion Pacepa, who was deputy chief of Romanian foreign intelligence under the Ceausescu regime and who defected to the West in 1978, stated in his memoirs the Romanian government bugged Arafat and had recordings of the Arab leader in orgies with his security detail.

In a WND interview, the National Security Agency's former analyst of Arafat's communications said the U.S. had information indicating the Palestinian leader may have been a homosexual who preyed on teenage boys.

James J. Welsh, who in the early 1970s monitored

monitored communications for the NSA related to Arafat's Fatah movement, said, "One of the things we looked for when we were intercepting Fatah communications were messages about Ashbal [Lion cub] members who would be called to Beirut from bases outside of Beirut. The Ashbal were often orphaned or abandoned boys who were brought into the organization, ostensibly to train for later entry into Fedayeen fighter units.

"Arafat always had several of these 13-15 year old boys in his entourage. We figured out that he would often recall several of these boys to Beirut just before he would leave for a trip outside Lebanon. It proved to be a good indicator of Arafat's travel plans. While Arafat did have a regular security detail, many of those thought to be security personnel – the teenage boys – were actually there for other purposes," Welsh said.

Arafat's Fatah and PLO organizations based themselves in Beirut after they were expelled from Jordan in 1970. The terror groups remained in Lebanon until Israel's military operations in the area in 1982. In response to Welsh's allegations, senior Arafat aide and chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat told WND the reports are "utter nonsense and don't merit any reaction."

FBI's Wanted Man Says His Jewish Girlfriend is Pregnant

By *YnetNews.com*

Mickey Louis Mayon, one of the FBI's 100 most wanted criminals who was arrested in Tel Aviv on Monday, has told investigators of his case that he is currently residing in Israel with his Jewish girlfriend, and that she is pregnant with his child.



Mayon is wanted in the US for belonging to the KKK and torching cars belonging to federal judges. Interpol said he's been living in Israel illegally since 2008

"He displayed naïveté, innocence, and fear – just the opposite of what the first impression of a Ku Klux Klan member brings to mind" an Israeli intelligence official who directed the the operation leading to Mayon's arrest told Ynet. His unit had received intelligence from Interpol before carrying out the operation.

He said the unit started to plan the arrest just after receiving the information. And as a first step they set up surveillance around the hostel at which Mayon was staying. "When he arrived during the night we identified him and carried out the arrest. You could say he was pretty shocked," he said. "He was frightened, and asked for a glass of water to calm down," adding that Mayon did not resist arrest.

During his interrogation by immigration control agents Mayon asked to remain in Israel as he was expecting a child from his Jewish girlfriend. He said he had been subsisting on odd jobs and money sent to him by his parents.

But the question of why a person wanted for hate crimes would come to a Jewish state remains unanswered. "When I asked him what he was doing in Israel he said he had met the most amazing people he'd ever seen in his life here," the official recounted. "Maybe he arrived here by accident and stayed because he fell in love with the place."

Interior Ministry sources said the pregnancy would not prevent Mayon's extradition. One source said his story was dubious as the girlfriend had not appealed to the authorities in order to legalize his stay in Israel due to the pregnancy.



Study: Israelis Pay Majority of Salary to Taxes: The Jerusalem Institute for Market Research published a study Wednesday saying that Israelis pay most of their salaries to taxes. According to the study, Israelis work 200 days out of the year in order to pay taxes, and only 165 days out of the year for themselves. The study included all taxes paid, including income tax, VAT tax, local taxes, import taxes, car and fuel taxes, and service taxes. Israelis also paid 50 percent more taxes in 2008 than in 2000.

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255 Access the IsraelNewsFaxx.com searchable archive

E-mail: [dcanaan \(at\) israelfaxx \(dot\) com](mailto:dcanaan@israelfaxx.com) Visit our archival web site at www.israelnewsfaxx.com

July 16, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 136 (2009_07_16) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

Germany's BND Denies Report on Iran Bomb Timing

By Reuters

Germany's foreign intelligence agency BND denied a report in a magazine on Wednesday that its experts believe Iran is capable of producing and testing an atomic bomb within six months.

The report, in German weekly Stern, cited BND experts as saying Iran had mastered the enrichment technology necessary to make a bomb and had enough centrifuges to make weaponized uranium.

It quoted one expert at the agency as saying: "If they wanted to, they could detonate an atomic bomb in half a year's time." But a BND spokesman said the article did not reflect the view of the agency, which is that Iran would not be able to produce an atomic bomb for years. "We are talking about several years not several months," the spokesman said.

Iran said its nuclear program is for electricity generation to help it export more of its oil and gas, but Western countries suspect it of trying to make a nuclear bomb.

The U.N. Security Council has imposed three sets of sanctions on Tehran for defying its demands to suspend uranium enrichment. Some analysts say Iran may be close to having the required material for producing a bomb, but most say the weaponization process would then take one to two years due to technical and political hurdles.

