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Israeli Defense Minister Lieberman Meets Mattis at Pentagon



US Secretary of Defense James Mattis greets Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman at the Pentagon on Tuesday. Photo: Ariel Hermoni / Israeli Defense Ministry.

BY BARNEY BREEN -PORTNOY

Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman was hosted at the Pentagon on Tuesday by US Secretary of Defense James Mattis — their second meeting since the Trump administration came to power in January.

In a Facebook post after the meeting, Lieberman said he and

Mattis discussed common security issues facing Israel and the US.

“Strategic cooperation between Israel and the US is vital and critical to not only Israel’s security, but also the security and stability of the entire Middle East,” Lieberman wrote.

Israel’s Channel 10 quoted Lieberman as saying on Tuesday, “We need an active US in our region.”

Lieberman was also set to meet with Vice President Mike Pence and Secretary of State Rex

Tillerson while in Washington, DC.

After his first meeting with Mattis last month — on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference — Lieberman stated, “The three main problems we must handle are Iran, Iran and Iran. We must build a genuine and effective coalition to deal with the terrorism it [Iran] spreads around the world, the development of missiles it is engaged in and its nuclear arms race.”

US News & World Report: Israel 30th ‘Best Country’ in World, 8th Most Powerful

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Israel was ranked 30th (out of 80) on US News & World Report’s newly-published 2017 list of “Best Countries.”

Switzerland headlined the list, followed in the top 10 by Canada, the UK, Germany, Japan, Sweden, the US, Australia and France. The categories on which the countries are ranked include Adventure, Citizenship, Cultural Influence, Entrepreneurship, Heritage, Movers, Open for Business,



Tel Aviv. Photo: Ana Paula Hiram via Wikimedia Commons.

Power and Quality of Life.

In the “Power” category — ranking the globe’s most influential nations — Israel finished 8th, behind only the US, Russia, China, the UK, Germany, France and Japan.

“Israel, the only Jewish nation in the world, is a small country on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea,” US News & World Report wrote. “For its relatively small size, the country has played a large role in global affairs. The country has a strong economy, landmarks of significance to several religions and strained relationships with many of its Arab neighbors.”

Where the Brave Are Quiet

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ShabbatCalendar

Parshat TETZAVEH
פרשת תצוה

Times for New York City, Friday Candle Lighting
Shabbat Begins: 5:40pm | Shabbat Ends: 6:39pm



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Opinion.

Kudos to Trump for Ignoring McMaster's Advice Against Using Term 'Radical Islamic Terrorism'



RUTHIE BLUM
TEL AVIV

Despite his impeccable military and other credentials, US President Donald Trump's national security adviser, Lt. Gen. H.R. McMaster, began his job — the one he got as a result of the resignation of Gen. Michael Flynn — with a whimper. If reports are correct, McMaster told Trump last week that he should cease using the term “radical Islamic terrorism,” so as not to alienate Muslim-majority countries allied with the United States.

There were those of us who had argued, prior to Trump's inauguration, that the only thing Americans and Israelis had to fear about the sui generis leader, if anything, was that he would end up more like his predecessor, Barack Obama, than the “alt-right” fanatic they were making him out to be.

“He's not a fascist, a racist or an antisemite,” I would say confidently. “But he was, up until recently, a member of the Democratic Party.”

Once Trump started announcing his picks for cabinet and other positions, however, even the die-hard Republicans who initially froze over the fact of his leapfrogging

over them to head their party thawed. Not only had the real estate magnate who talks from the cuff and shoots from the hip led them to sweeping victories in the House of Representatives and the Senate, but he began appointing real conservatives to top posts, including the Supreme Court seat vacated by the death of Justice Antonin Scalia.

Flynn, with his staunch stance against Islamists in general and Iran in particular, was among this group. But since he left almost as soon as he assumed his job, someone had to be found to replace him. That person was McMaster, and he also seemed to fit the bill perfectly.

In his 1997 book *Dereliction of Duty: Johnson, McNamara, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Lies That Led to Vietnam* — written as a doctoral thesis — McMaster examined the failure of the White House and Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a successful plan to defeat the North Vietnamese Army.

“The war in Vietnam was not lost in the field, nor was it lost on the front pages of *The New York Times*, or on the college campuses. It was lost in Washington, DC, even before Americans assumed sole responsibility for the fighting in 1965 and before they realized the country was at war,” McMaster wrote.

It is thus odd that his first piece of advice to Trump was to suggest he tone down his rhetoric against the West's sworn enemies, rather than coach him on how to put it into action.

So much has changed since the Vietnam debacle, both politically and militarily, but one thing remains the same: Democracies are always at a disadvantage when fighting rogue groups and states with no morals or rules of engagement.

Even Israel, whose government and military have had no choice but to confront the often impossible task of killing terrorists without resorting to their methods, is often at a loss when it comes to asymmetric warfare. But it does not hesitate to identify and call its enemies by name.

When Obama took office in January 2009, two days after the end of Israel's Operation Cast Lead against Hamas in Gaza, he made it his business to reach out to radical Islamists, rather than defeat them. This move was born out of a dim view of American power and the accompanying belief that the US was hated by the mullah-led regime in Tehran and terrorist organizations like the Muslim Brotherhood with good reason.

In keeping with this policy, Obama



H.R. McMaster with President Donald Trump. Photo: Twitter.

eliminated terms such as “radical Islam” and “terrorism” from his administration's lexicon. Indeed, the self-described “leader from behind” of the free world tried to alter reality with a pencil eraser — all the while working furiously toward inking a nuclear deal with Iran.

The electoral ouster of the Democrats was due in large measure to the above. Why, then, would Trump's national security adviser tell him not to mention it in his address to the joint session of Congress on Tuesday evening?

Kudos to Trump for doing it anyway and reassuring us that he has no intention of emulating Obama.

Ruthie Blum is the managing editor of The Algemeiner.



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Antisemitism Isn't Caused by the Political Left or Right



RAFAEL MEDOFF/
JNS.ORG

The recent attacks against the Jewish community have revealed a surprising abundance of self-proclaimed experts on the causes of antisemitism.

For example, a Jewish ex-New York Times reporter, writing on the op-ed page of the *Washington Post* on March 3, declared that “the growing examples of antisemitism ... [were] enabled, if not inspired, by [President Donald] Trump's white nationalism.”

In another case, the leader of one Jewish progressive group recently suggested that President Trump is engaged in “outright advancement” of antisemitism.

At the other end of the political spectrum, the president of one small Zionist organization asserted, without evidence, that the antisemitic incidents were “acts of frustration and misery” over the Trump administration's support for Israel. He even claimed the attacks were “encouraged” by the recent UN resolution on Israel.

There was also a veritable torrent of assertions by pundits and Jewish organizations that President Trump could help stem the hate by being more vocal in his condemnations.

Presidential pronouncements can indeed play a role in shaping public attitudes, so it's good that President Trump has made

public pronouncements on the subject, including in his recent speech to Congress.

But the arrest and indictment of a St. Louis man for making “at least eight” of the recent anti-Jewish bomb threats pulls the rug out from under the politically oriented “explanations” of antisemitism.

The suspect, Juan Thompson, is not a “white nationalist.” He was not inspired or encouraged by Donald Trump. Nor was he protesting the president's support for Israel or the UN resolution, or emboldened by those on the political Left.

He's an African-American journalist with extreme political views that predate Trump, and that are unrelated to Israel. Thompson's Twitter profile features this Malcom X quotation: “You show me a capitalist, and I'll show

you a bloodsucker.” According to the indictment, Thompson perpetrated the crimes in order to pin them on his ex-girlfriend.

Sure, it's convenient to blame one's political opponents for antisemitism. But it would make more sense to blame the antisemites themselves. Thugs who threaten Jewish institutions or desecrate Jewish gravestones are not usually motivated by some policy position of a president. They assault Jewish institutions or Jewish property because they hate Jews, because of deep personal problems or due to some combination thereof.

Antisemitic incidents will not end with the arrest of Juan Thompson. So how will all of our experts “explain” incidents that occur months, or years, after some presidential

Continued on Page A3



Vice President Mike Pence aids in the cleanup effort at a recently vandalized Jewish cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri, Feb. 22, 2017. Photo: Mike Pence's Twitter account.

World News.

Major Indian Paper: PM Modi's Upcoming Trip to Israel Will Represent Long-Overdue Diplomatic Shift

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's planned upcoming trip to Israel will represent a diplomatic shift that "should have been carried out many years ago," the Hindustan Times said in an editorial on Monday.

"Whatever the outcome of the visit, the very act of visiting Israel will be historic," it noted. "No serving Indian prime minister has ever visited Israel. There are also increasing signals that Modi will break the traditional diplomatic hyphen New Delhi has maintained between Israel and Palestine and will not include a stopover in Palestine in his itinerary. Such a decision would fit in with Modi's general attitude that Indian foreign policy should reflect the rising global profile of India, adhere strictly to the national interest and be less concerned about ideological and symbolic actions."

