



Let's Talk Peace...

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...True Peace!

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News and the Jews

The week in review

Daily Miracles

Chevron was hit Tuesday afternoon by Arab sniper fire, directed at a nearby IDF outpost. There were no injuries or damage from the gunfire, and the army closed off the Palestinian market from which the shooting was believed to have emanated... Heavy fire was directed at an IDF position near Gadid, in Gush Katif. No one was hurt, and IDF soldiers returned fire... An Israeli was wounded by a Palestinian, who hurled a large rock at him at the Tapuach Junction between Shilo and Shechem... Arab terrorists threw an explosive at an IDF force near Shavei Shomron; no one was hurt...

IDF Caves In To World Pressure

The IDF eased the closure around Ramallah and adjacent areas Tuesday. Bulldozers removed dirt embankments located around the northern city entrance, although soldiers continue to keep strict tabs on incoming and outgoing traffic. Although the army announced that the closure was removed only partially, INN correspondent Haggai Huberman reports that there is no difficulty entering and leaving Ramallah.

PEOPLE of the BOOK

Rabbis That Argue:

"In the same way that it is a mitzvah to say something which will be obeyed, likewise it is a mitzvah to refrain from saying something which will be ignored ..." is concerned,

The Rebbe countered:

This argument is not in accordance with the Code of Jewish Law. When the Torah says, "You shall not stand idly by your brother's blood," it does not mean, that you are only required to involve yourself when you are certain that your efforts will be successful. Rather, even if there is only a slim chance — even only the slightest of chances — that you will succeed in your protest being heard, you must do this, for it is the unequivocal ruling of the Code of Jewish Law!"

From the talks and writings of The Lubavitcher Rebbe Concerning the Integrity of the Land of Israel

The IDF also eased travel restrictions around Bethlehem, Hebron, Kalkilyeh, and Tulkarm yesterday, following which the IDF spokesman announced, "The fact remains that the PA does not prevent terror from its territory but rather encourages it, which hurts first and foremost the Palestinian population itself. In the event that violence and terror attacks are resumed, the necessary steps will be taken."

Water In The New Middle East

Moves by Lebanese villagers to divert the waters of the trickling Hatzbani River, which supplies 25 percent of the Jordan's water, yesterday led to Israeli threats of retaliation.

The construction of a pumping station to take water bound for Israel coincided with dire warnings of a severe drop in water supplies, as Lake Kinneret sunk to a record low level.

Arafat's Retirement Plan

Yasser Arafat, over the years, has put aside \$20 million which he has deposited in a Swiss bank account, a nest egg which Israeli security sources believe he has now offered Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in exchange for a safe haven if forced to leave the Palestinian areas.

Sources: Jerusalem Post, INN, and AP.

STUFF you should know

Americans And Israel

A poll commissioned by Jewish organizations in the U.S. shows that 4/5 of those who claim to be aware of Middle East news declare that their positions are "close to those of Israel." The survey encompassed over 1,400 people, divided into four groups: the general public, American-Jews, the "elite" - people of high-income and high-education; and "people of influence" - journalists, community leaders, legislators, etc. Other findings of the poll:

- 58% of the American public believes that the Palestinians' and Arab nation' ultimate goal is to destroy Israel.
- 73% blame the Palestinian leadership for fanning the flames of violence.
- 51% (33% of Jews) support the division of Jerusalem.
- 67% (48% of Jews) support the formation of a Palestinian state.
- Only 33% support an Arab right of return.
- Only 7% feel that Israeli soldiers are starting the violence.
- 75% feel that Israel is serious about its intentions to reach peace; less than 50% feel that way about the Palestinian Authority.
- 65% feel that the U.S. should come to Israel's aid if it is attacked.

The poll also showed that Americans are not as knowledgeable about the Middle East as they might think. Most of the respondents thought that Israel is still in control of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza; only 22% of the respondents knew that Israel has turned over more than 40% of Judea and Samaria to Palestinian control.

Source: Israel National News

SAY WHAT?

Violence With Reason

The daily warfare throughout Yesha known as the 'Intifada' would continue until the new government of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon tumbles.

Nabil Shaath, Minister of international planning for the PA