

Israel Update- Jan 13, 2010

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"He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me; Selah God sends His love and His faithfulness.' Ps 57:3

ISRAEL WILL REACT STRONGLY TO ATTACKS: Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu on Sunday opened the weekly cabinet meeting with a warning for terrorists and those who incite to violence against Israel. Twenty rockets and mortar shells were fired at Israel from Gaza last week. Israel's air-force immediately reacted by attacking rocket manufacturing plants and tunnels "used by Iran to smuggle missiles and rockets into the Strip," Netanyahu said. He warned that Israel would continue to react swiftly and mightily to the firing of rockets into its territory. (J.Post) "I do not trust in my bow, my sword does not bring me victory; but you give us victory over our enemies, you put our adversaries to shame." Ps 44:6-7

IDF: SOUTHERN ISRAEL TO COME UNDER ATTACK AGAIN SOON: The head of the Israeli army's Southern Command, Gen. Yoav Galant, warned local regional council heads last week that sustained artillery attacks from Hamas-ruled Gaza are likely to resume soon, necessitating another strong military response by Israel. Galant told the residents of Israel's western Negev region they should "prepare themselves for another round of fighting." A day later, Palestinian terrorists operating out of Gaza fired ten mortar shells into southern Israel. (Israel Today)

TENSION ON EGYPTIAN BORDER: A Gaza Palestinian shot and killed an Egyptian soldier in a watch tower last week. Recent clashes with Hamas-ruled Palestinians at Egypt's border with the Gaza Strip have resulted also in the injuries of 17 Egyptian soldiers, including 10 officers. On the other side of the crossing, five Palestinians were seriously wounded by gunfire from Egyptian soldiers who reacted after hundreds of protesters, demonstrating against the new barrier under construction by Egypt, threw rocks at the troops. The demonstration was reportedly organized by Hamas officials in Gaza to protest against the Egyptian barrier, which should put an end to the construction of underground tunnels used to smuggle goods and weapons into Palestinian territory. Munitions have been amassed in Gaza via such smuggling tunnels -with the help of Iran - to use against Israel. (Jihad Watch) As one blogger wrote: "Egyptians are building walls to keep out the Gaza Palestinians. The Syrians don't want them. The Jordanians don't want them. The Israelis are also building self-defense walls and surely don't want them. The Lebanese have been invaded by them and are now leaving their native country to get away from them. Could it be that Gazan Palestinian behavior is just too obnoxious for anyone except the Iranians who also have their own problems with acceptance in both the Muslim and Western world?" It should also be noted that Israel is the only nation that has come under heavy UN criticism for building a wall that has greatly reduced terrorist attacks on innocent Israeli citizens. The Jewish state has been accused of constructing an "apartheid" barrier in its self-defense action taken against Palestinian terrorists.

EGYPTIAN IMAMS LAUNCH ATTACK ON HAMAS: Mosques across Egypt launched scathing attacks on the Hamas terrorist group in the wake of the killing of an Egyptian border guard by a Palestinian gunman last week. According to a media report, imams throughout the country used their Friday sermons to lash out at the Islamic group which controls the Gaza Strip. One, at a Cairo mosque, asked the gunman what he would tell his God "tomorrow."

Another said that Egypt had sacrificed thousands for Palestine. Yet another blamed Hamas for the ongoing siege of Gaza at the hands of Israel, saying its leaders wished to stay in power "even at the cost of the starvation and expulsion of their people." (J.Post)

HAMAS AND EGYPT ON COLLISION COURSE: The clashes at the Rafah border crossing between Hamas-controlled mobs and Egyptian security forces will lead to a larger conflict between the two entities, Middle East expert Dr. Mordechai Kedar estimated during a recent press interview. He said the fighting between Egypt and the Hamas terrorists are representative of a larger struggle between two schools of thought that are fighting each other for leadership of the Arab world. "On the one hand there is Egypt, a sovereign secular country, and on the other hand there is the new state in Gaza, led by a [terrorist] organization that wants to place the world under the kingdom of Allah." The moment of truth for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has arrived, said Kedar. "The Egyptians refuse to let Hamas continue to dig tunnels under their noses. The cooperation with Iran threatens Egypt. The Egyptians have already exposed Hamas cells that operated in the country, and Mubarak is afraid of losing power." (INN) "In that day five of Egypt's cities will follow the Lord of Heaven's Armies.... Is 19:18

REPORT: HIZBULLAH EARNING MILLIONS FROM EUROPEAN DRUG TRADE: A report in the German magazine Der Spiegel over the weekend says one way Hizbullah has been earning money for its terror activities is by selling drugs in Europe. German police have arrested members of a Lebanese family that illegally transferred millions of euros from Germany to known Hizbullah terrorists, including Hizbullah chief Hassan Nasrallah, in Lebanon. Israeli authorities have long said the terror group was involved in growing and selling drugs – both for profit, and as a way to attempt to corrupt Israeli society. A spokesman for Israel's Anti-Drug Authority, said "there are dozens of documented cases" implicating Hizbullah and its patron Syria, in growing and selling drugs, and in smuggling them into Israel." (INN)

RE-QUESTIONING WHEN THE BIBLE REALLY WRITTEN: By decoding the inscription on a 3,000-year-old piece of pottery, an Israeli professor has concluded parts of the bible were written hundreds of years earlier than suspected. The pottery shard was discovered at excavations west of Jerusalem. Carbon-dating places it in the 10th century B.C.E., making the shard about 1,000 years older than the Dead Sea scrolls. The inscription is the earliest example of Hebrew writing found. Prior to this discovery, it was not believed that the Bible or parts of it could have been written before the 6th century B.C.E., because Hebrew writing supposedly did not exist until then. A paraphrased English translation of the deciphered text reads: 1.You shall not do it, but worship the Lord. 2. Judge the slave and the widow / Judge the orphan and the stranger. 3. Plead for the infant /plead for the poor and the widow. 4. Rehabilitate the poor at the hands of the king. 5. Protect the poor and the slave / support the stranger. (Fox News)

ISRAEL BASKS IN WEEKEND HEATWAVE: Israelis headed for the beach at the weekend to enjoy temperatures in the high 70s Fahrenheit as much of northern Europe shivered in a cold snap. While Jerusalemites bathed in balmy weather under a cloudless blue sky, residents of Paris, London, Berlin and Vienna were building snowmen. (Ha'aretz)"

-Jerusalem-On-The-Line