"More fundamental is that such a trip would reflect the sea-change that has taken place between India and Israel since the former normalised diplomatic relations in 1992," the New Delhi-based English-language paper went on to say. "Israel is now one of the three largest suppliers of arms and weapons to India, a major source of assistance in the country's counterterrorism programmes and, uniquely in the world, a partner in the development of India's nuclear arsenal. The last fact alone would indicate Israel has become strategically more trusted by India than any other country in the world."

"That New Delhi should have continued to follow a path of diplomatic distance and security promiscuity with Israel has not made any sense for several years now," the paper further noted. "Modi's visit will hopefully bring diplomacy into alignment with political reality."

Last week, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met in Jerusalem with Indian

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval. According to a statement released by Netanyahu's office, the context of the meeting was Modi's Israel trip, which reportedly could take place in June.

The Israel-India relationship has flourished recently. Last November, Israeli President Reuven Rivlin traveled to India, just over a year after his Indian counterpart, President Pranab Mukherjee, visited Israel.

The defense field is an area of particularly close collaboration between Israel and India. Just last month, for example, it was reported that Modi had approved a \$2.5 billion deal to acquire an Israeli aerial defense system for his country's military.

Netanyahu and Modi met for the first time in New York City in September 2014 on the sidelines of a UN General Assembly gathering.

Following Modi's Israel visit, Netanyahu is expected to make a reciprocal trip to India by the end of next January. In 2003, the late Ariel Sharon became the first and so far only Israeli prime minister to travel to India.

Last week, Air India — the country's flag carrier — announced it was planning to renew direct flights between New Delhi and Tel Aviv.



Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu with his Indian counterpart, Narendra Modi, in New York City in September 2014. Photo: Avi Ohayon / GPO via Flickr.

Continued from Page A2
Antisemitism

statement or United Nations resolution? Who will be blamed then?

It's a fair bet that some Jews will take to blaming each other. The sad phenomenon of Jews accusing other Jews of provoking antisemitism can be found throughout Jewish history. In recent times, assimilated Jews have claimed that Zionist Jews provoke accusations of dual loyalty. In the 1970s, Jewish conservatives claimed that Jewish opponents of the Vietnam War would provoke an antisemitic backlash. And some liberal Jews today claim that Israel's behavior is the cause of Arab antisemitism.

These kinds of hypotheses have been tested many times, and always fail. Even those German Jews who gave up all of their Jewish beliefs and practices were still murdered by the Nazis. Russian Jews who embraced communism were still purged and persecuted by the Soviets. Jews in Arab countries were oppressed long before the state of Israel came into existence. And neither Jewish liberalism nor Jewish conservatism has provoked

pogroms in the United States.

The bomb threats and cemetery desecrations were not caused by either President Trump's policies or President Obama's abstention on the UN resolution, nor by Jews being too liberal or too conservative. There is no simple explanation for antisemitism. Sometimes it is influenced by religious or political factors, sometimes by socioeconomic situations. Often it is triggered by deeply personal circumstances. Antisemitism has no single cause, and no single cure.

Passions are rising throughout the American Jewish community, and those passions sometimes fuel bitter partisanship. Vigorous debate is an important part of a healthy democratic society. But using antisemitism as a rhetorical cudgel with which to beat one's political rivals is not. Recklessly blaming others for antisemitism — and not blaming the antisemitics themselves — does a great disservice to public discourse.

Dr. Medoff is the author or editor of 16 books on Jewish history, Zionism and the Holocaust.

Expert: Israel Needs to Be Part of International Talks on Syria's Future



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during a September 2015 Kremlin meeting. Photo: The Kremlin via Wikimedia Commons.

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

At their upcoming meeting in Moscow on Thursday, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will discuss the "current situation in the Middle East, particularly in light of joint efforts to combat international terrorism," the Kremlin said on Monday.

The Israeli-Palestinian peace process will also be on the agenda, according to the Kremlin.

At the start of Sunday's cabinet meeting in Jerusalem, Netanyahu said Syria and the international diplomatic efforts to hammer out a deal to bring the six-year-old conflict there to an end would be the focus of the meeting.

"In the context of this agreement, or without it, Iran is trying to establish itself permanently in Syria, with a military presence on the ground and at sea, and also a gradual attempt to open a front against us on the Golan Heights," Netanyahu said. "I will express to President Putin Israel's sharp and vigorous opposition to this possibility."

Thursday will mark Netanyahu's fifth meeting with Putin over the past year and a half — since the start of Russia's military intervention in Syria — and the two have also spoken by phone on numerous other occasions.

Sarah Fainberg — a research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) in Tel Aviv with expertise on Russia — told The Algemeiner on Monday that what will differentiate this Putin-Netanyahu meeting from the past ones is the context of the Syria-related diplomacy now taking place.

"Israel is not currently a player in the big power discussions about a political settlement in Syria and the division of the country into zones of influence," she said. "So Israel is not only seeking to set red lines, but also wants to be an integral part in the talks about the future redesign of Syria."

"Israel needs to enter that conversation because the threat to Israel is not only a few missiles crossing the border into the Golan Heights, but the establishment of a permanent 'Hezbollah-stan' on its northeastern border," she continued.

The minimum Netanyahu will ask of Putin on Thursday, Fainberg said, is that Israel be permitted to maintain its freedom of

action in Syrian territory — "meaning strikes, such as those that have been attributed to Israel by foreign media, and the surveillance monitoring of Hezbollah and developments on the ground in Syria."

"In any case," she stated, "this is something that Russia has already accepted. It has always turned a blind eye to any Israeli action in the area."

However, a potential Netanyahu request that Putin might not accede to, Fainberg noted, was that Russia prevent the permanent establishment of Hezbollah in southern Syria after the war in that country concludes.

"Like the Turks are against having a Kurdish state on their border, Israel is against having an Iranian proxy on its border," she said, "Israel wants to make sure that when the foreign fighters will be asked to leave Syria, this includes Hezbollah."

"Iran is expanding its grip in Syria, Lebanon, Yemen, Bahrain and so forth," she went on to say. "Israel wants to roll Iran back to its corner."

"This is a point where the interests of Israel and Russia don't coincide," she cautioned.

Russia, Fainberg also pointed out, has "limited leverage over Iran and Hezbollah."

There has been speculation in the Russian media, Fainberg said, that Netanyahu could serve as a bridge between Moscow and Washington, who have failed to cooperate diplomatically in recent years.

"Netanyahu just met with [US President Donald] Trump," she stated. "And the impression in Moscow is that they reached some kind of understanding on Syria and the Palestinian question. This might not be reality, but it is the Russian impression."

Given Trump's vague views on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, it is possible that Russia could try to prioritize the matter and position itself as a key mediator, Fainberg assessed.

"The Russians might seize this opportunity to put pressure on Israel," she said, noting Israeli Opposition Leader Isaac Herzog's current visit to Moscow, which was at the invitation of the Russian Duma's Foreign Affairs Committee. "It's something to watch. The [Putin-Netanyahu] meeting is not only about Syria."

World News.



Israelis smoking marijuana in front of the Knesset legislature on April 20, 2016, marking the international "4/20" marijuana celebration day and advocating for Israel to legalize the drug.
Photo: Hadas Parush/Flash90.

Israeli Government Votes to Decriminalize Recreational Marijuana Use

BY JNS.ORG

The Israeli government has voted in favor of decriminalizing recreational marijuana use, joining several European countries and US states in adopting similar measures.

According to the new policy, first-time offenders will receive a \$270 fine, which would double for a second offense. A third offense would warrant a police investigation and fourth offense would result in criminal proceedings. Selling and growing marijuana would still remain criminal offenses.

At Sunday's weekly cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that a team of experts had studied the issue and "this obviously needs to be done in a careful and controlled manner."

"On one hand, we are opening ourselves up to the future. On the other hand, we under-

stand the dangers and will try to balance the two," he said.

Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan called the vote "an important step toward implementing the new policy, which will place the emphasis on awareness and treatment rather than criminal enforcement."

Israeli police figures show that only 188 people were arrested nationwide in 2015 for recreational marijuana use, a 56-percent drop since 2010, and that many of those apprehended were never charged.

Israel's decision to relax its marijuana laws follows a long history with the drug, in which Israel has been a world leader in medical marijuana research. The country's scientists have been among the first to identify key compounds in marijuana, such as THC, the principle psychoactive compound found in marijuana.

New Petition Calls On McGill U to Expel Student Leader Who Tweeted 'Punch a Zionist'

BY RACHEL FROMMER

A petition demanding the expulsion of a McGill University student government representative who urged Twitter followers to "punch a Zionist" has garnered nearly 2,000 signatures, The Algemeiner has learned.