"Weaponizing" enrichment would not escape the notice of U.N. nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), unless it was done at a secret location.

Until now there have been no indications of any such covert diversion, a point made by the IAEA's incoming director-general shortly after his election earlier this month. Current IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei has said it is his "gut feeling" that Iran is seeking at least the capability to build nuclear weapons, in order to protect itself from perceived regional and U.S. threats.

Anti-Rocket Defense System Iron Dome Aces First Live Try

By Reuters

An Israeli interceptor system developed to shoot down the short-range rockets favored by Palestinian and Lebanese terrorists passed its first live trial on Wednesday, a defense official said.

Iron Dome's success could improve the prospects of Israel eventually ceding West Bank land to the Palestinians, as Israeli officials have said that any withdrawals should be conditional on the deployment of a reliable defense against rocket attacks.

Designed by state-owned Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd., Iron Dome uses small guided missiles to blow up Katyusha-style rockets. Israel plans to station the first working unit outside the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip next year. "This was the first time Iron Dome was tested with the aim of a metal-to-metal result," an Israeli defense official said, describing the mid-air interception. "The (target) rocket was completely destroyed."

Iron Dome would be capable of intercepting rockets with ranges of between 5 km (3 miles) and 70 km (42 miles), the official said. The project was spurred by Israel's 2006 war with Lebanese Hizbullah terrorists, during which 4,000 rockets rained down on its northern border communities.

Israel has seen similar attacks by Palestinian terrorists in Gaza, from which it withdrew in 2005. A surge in the salvos prompted an Israeli offensive last December which killed more than 1,400 Palestinians, many of them civilians. "When you don't have a system like this, you can get dragged into wars that prove far more expensive," said Alon Ben-David, Channel 10's defense analyst.

Israel envisages Iron Dome becoming the lowest level of a multi-tier aerial shield capped by Arrow, a partly U.S.-funded system which shoots down ballistic missiles at higher altitudes.

Cabinet officials predict that once it is operational, the Iron Dome system will provide a successful defense from 90 percent of the rockets fired at Western Negev communities.

Rabbi: Blind Men are Allowed to Feel Their Dates

By YnetNews.com

Rabbi Yuval Sherlo, the head of the Petah Tikva Hesder Yeshiva, has declared it permissible for a blind man to "feel" his date if he intends to marry her. "This is the way a blind man gets to know his partner," the rabbi said in response to a halachic question he was asked. "It may even be correct to say that he is required to touch her."

Sherlo was then asked to base his ruling on halachic sources, and his answer was posted on the yeshiva's website.

On the site he explains that despite a religious ruling that forbids men from looking at women because of their beauty, Torah sages required all men to see their intended before marriage. He says that this is true regarding the blind as well, but because the only way they can 'see' their date is by feeling her they are permitted to do so.

"Feeling her face is void of sexual significance; it's the blind man's way of seeing," the rabbi wrote. "He is also subject to the obligation to build a loving home, and this is an inseparable part of how he does this." Sherlo also explained that despite their disability, the blind still desire to know what their wives look like. "A blind man cares about many things, even if he cannot see them," he explained.

Terrorists Issue Threat Against 'Bruno' Star

By WorldNetDaily.com

The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, the terrorist group depicted in the film "Bruno" is "very upset" because their group's namesake and former member was featured in a film about a homosexual character that includes graphic depictions of homosexual sex.

The group, as well as individual members, released a statement to

WND that includes a veiled threat against the movie's star, Sacha Baron Cohen: "We reserve the right to respond in the way we find suitable against this man (Cohen)" said the statement.



"This movie was part of a conspiracy against the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades," continued the statement, released through a senior member of the group in the West Bank.

"According to what we checked there was no meeting about the real context of the film. This was a dirty use of our brother, Aiman, and we don't accept that the name of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades is part of the film."

Aiman is a reference to Ayman Abu Aita, who was interviewed in the movie "Bruno" and labeled as a "terrorist leader" from the Brigades division in the West Bank city of Bethlehem. Aita told WND the movie mislabels him and that Cohen conducted the interview under false pretenses. Aita said he is pursuing legal action against Cohen.

The Brigades statement claimed that "Aiman is part of the political level of Fatah in Bethlehem, part of the leadership of the political apparatus of Fatah. He is not a member of the Brigades." The Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades is the declared military wing of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' U.S.-backed Fatah party. The Brigades is responsible for scores of suicide bombings, shootings and deadly rocket attacks against Israeli civilian population centers.