"We the undersigned call upon McGill University to immediately expel student leader Igor Sadikov for the incitement of violence," the petition reads, in the latest development in the ongoing controversy that has forced Sadikov to resign from one of his numerous student government roles. This is in spite of his retaining other posts, due to what Jewish students recently told The Algemeiner is widespread anti-Israel sentiment on campus.

The MoveOn petition, which was started on Feb. 15, cites McGill's "code of conduct" to insist that the university take action. The creator of the petition has promised it will be presented to McGill President Suzanne Fortier. Signatories of the petition hail primarily from Canada and the US, though some are from the United Kingdom and South America. A few have added comments, such

as: "No donations will be given" to McGill if Sadikov is not expelled, and, "How would McGill react if it was 'punch a Muslim?'"

After the initial story of Sadikov's tweet emerged, Jewish students worldwide mobilized with an "Open Letter" condemning him. It was signed by some 100 people.

A vote by the the Society of McGill University legislative council on a motion to remove Sadikov from his remaining student government posts is scheduled for this Thursday.

McGill — which ranked fourth on The Algemeiner's 2016 list of the "40 Worst Colleges for Jewish Students" in North America — has been described by students as one of the most contentious institutions in Canada for Jews and Israel-supporters.



Igor Sadikov. Photo: SSMU.

In Letter to Top Senator, WJC Head Lauder Defends Trump's Pick to Serve as Next US Envoy to Israel, Blasts Criticism as 'Beyond Outrageous'

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Much of the criticism of attorney David Friedman — President Donald Trump's pick to be the next US ambassador to Israel — has been "beyond outrageous and really quite wrong," the president of the World Jewish Congress said in a recent letter, seen by *The Algemeiner*, to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs committee, which is set to vote on the Friedman appointment later this week.

"One might disagree with him [Friedman] on a political point, but that doesn't mean he is not extremely capable, upstanding, and that the president should have the absolute right to nominate whomever he desires," Ronald S. Lauder wrote to Republican Senator Bob Corker of Tennessee last Tuesday.

"I have come to know Mr. Friedman over the past few months and I can attest to his brilliance, his honesty, and the strength of his character," Lauder continued.

Lauder further stated he believed Friedman "would be a tremendous US ambassador to Israel."

Also writing to Corker last week in support of Friedman was Michael Siegal — a former chairman of both the Jewish Federations of North America and Israel Bonds International. Siegal said he was "somewhat amazed and perplexed at the vitriol" that has been directed at Friedman by opponents of his appointment.



David Friedman, President Donald Trump's pick to serve as the next US envoy to Israel.
Photo: Screenshot.

Siegal described Friedman as "gracious" and "humble," and predicted, "I think all people will be quite pleased by the eloquence and determination he will display in representing all of us to the Jewish State of Israel."

Many liberal Jewish groups have spoken out against the Friedman appointment, in part due to past controversial comments and positions, including his slurring last year of J Street supporters as "far worse than kapos" — Jews who collaborated with the Nazis.

For the first time ever, the Union for Reform Judaism last month publicly expressed opposition to an ambassador appointment.

At his mid-February Senate confirmation hearing, Friedman said he regretted his use of "inflammatory language" during the presidential campaign. He also clarified his position on the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, calling it the "best possibility for peace."

Platform of Wednesday's International Women's Strike Calls for 'Decolonization of Palestine'

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

The organizers of Wednesday's international women's strike support the "decolonization of Palestine," the platform published on their website reveals.

"Against the open white supremacists in the current government and the far right and anti-Semites they have given confidence to, we stand for an uncompromising anti-racist and anti-colonial feminism," the platform says. "This means that movements such as Black Lives Matter, the struggle against police brutality and mass incarceration, the demand for open borders and for immigrant rights and for the decolonization of Palestine are for us the beating heart of this new feminist movement. We want to dismantle all walls, from prison walls to border walls, from Mexico to Palestine."

As reported by The Algemeiner last month, a convicted Palestinian terrorist was among eight feminist activists urging American women to join the strike — which was described as a protest "against male violence and in defense of reproductive rights."

Rasmea Odeh served time in Israeli prison for her involvement — as a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of

Palestine (PFLP) — in a pair of 1969 terrorist bombings in Jerusalem, one of which killed two Hebrew University students at a supermarket. She was freed in 1980 as part of a prisoner exchange, and moved to the US in the mid-1990s. More recently, Odeh has been in the headlines due to charges of immigration fraud filed against her and a subsequent ongoing court case.

In a Guardian op-ed published in early February, Odeh — joined by Linda Martín Alcoff, Cinzia Arruzza, Tithi Bhattacharya, Nancy Fraser, Barbara Ransby, Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor and Angela Davis — wrote that their goal was to "mobilize women, including trans women, and all who support them in an international day of struggle — a day of striking, marching, blocking roads, bridges, and squares, abstaining from domestic, care and sex work, boycotting, calling out misogynistic politicians and companies, striking in educational institutions...Let us use the occasion of this international day of action to be done with lean-in feminism and to build in its place a feminism for the 99%, a grassroots, anti-capitalist feminism — a feminism in solidarity with working women, their families and their allies throughout the world."

U.S. News.

In First Act as Chaplain, Newly Assigned US Air Force Rabbi Fulfills Wish of Jewish Soldier Killed in WWII to Have Star of David on Headstone

BY RUTHIE BLUM

At a ceremony last week, the rabbi chaplain recently assigned to the Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, honored an American Jewish soldier killed in the line of duty days before the surrender of Japan in World War II, by granting his 72-year-old wish to have a Star of David engraved on his tombstone, a feature published by the Honolulu-based Air Force 15th Wing website detailed on Friday.

First Lieutenant Levy Pekar, 29, who is currently undergoing basic training at the Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama — led the headstone-replacement ceremony for Staff Sgt. Jack Weiner.

Pekar said that Weiner's story "resonated with me on so many different levels. With both of us being Jewish and airmen, I felt like his story could have easily been mine. His story affected me on a spiritual level and as my duty as chaplain I knew we had to correct this mistake...I found out about Sgt. Weiner's story from his cousin. At first, it sounded like miscommunication, because we couldn't find anything about him. But after some digging, we were able to find the Quarter Master General's form that confirmed Sgt. Weiner's wishes to have the Star of David on his headstone."

"What we're doing here is known as the Hessed Shel Emes or the truest form of kindness. One of the best things you can do in your life is something for the dead because it



Staff Sgt. Jack Weiner's previous headstone (left) and the one with which it was replaced on Feb. 28, 2017.
Photos: Tech. Sgt. Heather Redman.

Official: Iranian Attack Vessels Forced USNS Invincible to Change Course in Strait of Hormuz

BY JNS.ORG

Multiple Iranian Revolutionary Guard fast-attack vessels came close to a US Navy ship in the Strait of Hormuz Saturday, forcing the ship to change direction, an American official said Monday.

According to the official, the Iranian boats came within 600 yards of the USNS Invincible, a tracking ship, Reuters reported. The Invincible was also being escorted by three ships from the British Royal Navy at the time.

The official said that the naval vessel attempted to contact the Iranian ships over radio, but there was no response, and the interaction was "unsafe and unprofessional."

Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke briefly Monday evening in a conversation that primarily focused on the Iranian threat.

According to a readout provided by the Prime Minister's Office, the Israeli and American leaders spoke about Iran's nuclear ambitions and its regional aggressiveness, as well as "about the need to work together to deal with these dangers."

is something that can never be repaid," Pekar added, referring to how Weiner — a navigator assigned to the 345th Bombardment Group stationed in Japan — was killed in action when his plane was shot down days before the US bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki and caused the Japanese government to surrender.

Originally buried at Yokohama Cemetery in 1945, Weiner's body was moved four years later to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii. It was during the move, according to the 15th Wing, that his headstone inadvertently ended up with a cross emblazoned on it.

"We have a sacred duty to protect our service members and we will do so in all cases, in life and in death," said Pekar. "It is easier to protect them while they're alive, but it becomes a bit harder after they have passed. I'm just glad we are able to set a precedence of correcting mistakes when we become aware

of them, even seventy years later."

A few dozen members of Hawaii's Jewish community attended the headstone-replacement ceremony, reading psalms and reciting kaddish, the Jewish mourners' prayer.

On his Facebook page on Sunday, Pekar wrote of the event: "72 years in the waiting and 6 months in the making. My first step as an Air Force chaplain correcting a World War 2 era mistake and an incredible honor to be part of this rectification."

Pekar, according to a Jewish Voice interview in early February, was born into a Chabad-Lubavitch family in Monsey, NY, and grew up in the Beitar Illit settlement just outside of Jerusalem, the city where he was ordained. Today, in addition to his Air Force duties, he is studying for his master's degree in mental-health counseling.

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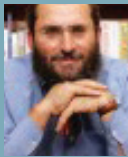
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Opinion.

Midnight at Joshua's Tomb With the IDF



SHMULEY BOTEACH
ENGELWOOD

It is midnight. It is cold. And we are headed in.

Israeli soldiers are on every street corner, armed to the teeth. Siren lights and a few dim streetlamps provide the only illumination.

Amidst the military movements, an eerie silence prevails.

I am with hundreds of Jews who will pour into the Arab village of Khif El Halat in Samaria, in order to pray at the tomb of Joshua — the heir to Moses, who conquered this land for the Israelites more than 3,000 years ago.

Jews are allowed to pray here only four times per year. Tonight — the anniversary of the death of Moses and the succession of Joshua — is one of those nights. The Jews cannot pray at other times, because it is simply too dangerous.

So, four times per year, the IDF arranges a military operation to escort them to the tomb. Even then, the Jews can only pray late at night — when the risks are the smallest.

I have become used to these military

prayer operations, having attended two previously at Joseph's tomb in Nablus. I have become used to the presence of the military, and the inaudible hum of darkened streets — seemingly bereft of inhabitants. I have become somewhat inured to being a walking target, kept safe only by the brave Israeli soldiers.

As I begin the 20-minute walk through the village, I see Yossi Dagan, the head of the Samaria Regional Council. He says that the government must do more to ensure that Jewish men, women and children can pray here without fear.

The New York Times and the Western media falsely portray Israel as an occupier and the Arabs as victims. But no Arab, anywhere in Israel, needs an armed escort to pray at a Muslim holy site. Every Friday, you can see thousands of Arabs walking to the Temple Mount. They walk right past Israeli police and soldiers without missing a beat. No one would even think of harming them.

But here we are. Hundreds of Jews, trying to pray at the tomb of one of the greatest Jewish leaders of all time, must sneak into an Arab village — in the dead of night — with a small army whose only purpose is to stop us from being massacred.

We first encounter the grave of Caleb — Joshua's fellow spy, who was sent by Moses to inspect the land of Israel. The other spies did

not want to go into Israel, but Caleb and Joshua had a different view. "Let us go up and seize the land because it is easily within our power."

These ancient words could not be more fitting for my current circumstance. As we pray at the grave, I am well aware that only a tiny minority of Jews would ever come to a place like this in the middle of the night to pray. Even in Israel, we have been taught to fear our neighbors. They are giants, and we must cower.

In truth, we must all be neighbors. We have no reason to fear the Arabs, and they have no reason to intimidate us. We are all brothers. Yet peace will only come when they accept and welcome our presence, and stop trying to murder us.

I think to myself that the Arab village we are currently in has no fence around it. In fact, none of the Arab villages in the West Bank do. They don't need it — because there aren't any terrorists trying to infiltrate their communities, and slaughter their children. Indeed, the easiest way to immedi-

ately distinguish an Arab village and a Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria is by whether the community is surrounded by a fence.

We continue walking, and a few minutes later we reach Joshua's Tomb. It is a glorious site. There are hundreds of worshipers crammed inside, surrounded by scores of Israeli soldiers. Most of the worshipers are orthodox and observant. They pray loudly and fervently. But there are many secular Jews as well.

Perhaps they came to prove a simple point. That no part of the Holy Land should be beyond the reach of prayer, and that no man should fear anyone but God.

Shmuley Boteach, "America's Rabbi," is the international bestselling author of 30 books including his most recent The Israel Warrior. Follow him on Facebook @ RabbiShmuley.



Rabbi Boteach at Joshua's Tomb. Photo: provided.

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Director, The Rabbinical Alliance of America

SCHEDULE		
Date	Time	Activities
4/10	12-2 pm	Pick up packages
	8:00 pm	Doors Open
Sedar I	8:30 pm	Ancient Secrets of Judaism
4/11	1:00 pm	Meal/Seuda
	2:00 pm	Q & A: Judaism
	8:30 pm	Doors Open
Sedar II	9:00 pm	Exodus: Legend or History
4/12	1:00 pm	Meal/Seuda
	2:00 pm	7 Wonders of Our Jewish Nation
	9:00 pm	Meal/ Seuda
	9:30 pm	Defending The Faith
4/13	2:00 pm	Meal
	2:00 pm	Spectacular Children's Show: Arkaidy the Clown & animal show.
	7:30 pm	Meal
	7:30 pm	Popular Aish HaTorah Speaker: Q&A National Revelation (SINAI)
	9:00 pm	Shomer Shabos Singles Program With Live Music, Matchmakers & Smorgasboard.
		SYAS successful Shadchan Goldie (The Shadchan with a Heart.)
4/14	1:00 pm	Meal
	1:30 pm	What is kosher food?
	9:00 pm	Meal/ Seuda
	9:30 pm	The Power of Prayer

For Opportunities To Get Involved:
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SCHEDULE cont.

Date	Time	Activities
4/15	1:00 pm	Meal / Seuda
	1:30 pm	The Deeper Beauty of Shabbos
	9:00 pm	Meal / Seuda
	9:30 pm	Oral vs. Written Torah
4/16	1:00 pm	Meal
	1:30 pm	"Friend or Foe: Torah & Science"
	8:30 pm	Meal/ Seuda
	9:00 pm	Why Bad Happens to Good People?
4/17	1:00 pm	Meal / Seuda
	1:30 pm	Moral Relativism & Torah
	8:45 pm	Meal/ Seuda
	9:15 pm	Post Holocaust – 2 Million
4/18	2:00 pm	Meal / Seuda
	2:30 pm	Jews Vanished- Why ? Solution?
	6:00 pm	Meal/ Seuda
	7:00 pm	Open Forum

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In years past, Beth Shifra maintained a Free Soup Kitchen all year round, open seven days a week, serving free meals three times a day, without charge. During the week of Pesach, Beth Shifra sponsored free Kosher for Pesach Sedorim and daily meals around the city. We are personally familiar with their significant work and urge you to help Beth Shifra with any support that you can, including publicizing their inspiring work in your Shul or organization.

This year, Beth Shifra is sponsoring free Kosher for Pesach Seders and meals daily from Monday April 10th, through Tuesday, April 18th, at The White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21st in Brooklyn. Free Kosher for Passover food packages will be offered on Monday, April 10th, at the White Shul, 2102 Avenue T & East 21st in Brooklyn from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

We proudly invite you to join us in making this year a memory of a lifetime for those in need. Take the time now to have the merit and joy of helping a hungry family celebrate Passover. Please help Beth Shifra with any assistance that you can, including publicizing their good work in your Shul or organization.

May all those that participate in this holy effort be blessed from Heaven.

On behalf of the Igud/RAA Presidium and of the Beth Din, I extend greetings of Torah.

Sincerely,
Mendy Mirocznik
Rabbi Mendy Mirocznik
Executive Vice-President, Rabbinical Alliance of America

305 Church Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11218 U.S.A. Tel. 718-531-8720 Email: Rabbi@Igud.u

Please beware of Non-Jewish missionary organizations (often using Jewish-sounding names) offering free "Seders", Passover food giveaways, etc., especially in Churches.

Opinion.

Media Malfeasance Exposed in 'Eyeless in Gaza'

NOAH BECK
NEW YORK

During Operation Protective Edge in 2014, Hamas operatives burst into the Associated Press (AP) Gaza bureau and threatened its staff. But the journalists never reported the incident.

This event shows that Hamas can control what journalists report and what they don't, former AP Middle East reporter Matti Friedman says in the new documentary, *Eyeless in Gaza*.

Producer Robert Magid's 50-minute film, which is screening now via pay-per-view, examines the flaws and challenges in reporting on the 50-day war between Israel and Hamas. Magid says that he wanted to "set the record straight and provide context," after being appalled at news coverage that ignored Hamas' practice of launching rockets from civilian areas. That omission allowed the media to push a false narrative that "Israel was callous in their bombing," Magid says.

The sullied moral image of Israel that emerged from the media's biased coverage of the war sparked public outrage and antisemitism, according to Magid's film. "Muslims will crush the Jews as they did in Khyber 14 centuries ago," protesters in the film shout. Another says: "I see the Jews in Israel as total Nazis."

During the fighting, reporters routinely failed to tell the truth about what led to the conflict, and how Hamas instigated it. Magid's film provides viewers with some brief historical context: Israel expelled 10,000 of its own citizens from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and offered the Palestinians their first chance at self-rule. But Hamas took over the territory and turned it into an Islamist terror state, instead of a model for responsible self-government and peaceful coexistence with Israel.

Viewers also see how attack tunnels exemplify Hamas' policy of diverting public resources to fund terrorism. Israel allowed high-quality cement into Gaza in response to the humanitarian need to rebuild damaged buildings, after the war, only to discover that the same cement was being used to build massive underground tunnels whose only purpose was to target Israelis. Each tunnel costs about \$3 million, and an Israeli military spokesman interviewed in the film estimates that \$100 million in resources were diverted for this purpose.