Several Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades leaders responded to the use of their group in the "Bruno" movie. Abu Philistine, the current leader of the Brigades in Aita's hometown of Bethlehem, told WND, "This was a trick against Aiman. We don't want to be part of this movie"

Jihad Jaara, the infamous exiled chief of the Brigades in Bethlehem, called Cohen "not funny" and said his film was "stupid. I'd like to tell Cohen if you like to be funny you are not. You showed the world how stupid is this film," Jaara told WND. "We don't need for Cohen to show us to the world in a homosexual film. That made us very angry at him."

Continued Jaara: "If he wants to make a real film, then come to the Palestinian territories and see how children are dying every day at the hands of the Israeli occupation." I heard about this film and I felt very shamed when I heard about it," added Jaara. Jaara was the notorious director of the 2002 siege of Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity who served as the Bethlehem-area chief of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades terrorist organization during that time.

Many senior Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades leaders were granted amnesty by Israel in 2007 in an American-brokered gesture to bolster Abbas. The group, therefore, could not release an official pamphlet against the movie since the Brigades have not been releasing pamphlets. Also, some Brigades leaders warned that Abbas' Fatah party may try to distance itself publicly from the statements against Cohen.

Speaking with WND, Aita slammed Cohen as a "big liar" who "made up stories" when describing to CBS' David Letterman last week the way he met Aita at an undisclosed location. Aita said he is pursuing legal action against Cohen. "[Cohen] said this was a film going to help the Palestinian cause," Aita told WND. "When I heard (four days ago) what this film was about I really didn't believe it."

The character Bruno is a flamboyant Austrian television host who moves to Los Angeles to become "the biggest Austrian star since Hitler." At one point in the movie, whose \$30 million weekend topped the U.S. box office, Bruno meets Aita, depicted as a terrorist group leader from the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, in a bid to seduce the jihadist group into kidnapping him so Bruno can become famous.

Aita, however, is not exactly a terrorist. At least not anymore. Aita is a representative of Fatah to the West Bank town of Beit Sahor, which

is a satellite of Bethlehem. Aita also is a board member of the Holy Land Trust, a nongovernmental organization promoting Palestinian rights and commitment to nonviolence.

Aita served in the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigades from 2000 until 2003, after which he did a two-year stint in Israeli prison on accusations he was involved in shootings against Israeli soldiers operating in Bethlehem. Still, according to Israeli security sources speaking to WND, Aita, while a member of the Brigades, once worked with Jewish state officials to return two Israeli reserve soldiers who had gotten lost in Bethlehem.

Cohen, meanwhile, has pumped up his sit down with a "real terrorist" to promote his new movie. In an interview with Letterman last week, Cohen described meeting Aita and Aita's "bodyguard" at an undisclosed location in the West Bank. "I thought I needed security," Cohen told Letterman. "It was in the West Bank. The guy picks this secret location. ... The terrorist comes in with his bodyguard. I was pretty sure that my terrorist either did or did not have a gun on him," said Cohen.

Aita, however, says the interview took place at a private section of a popular restaurant called Everest in the town of Beit Jala, which is in a section in the West Bank under Israeli control. He said he does not carry any weapons and Palestinians are not allowed to bring weapons into Beit Jala. Indeed, during multiple in-person interviews with WND, Aita was unarmed.

Aita also said he does not have a bodyguard. The second individual who showed up with him for the interview with Cohen, he said, was Sammy Awad, the American manager of the Holy Land Trust.

Asked if he thought anything was unusual about the way Cohen acted or dressed during the interview, Aita replied, "No. He behaved very normally. There was nothing special," continued Aita. "He said he is a German actor making documentaries watched by young people. ... He wanted to make a story to mobilize the young people to help us (Palestinians). ... I didn't have any impression he would use my interview in a bad way."

Cohen's publicist, Matthew Labov, told WND the comedian has no comment on the report. A spokesman for Universal Pictures, which released the movie, said the studio also had no comment.

Dry Bones HOLY MOLEY





Syria: No Golan Retreat, No Peace Talks: In a Damascus meeting with Fred Hoff, assistant to U.S. special envoy to the Middle East George Mitchell, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Moallem said that Israel must return the Golan Heights in its entirety and return to the June 4, 1967 borders before talks can resume. He is expected to meet with Syrian President Bashar Assad later in his trip. Sunday, Hoff met Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak and Deputy Foreign Minister Danny Ayalon. Following his meeting with Hoff, Ayalon said that Israel was ready for direct negotiations with Syria without any preconditions, such as returning land.

All the news the big guys missed. ISSN 1074-2255 Access the IsraelNewsFaxx.com searchable archive

E-mail: dcaanaan (at) israelfaxx (dot) com Visit our archival web site at www.israelnewsfaxx.com July 17, 2009 Vol. 17, No. 137 (2009_07_17) Editor: Don Canaan, The Villages, FL 32159

Israeli Warships Cross Red Sea in Apparent Signal to Tehran

By WorldNetDaily.com and Israel Faxx News Services

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's office refused to respond to a report Thursday purporting to quote an Israeli defense official stating the recent deployment of warships, the Hanit and the Eliat, across the Red Sea should be seen as serious preparation for an attack on Iran. "It is not our policy to comment on such reports," Mark Regev, Netanyahu's spokesman, told WND.