And despite Israel's unprecedented efforts to minimize Gazan civilian casualties during the war, the film shows how Hamas tried to maximize them.

"The Israeli army called me; they asked me to leave Al-Sajaeya," says one Gazan. "We stayed at home because Al Aqsa and Al Quds [Hamas] radio stations told us, 'Don't leave your homes; it's rumors.' We remained in our homes, but when we saw the bombs pouring on us, we miraculously got out. ... Five of my brother's sons were killed, and the houses [were] destroyed."

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) went to great lengths to spare civilians during the war, issuing warnings by leaflets, text messages, the "roofknock" technique and social media. In the film, Col. Richard Kemp, former commander of the British forces in Afghanistan, highlights "the immense efforts that the IDF took when fighting in this very challenging environment, to minimize the number of civilian deaths [even though] Hamas used human shields

virtually constantly. [Hamas] deliberately [put] their weapon systems, and their fighters, among the civilian population."

Eyeless in Gaza also shows the underreported perspective of Israelis trying to survive Hamas rocket attacks, including a huge explosion on a populated beach, and people racing to shelters with just 15 seconds to get there. The film also explains that Israel's Iron Dome defense system is no silver bullet: "10 percent [of] rockets...could hit you," notes Tal Inbar, head of the Space Research Center at the Fisher Institute for Air and Space Strategic Studies in Herzliya. "And...if the enemy is firing thousands of rockets...10 percent...is quite a lot." Furthermore, even intercepted rockets can still cause injuries, due to falling shrapnel.

The knee-jerk global condemnations of Israel during the war were triggered by a lopsided casualty count, and — at least in part — by the media's failure to cover the true nature of the mass casualty-threat facing Israel. Hamas launched thousands of rockets at schools, hospitals and densely packed Israeli neighborhoods, demonstrating the group's intent to kill thousands of civilians. Hamas only failed because Israel had invested billions in a rocket defense system, and because Israelis regularly scurried to bomb shelters despite the disruption to their lives.

Former Russia Today correspondent Harry Fear, who calls himself "one of the most Palestinian-sympathizing journalists in the world," notes in the film that the Palestinians "rejected cease fires, which could have saved...thousands of lives."

And, fearing violent retribution from Hamas, journalists engaged in collective self-censorship, according to Fear. He says that just about all foreign correspondents witnessed Palestinian war crimes without reporting them. "Rockets were being fired consistently from densely populated areas," he said. Fear was expelled from Gaza after reporting on Twitter about such acts.

In another example, an Indian television crew aired footage of Palestinian terrorists firing rockets from civilian areas only after it had left Gaza. Its report, shown in *Eyeless in Gaza*, notes that the rocket fire "will obviously have serious consequences... for those who live here, should Israel choose to retaliate."

Hamas' intimidation of journalists produced flawed and misleading coverage, according to Friedman: "Most of the work of the international media in Gaza is done not by western journalists ... but by local Palestinians from Gaza: fixers, translators, reporters, photographers ... their families are in Gaza, and they're not going to get Hamas angry. And because these people largely shape the coverage, that ends up having a very significant effect."

In the film, Fear decries the limits to free speech in Gaza, citing a 2014 poll indicating that 80 percent of Palestinian journalists exercise self-censorship for fear of retribution.

Similarly, Friedman says in the film, "I understand why reporters censor themselves ... in Gaza. ... What I don't understand is why the news organizations haven't made clear the restrictions under which they operate in Gaza, so that news consumers can understand that they are seeing a warped picture."

The intimidation can be worse for Palestinian journalists. In the film, Ayman Al Aloul describes his imprisonment and torture by Hamas after he refused to stop writing about Gaza's extreme poverty, and Hamas' failed economic policies. "They started beating me and cursing at me. When I went back inside

[my cell], I feared someone would be sent to end my life. ... I was scared they would say, 'He died from cold or hunger.' I was really scared."

Yet while the Western media and United Nations Human Rights Council obsessively harp on any alleged Israeli human rights violation, it completely ignored Al Aloul's case.

Conflicts that receive far less media attention than the Israeli-Palestinian dispute, despite being exponentially bloodier, have also been neglected. The film notes that since 2011, nearly half a million people have been killed or wounded in Syria, compared to about 2,000 in Gaza. Thus, protesters who routinely accuse Israel of "genocide" and "massacres" are either grossly misinformed (at least in part because of media bias), or are simply antisemitic.

In the film, UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) spokesperson Chris Gunness acknowledges the double standard employed by the media and Arab governments. But when asked why UNRWA failed to condemn Egypt's security-motivated destruction of thousands of homes along the Gaza border, he says only, "We are not mandated to work in Egypt."

Friedman notes, "If Israel did one percent of that, of course, the international community would be in an uproar. I think people aren't interested in Arabs in general, or what Arabs do to each other. I think they're basically interested ... in the actions of Jews. And that's why Egypt can destroy entire neighborhoods [bordering] Gaza, as it did recently, and the world kind of yawns. That I think proves that ... the story being told here by the international media is not a story about current events. It's a

Continued from Page A10 Honored

of the people. Always in the past, when the younger had taken something the elder might have believed belonged naturally to him, there was jealousy, animosity. Yet God assures Moses: "When Aaron sees you, he will rejoice." And so he did (Ex. 4:27).

The second intimation is contained in a strange text, tracing the descent of Moses and Aaron:

Amram married his father's sister Jochebed, who bore him Aaron and Moses. Amram lived 137 years . . . It was this same Aaron and Moses to whom the Lord said, "Bring the Israelites out of Egypt by their divisions." They were the ones who spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt about bringing the Israelites out of Egypt. It was the same Moses and Aaron. (Ex. 6:20, 26-27).

The repeated phrase, "It was this same," is emphatic even in translation. It is all the more so when we note two peculiarities of the text. The first is that the phrases, though at first they sound identical, in fact place the names of the brothers in a different order: the first phrase says "Aaron and Moses," the second, "Moses and Aaron." Even more striking is the grammatical oddity of the phrase. Both times, the third person singular is used. Literally, they read: "He was Aaron and Moses," "He was Moses and Aaron." The text should have said, "They" — all the more so since the pronoun "they" is used in the middle of the passage: "They were the ones who spoke to Pharaoh."

The unmistakable implication is that they were like a single individual. They were as one. There was no hierarchy between them: sometimes Aaron's name appears first, sometimes Moses'. On this there is a wonderful midrash, based on the verse in Psalms (85:11) "Loving-kindness and truth meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other."

Loving-kindness — this refers to Aaron. Truth — this refers to Moses. Righteousness — this refers to Moses. Peace — this refers to Aaron. (Shemot Rabbah 5:10)

The midrash brings proof-texts for each of these identifications, but we understand them immediately. Moses and Aaron were quite different in temperament and role.

story about something else. It's a morality play starring a familiar villain — the Jews."

This hostile paradigm explains the failure of the Western media to report on the antisemitic nature of the Hamas charter, which blames all of the world's woes — including every major war and revolution, and even the Holocaust — on the Jews, while calling for their annihilation, Friedman says in the film.

"If you say that Hamas is antisemitic, if you quote their charter, if you look too closely at exactly what their goals are, and who they are, then it would disrupt the narrative, according to which Israel is an aggressor, and the Palestinians are passive victims who have reasonable goals," Friedman says.

Nevertheless, the media's failure to include critical facts like those exposed in *Eyeless in Gaza* encourages terrorist groups like Hamas to embrace tactics intended to maximize civilian casualties. The resulting global condemnation of Israel for Gazan deaths only encourages Hamas to jeopardize civilians in the next round of violence.

As *Eyeless in Gaza* highlights, the kind of journalism that we saw during the 2014 war in Gaza distorted the truth, abetted a terrorist group and strengthened Hamas — the party most responsible for Gaza's misery and ongoing hostilities with Israel.

Noah Beck is the author of The Last Israelis, an apocalyptic novel about Iranian nukes and other geopolitical issues in the Middle East. This article was originally published by the Investigative Project on Terrorism.

Moses was the man of truth, Aaron of peace. Without truth, there can be no vision to inspire a nation. But without internal peace, there is no nation to inspire. Aaron and Moses were both necessary. Their roles were in creative tension. Yet they worked side by side, each respecting the distinctive gift of the other. As the midrash goes on to say:

"And he kissed him" [the brothers kissed when they met] — This means: each rejoiced at the other's greatness. (Shemot Rabbah ad loc)

A final midrash completes the picture by referring to this week's sedra and the vestments of the High Priest, especially the breastplate with its Urim and Tumim:

"His heart will be glad when he sees you" — Let the heart that rejoiced in the greatness of his brother be vested with the Urim and Tumim. (Shemot Rabbah 3:17)

It was precisely the fact that Aaron did not envy his younger brother but instead rejoiced in his greatness that made him worthy to be High Priest. So it came to pass — measure for measure — that just as Aaron made space for his younger brother to lead, so the Torah makes space for Aaron to lead. That is why Aaron is the hero of Tetzaveh: for once, not overshadowed by Moses.

"Who is honoured?" asked Ben Zoma (Avot 4:1). "One who honours others." Aaron honoured his younger brother. That is why Moses (not mentioned by name but by implication) is told in this week's sedra, "Make sacred garments for your brother Aaron, to give him honour and splendour" (Ex. 28:2). To this day a Cohen is honoured by being first to be called up to the Torah — the Torah that Aaron's younger brother Moses gave to the Jewish people.

The story of Aaron and Moses, the fifth chapter in the biblical story of brotherhood, is where, finally, fraternity reaches the heights. And that surely is the meaning of Psalm 133, with its explicit reference to Aaron and his sacred garments: "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes." It was thanks to Aaron, and the honour he showed Moses, that at last brothers learned to live together in unity.

Impressions.

Tuvia Tenenbom: In the Land of the Free, the Brave Are Quiet (EXCERPT)

BY TUVIA TENENBOM

*The following is an excerpt from theater director, author and journalist Tuvia Tenenbom's newly released book, *The Lies They Tell*, an account of the Americans he encountered on a cross-country trip to meet with people from all walks of life: from ghettos to gated communities, from churches to Indian reservations, talking to skinheads and senators, soldiers and intellectuals — to get to the bottom of how they think, and why. In the passage below, he describes a New York experience.*

I'm in New York, I am invited to countless parties and events, but say no to all — except one. US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power is to speak at the Roosevelt Hotel as part of a conference organized by the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* and an American Jewish organization, New Israel Fund (NIF), both avowed progressive liberal institutions.

I enjoyed listening to Samantha months ago in New York, at Abe Foxman's tribute at the Waldorf-Astoria, and I'd like to hear her again. I go to the conference. I'm not alone. About one thousand people, almost all of them liberal American Jews, are in attendance.

I'm a little early for Samantha's speech and so I stand outside and smoke. Near me is a top NIF official and we talk a bit. She tells me that about 70 percent of American Jews hold the same views as NIF, and she also tells me that there are fifty speakers at this conference, forty-nine of whom are liberals and one of whom is conservative.

What happened to the liberals? They are progressing, it seems, to the Stone Age. Be that as it may, it does arouse my attention and I go up to hear some of the forty-niners.

What a show! Here I hear a lady, by the name of Suhad Babaa, who talks of "Palestinian boys killed in broad daylight by Israeli soldiers" as an example of the brutal and lawless Jews. The audience, liberal American Jews, applaud. Don't ask me to explain.

Amira Hass, a *Haaretz* columnist, tells these American Jews: "Anybody who intends to emigrate to Israel is about to commit a crime." The Jewish state, if you didn't know, is a criminal state.

The Jews applaud.

Bridget Todd, a black lady who is associated with Black Lives Matter, shares the stage with Amira. What is she doing here? I can't tell, but it's definitely an effective visual tool to illustrate to Americans what the Jews are doing worldwide: murdering non-whites.

What else do I see here? Roger Waters is sitting in the front row of the main hall, being glorified by a *Haaretz* fellow who tells him how pleased he is to see such an important man at this conference. Roger, co-founder of the old favorite English rock band Pink Floyd, is still in the music business. But besides music, he has some other things on his mind, such as comparing Israel to Nazi Germany and engaging in endless activism against Israel.

The Jews here love him for that. And they applaud at the mere mention of his name.

This conference is called *HaaretzQ*, where the "Q" stands for question, but nobody is questioning anything. Everybody here has the answers, all the answers. And they talk. The forty-niners say, for example, that Jewish Voice for Peace, whose activists I met while in DC and by whom I was told that I'm a fat, filthy Jew, is an exemplary organization.

All in all, it is bizarre to watch. Every time someone says that the Jews are horrible, are criminals and thieves, one thousand American Jews applaud.

When I met Abe Foxman, over six months ago, he talked to me about the Jews who wouldn't produce shows or films about Israel and other Jewish issues. But this belongs in the past. Today's American Jewish liberals speak loud and clear about Israel and the Jews: they would love both to disappear. What's "liberal" in this? I have no idea. I think it's the opposite of anything liberal.

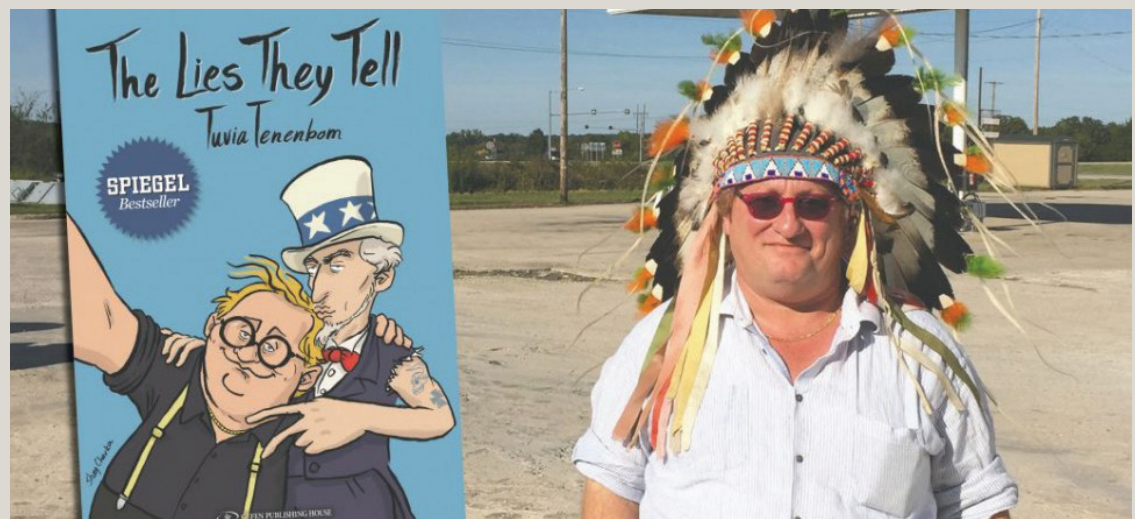
An Austrian Jew, now living in New York and active in liberal causes, tells me that he's enjoying every moment of being here. What's here to enjoy? Every speaker says that the Jews are horrible, and you are enjoying it? I ask him. "I'm a masochist," he replies.

If I am to believe what the people here say, then the Jewish state is made of ruthless killers and sadistic butchers. Yes, as simple as that: Jews are sadistic

Through the process of forcibly dumping its citizens into a giant boiling pot of diversity and shaming them if they are not proud of it, America's democracy succeeded in instilling fear in the minds of its citizens and effectively created a stench of segregation that reaches the highest heavens.

One side effect of this process, which only outstanding psychologists will be able to explain, is the high degree of patriotism found within this country's borders. These American patriots, by a strange psychological coincidence, convince themselves that they are the only true guardians of culture and morality and therefore it is their duty to invade and bombard foreign countries that do not abide by their sense of morality and ethics. Knowingly or not, they rush to commit and undertake every failed deed ever committed by the Europeans.

A telling effect of the forced melting pot is the majority of Americans who are afraid to share their



Tuvia Tenenbom, on one leg of his America trip. Photo: 'The Lies They Tell'

butchers. Period.

I'm not going to pass judgment but if this is true, Adolf Hitler was right and it's too bad that he didn't finish the job.

Samantha: What exactly are you doing here?

When an administration joins in the self-destruction of its citizens — be it the self-killing of the black, the self-hatred of the Jew or the self-rape of the Native American — it automatically becomes an accomplice to their annihilation.

Hello, Samantha, do you hear me?

...

The America I find is not the America I wished to find. It is racist, it is hateful and its citizens are bound to destroy themselves. Be they blacks and some Spanish who have nothing better to do with their time than shoot each other in the head; be they Jews who are possessed by a terrifyingly psychotic illness of self-hate; be they Indians who have given up any semblance of spirituality in exchange for acres and casinos; or be they all the others: whites, the rest of the Spanish, Muslims, Mormons and others who live in fear of one another.

What about diversity?

Yes, American society is diverse, but this does not mean that Americans are not segregated; they are. The "melting pot" of America has been quite successful in forcing individuals to forsake their ancestors' cultures, but it has given them nothing worthwhile in return.

political and religious views with strangers. In the Land of the Free, the Brave are quiet.