Earlier this week, two Israel Navy gunboats openly sailed through the Suez Canal into the Red Sea with permission from Egypt. "This is preparation that should be taken seriously. Israel is investing time in preparing itself for the complexity of an attack on Iran. These maneuvers are a message to Iran that Israel will follow up on its threats," the Times of London Thursday quoted what it said was an Israeli defense official as saying.

The warship movements follow the June passage of an Israeli Dolphin-class submarine, believed to be nuclear-armed, through the canal, later returning the same way. Dolphin-class submarines were designed to fire relatively short-range Harpoon missiles. But they also have a number of larger-diameter torpedo tubes from which a much longer-range weapon might be fired.

There has been considerable speculation that Israel has designed a long-range cruise missile capable of being fired from the Dolphin boats, and that this might even have the option of being equipped with a nuclear warhead.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit told the Times that his government explicitly allowed passage of Israeli vessels, and an Israeli admiral said the drills were "run regularly with the full cooperation of the Egyptians."

"This is preparation that should be taken seriously," an Israeli defense official said. "Israel is investing time in preparing itself for the complexity of an attack on Iran. These maneuvers are a message to Iran that Israel will follow up on its threats."

According to Israeli defense officials speaking to WND, the Dolphin was carrying out test drills. The officials said the submarine passed through the canal with permission from Egypt, even though the Egyptian government denied any permission was granted.

The Times quoted an Israeli diplomat explaining the Jewish state has been bolstering its ties with certain Arab nations that are also threatened by Iran. The diplomat cited a "shared mutual distrust of Iran" between Israel and Egypt.

In a report denied by Netanyahu's office, the Times two weeks ago claimed Saudi Arabia would turn a blind eye to Israeli warplanes flying over the kingdom in any raid on Iran's nuclear sites.

The Times said Mossad director Meir Dagan had held secret talks with Saudi officials to discuss the possibility. "The Saudis have tacitly agreed to the Israeli air force flying through their airspace on a mission which is supposed to be in the common interests of Israel and Saudi Arabia," the newspaper quoted a diplomatic source as saying.

Jerusalem, the alleged possessor of the sole nuclear arsenal in the Middle East, accuses Iran of secretly enriching weapons-grade uranium to attack Israel. Iran maintains that it has no such intentions and has asserted that its uranium enrichment is a peaceful drive to produce electricity.

Israel sent its naval vessels through the Suez Canal as regional leaders, including Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki, convened for the

annual meeting of the members of the Non-Aligned Movement at the Egyptian resort city of Sharm el-Sheik.

Israel makes no secret of its military posture toward Iran. Israeli President Shimon Peres said in April that military options were on the table in the event U.S. efforts at detente failed. Iran, for its part, advertises its hatred toward Israel by threatening to wipe the Jewish state off the map.



Shlomo Brom, a senior analyst with the Institute for National Security Studies in Tel Aviv, told the Emirati newspaper The National that while the Israeli naval activity shows it is "capable" of striking Iran, that doesn't mean the activity is a sign of

aggression. If Israel really meant to strike," he said, "it wouldn't publicize it like this."

Academic and military experts have produced a torrent of reports about just how such an operation might be carried out. But it is clear that Israel may have some surprises up its sleeve, and that its commanders intend to maximize their tactical options whether an attack comes from the air or from the sea.

In Iran, newly re-elected President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said his next government "would bring down the global arrogance," signaling a tougher approach by Tehran toward the West after last month's disputed election.

Ahmadinejad, in his first provincial trip after the June 12 presidential vote, said Iran's enemies had tried to interfere and foment aggression in the country, referring to mass opposition protests against the official election result.

The hard-line president, who often rails against the West, said the Islamic Republic wanted "logic and negotiations" but that Western powers had insulted the Iranian nation and should apologize.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, the Jewish Angle

By TheJewishJournal.com



As "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" opens to mostly stellar reviews, the title itself evokes why the book and film series have so resonated with Jewish audiences.

Like all the Potter films - based on J.K. Rowling's best-sellers - "Prince" is rife with metaphors for racism and ethnic cleansing, including characters that refer to wizards as "pure-bloods," "half-bloods" or "mudbloods" (a racist slur meaning mixed or non-magical parentage).

In the new film, flashbacks reveal how the evil Lord Voldemort grows from a troubled child into a genocidal maniac bent on annihilating non-magic folk (muggles) and those with mixed heritage. "Voldemort and his followers, the Death Eaters, are obsessed with the preservation of blood purity," Potter producer David Heyman told the Journal last year.