There is a component of the melting pot that often bewilders me: people who passionately argue that America is not a "melting pot" but a "mosaic" of cultures or, as others prefer to call it, a "multicultural" society. Those people have, however, been so thoroughly melted that for the life of them they can't identify a single part of their mosaic or one unique culture of the "multi" — no matter how many times you ask them.

I'm no authority on climate change, as I have said, but from a social perspective America is definitely getting warmer, melting in the blazing fires of its own making.

Sometimes, I must admit, as I drove around meeting people I had this feeling that America is one huge Ponky Shmonk, a kindergarten otherwise known as the USA. Like misbehaving little kids, Americans are ever worried that somebody out there will "out" them one day and tell everybody what they really think. But the problem is that Americans are not children; they have huge bombs and sometimes they like to drop them. America is also one of the strongest economies in the world, and at times the strongest of them all, but can humanity rely on this country?

I wouldn't.

The Lies They Tell was published by Gefen Publishing.

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SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC Plaintiff against AGNES MOSES, PATRICIA MOSES, MARK MOSES, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on December 8, 2016. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 23rd day of March, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the building and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and state of New York. Said premises known as 939 East 100th Street Brooklyn, NY. 11236. Tax account number: SBL#: 8208-24. Approximate amount of lien \$ 673,511.40 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 510524-15. Mark Longo, Esq., Referee. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C. Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot Street – Suite 210 New Rochelle, New York 10801 (914) 636-8900
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IGLOO NYC LLC. Art. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/20/17. Office: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o The Vorea Group LLC, 184 North 8th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/17/24

SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS MVMF III FIN TRUST, Plaintiff against JOSEPHINE JEAN PIERRE; PHENICIEN JEAN PIERRE, EMMA JEAN PIERRE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on January 26, 2017. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY. on the 23rd day of March, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point on the Easterly side of East Nineteenth Street, distant three hundred and fifty (350) feet Northerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the Northerly side of Avenue G with the Easterly side of East Nineteenth Street; Running thence Easterly parallel with Avenue G one hundred and one (101) feet, six and three-quarter (6 3/4) inches; Thence Northerly parallel with East Nineteenth Street fifty (50) feet; Thence Westerly and again parallel with Avenue G one hundred and one (101) feet, six and three-quarter (6 3/4) inches to the Easterly side of East Nineteenth Street; Thence southerly along the said Easterly side of East Nineteenth Street fifty (50) feet to the point or place of beginning. Avenue G is now Glenwood Road. Subject to covenants and restrictions as contained in former instruments of record affecting the said premises, and to an easement granted to the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company, by agreement recorded in the Office of the Register of the County of Kings. Together with all right, title and interest of the party of the first part in and to any land lying in the bed of East Nineteenth Street in front of said

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premises to the center line thereof. Said premises known as 689 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY. 11230. (Block: 5240, Lot: 80). Approximate amount of lien \$ 1,476,235.56 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index No. 6953-09. Elena Makau, Esq., Referee. Stern & Eisenberg, PC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff Woodbridge Corporate Plaza 485 B Route 1 South – Suite 330 Iselin, NJ 08830 (732) 582-6344
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: skyline creative works LLC articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/01/2016 Office location kings county. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: Thevan D.Parker 944 herkimer street Brooklyn, NY 11233. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/17/24

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: BAJX GENERAL RENOVATION LLC articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/25/2017. Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: Cristian Manolo Bajxac Estrada 328 Clove Rd. APT.1FL staten Island, NY 10310 purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/17/24

Notice of formation of DREAMLAND PROPERTY NY LLC, Arts of Org filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/06/2017. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 316 Fountain Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11208. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/17/24

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-12XS, V. CLAUDE L. HENRY, et al. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 31, 2016, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO BANK OF AMERICA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2006-12XS, is the Plaintiff and CLAUDE L. HENRY, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 224, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN NY 11201, on March 16, 2017 at 2:30pm, premises known as 1934 BERGEN ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11233: Block 1452 Lot 42: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE,

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LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 5359/2013. Elena Makau, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS, FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. BRENDA A. BULL, ET AL., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on September 15, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 23, 2017 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 609 East 96th Street, Brooklyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 4756 and Lot 31. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 12064/13. Dominic J. Famulari, Esq., Referee Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ 2/17/24; 3/3/10/

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: Magestic Visions, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/24/2016 Office location Kings County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: The LLC C/O United States corporation agents inc. 7014 13th Ave. Suite 202 Brooklyn New York 11228 purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

Notice of formation of a limited liability company (LLC) Name: NR1A 227 Berkeley Manager, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/01/2017 Office location Richmond County SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC, 1878 Victory Blvd, Staten Island NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: Berkeley Place Capital 227, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York on 02/01/2017. Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall Mail copy of the process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC, 1878 Victory Blvd, Staten Island NY 10314. Purpose: any lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: THIRD STREET CAPITAL 423, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 12/12/2016. Office location Richmond County SSNY has it been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall mail copy of the process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC,

1878 Victory Blvd, Staten Island NY 10314. purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: NR1A 423 THIRD MANAGER, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the secretary of state of New York (SSNY) on 12/12/2016. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall Mail copy of the process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC, 1878 Victory Blvd, Staten Island NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for RASC 2006-EMX6, Plaintiff AGAINST Norma Tirado; Joao F. Camilo a/k/a Joao Camilo; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 7, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on March 30, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 281 Ashford Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 3984 Lot 7. Approximate amount of judgment \$865,788.92 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 4148/2013. Gregory T. Cerchione, Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: February 16, 2017
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR STANWICH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2010-2 ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, Plaintiff -against- PAMELA ELLIS-COOMBS, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated January 3, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Courthouse 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY on March 30, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the westerly side of East 49th Street, distant 90 feet southerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the westerly side of East 49th Street with the southerly side of Avenue I; being a plot 100 feet by 18 feet by 100 feet by 18 feet. Block 7774 and Lot 51. Said premises known as 12-72 EAST 49TH STREET, BROOKLYN, NY Approximate amount of lien \$795,765.44 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. Index Number 12567/2007. ANTHONY M. ABRAHAM, ESQ., Referee Jeffrey A. Kosterich, LLC Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 68 Main Street, 3rd Floor, Tuckahoe, NY 10707
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17

Notice of formation of Limited liability company LLC. Name: SQWAB LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/08/2017. Office location Kings

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County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail process to: SQWAB LLC 190 72nd St., Apt. 198, Brooklyn, NY 11209. Purpose: all lawful activity
AJ 2/24; 3/3/10/17/24/31

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Jamal Williams, Individually and as Co-Administrator of the Estate of Jermaine Williams a/k/a Jermaine M. Williams a/k/a Jermaine Michael Williams a/k/a Jermain Michael Williams a/k/a Jermain Williams; Marcel Florestal, Esq.; Sandy Martinez, as Co-Administratrix of Justin Michael Williams; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated June 17, 2016 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on April 6, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 647 East 103rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block: 8172 Lot: 17. Approximate amount of judgment \$703,031.16 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 21373/2012. Helene E. Blank, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: February 16, 2017
AJ 3/3/10/17/24

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGS CIT BANK, N.A. F/K/A ONEWEST BANK N.A. F/K/A ONEWEST BANK, FSB, V. GEORGENE S. THOMPSON AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF ERIC OSWALD NORMAN CAMERON A/K/A ERIC OSWALD CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. N. CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. CAMERON, A/K/A ERICO CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. CAMERON, DECEASED, et al. NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated July 28, 2016, and entered in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, wherein CIT BANK, N.A. F/K/A ONEWEST BANK N.A. F/K/A ONEWEST BANK, FSB, is the Plaintiff and GEORGENE S. THOMPSON AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF ERIC OSWALD NORMAN CAMERON A/K/A ERIC OSWALD CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. N. CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. CAMERON, A/K/A ERICO CAMERON A/K/A ERIC O. CAMERON, DECEASED, ET AL. are the Defendant(s). I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the KINGS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 224, 360 ADAMS STREET, BROOKLYN NY 11201, on March 30, 2017 at 2:30pm, premises known as 383 BRADFORD STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11207: Block 3776 Lot 20: ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 2506/2013. Matthew J. Kazansky, Esq. - Referee. RAS Boriskin, LLC 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite 106, Westbury, New York 11590, Attorneys for Plaintiff
AJ 3/3/10/17/24

Tradition.

Who Is Honoured?



JONATHAN SACKS
LONDON

Tetzaveh is the only sedra from the beginning of Exodus to the end of Deuteronomy, that does not contain the word "Moses". For once Moses, the hero, the leader, the liberator, the lawgiver, is offstage. Instead our focus is on his elder brother Aaron who, elsewhere, is often in the background. Indeed virtually the whole sedra is devoted to the role Moses did not occupy, except briefly – that of priest in general, high priest in particular.

Why so? Is there any larger significance to the absence of Moses from this passage? The commentators offered many suggestions. One of two offered by R. Jacob ben Asher (1270-1340, author of the code known as the Tur), relates this week's sedra to an event at the beginning of Moses' leadership: his encounter with God at the burning bush (Ex. 3-4). Moses repeatedly expressed reluctance to undertake the mission of leading the people out of Egypt. Finally we read:

But Moses said, "O Lord, please send someone else to do it." Then the Lord's anger burned against Moses and He said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you. You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do." (Ex. 4:13-15)

The Sages say that it was this hesitation on the part of Moses that caused part of his role – as potential high priest – to be taken from him and given to his brother. R. Jacob ben Asher concludes that Moses' name is missing from Tetzaveh "to spare him distress" on seeing Aaron acquire the insignia of priesthood that might have been Moses' own.

Without negating this or other explanations, there may be a more fundamental message. As I have mentioned before, one of the recurring themes of Genesis is sibling rivalry, hostility between brothers. This story is told, at ever-increasing length, four times: between Cain and Abel, Isaac and Ishmael, Jacob and Esau, and Joseph and his brothers.

There is an identifiable pattern to this set of narratives, best seen in the way each ends. The story of Cain and Abel ends with murder, fratricide. Isaac and Ishmael – though they grow up apart – are seen together at Abraham's funeral. Evidently there had been a reconciliation, though this is told between the lines (and spelled out in midrash), not directly in the text. Jacob and Esau meet, embrace and go their separate ways. Joseph and his brothers are reconciled and live together in peace, Joseph providing them with food, land, and protection.

Genesis is telling us a story of great consequence. Fraternity – one of the key words of the French revolution – is not simple or straightforward. It is often fraught with conflict and contention. Yet slowly, brothers can learn that there is another way. On this note Genesis ends.

But it is not the end of the story. There is a fifth chapter: the relationship between Moses and Aaron. Here, for the first time, there is no hint of sibling rivalry (some developed later – Bamidbar ch. 12 – but was resolved by Moses' humility). The brothers work together from the very outset of the mission to lead the Israelites to freedom. They address the people together. They stand together when confronting Pharaoh. They perform signs and wonders together. They share leadership of the people in the wilderness together. For the first time, brothers function as a team, with different gifts, different talents, different roles, but without hostility, each complementing the other.

This is conveyed by the Torah in two striking phrases. The first is in the passage already cited above. God says to Moses: Aaron "is already on his way to meet you, and his heart will be glad when he sees you." How different this is from the tense encounters between brothers in Genesis. Aaron, we may have thought, might have many reasons not to rejoice on seeing Moses return. The brothers had not grown up together. Moses had been adopted by Pharaoh's daughter and raised in an Egyptian palace. Nor had they been together during the Israelites' sufferings. Moses, fearing for his life after his assault on an Egyptian taskmaster, had fled to Midian. Besides this, Moses was Aaron's younger brother, and it was he who was about to become leader

Continued on Page A7

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NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings Federal National Mortgage Association, Plaintiff AGAINST Godfrey Jack, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 11/1/2016 and entered on 12/2/2016, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 30, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 964 EAST 34TH STREET BROOKLYN, NY 11210. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 7561, LOT: 69. Approximate amount of judgment is \$816,041.62 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 010887/2009. Barry M. Goldstein, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ 3/3/10/17/24

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NOTICE OF SALE Supreme Court County Of Kings The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificate holders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-9, Plaintiff AGAINST Raja M. Javed a/k/a Raja M. Javid a/k/a Javed Raja, Khawar Latif Raja, et al, Defendant Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 1/3/2017 and entered on 1/24/2017, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on March 30, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 2076 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City and State of New York, BLOCK: 7807, LOT: 78. Approximate amount of judgment is \$594,467.91 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 511373/2014. Richard Klass, Referee FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON LLP 53 Gibson Street Bay Shore, NY 11706 AJ 3/3/10/17/24

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB D/B/A CHRISTIANA TRUST, NOT INDIVIDUALLY BUT AS TRUSTEE FOR PRETIUM MORTGAGE ACQUISITION TRUST; Plaintiff(s) vs. SERAFIN VASQUEZ; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about January 12, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On April 6, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 293 POWELL STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11212-8136 Block: 3763 Lot: 111 ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$850,185.63 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 21054-13 Julie A. Clark, Esq., Referee AJ 3/3/10/17/24

REFeree's NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff – against – ANTHONY FONTANA, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on January 17, 2017, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction, in Room 274 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on the 6th Day of April, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. Premises known as 1942 East 34th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11234. (Block: 8500 and Lot: 64) Approximate amount of lien \$574,360.05 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of

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sale. Index No. 500204/2014. Charles L. Emma, Esq., Referee. Davidson Fink LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 28 East Main Street, Suite 1700 Rochester, NY 14614-1990 Tel. 585/760-8218 Dated: January 23, 2017 AJ 3/3/10/17/24

Notice of formation of limited liability company. (LLC) Name: GRR PARTNERS, LLC articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/01/2016. Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall Mail process to the LLC c/o United states corporation agents Inc. 7014 13th Ave. Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/3/10/17/24/31; 4/7

143-145 PROSPECT LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/17/2017. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 15 Powell Lane, Staten Island, NY 10312. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. AJ 3/3/10/17/24/31; 4/7

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-11; Plaintiff(s) vs. ISAAC CHKOURI; ILIYA HONOVICH; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about January 5, 2017, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On April 13, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 1809 VOORHIES AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11235 Block: 7463 Lot: 49 ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$920,035.05 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 20473-13 Gregory M. LaSpina, Esq., Referee AJ 3/10/17/24/31;

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WACHOVIA MORTGAGE, FSB FORMERLY KNOWN AS WORLD SAVINGS BANK, FSB; Plaintiff(s) vs. NANCY PROCH HENLE; JOHN HENLE A/K/A JOHN W. HENLE, III A/KA JOHN WILLIAM HENLE, III; et al; Defendant(s) Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600 Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about November 3, 2016, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. On April 13, 2017 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 1558 BROOKLYN AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11210 Block: 5010 Lot: 67 ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in

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the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$589,967.78 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 20600/2013 Gregory M. LaSpina, Esq., Referee AJ 3/10/17/24/31;

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: Union Street capital 248, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/22/2017. Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be Served. SSNY Shall mail process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC 1878 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314 Purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: NRIA 248 Union manager,LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York(SSNY) on 02/22/2017. Office location Richmond County SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be Served. SSNY Shall Mail process to: Gabor & Marotta LLC. 1878 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: NRIA 140 Luquer, Manager LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on: 02/24/2017. Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to GABOR & MAROTTA LLC 1878 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Notice of formation of limited liability company(LLC) Name: LUQUER STREET CAPITAL 140, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 02/24/2017 Office location Richmond County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall mail process to GABOR & MAROTTA LLC 1878 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314. Purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Notice of formation of a limited liability company (LLC) Name: Best Spanish NYC, LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/27/2016 . Office location Kings County SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall Mail process to best Spanish NYC, LLC 101 Ocean Parkway #3c Brooklyn, NY 11218 purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Notice of formation of limited liability company (LLC) Name: 3211 CRUGER AVE LLC. Articles of organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/03/2017. Office location Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as the agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY Shall Mail process to WANG & CO accounting LLC PO Box 103, Glen Cove, NY 11542 purpose: all lawful activity AJ 3/10/17/24/31; 4/7/14

Social.



Israeli soccer player Tomer Hemed. Photo: Twitter.

Israeli Striker Playing for British Soccer Team Shows Off Star of David Haircut

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

An Israeli striker who plays for a British soccer team displayed his national and religious pride this week with a unique haircut he showed off on social media.

"Always representing #starofdavid #jewish #israel #proudtobejewish #bhafc," 29-year-old Tomer Hemed tweeted.

Hemed is one of two Israelis on the roster of Brighton & Hove Albion F.C. — which competes in the English Football League Championship. The other is 28-year-old central midfielder Beram Kayal, a member of Israel's Arab minority. Both are also on Israel's national team.

In a *Makor Rishon* interview published on Friday, Kayal talked about the bond he and Hemed share, which goes back to when the two played together in the Maccabi Haifa youth system.

"We're good friends, our wives are close and our children are growing up together," Kayal said. "We hang out a lot and some call us 'the Israeli mafia.'"

"Politics doesn't interest me," he went on to say. "In my view, Tomer and I are the best example that a Muslim Arab and a Jew can grow up together with the same values and language, be friends and send a positive message to all. There are many here [in England] who don't understand how we all cooperate on the Israeli national team and don't know anything about our history — that there are [Muslims], as well as Christians, in Israel, and we all live together as good neighbors."

In December, as reported by *The Algemeiner*, Israeli soccer player Almog Cohen — a midfielder for FC Ingolstadt — lifted up his jersey during a post-goal celebration to reveal a shirt underneath, bearing the Hebrew words, "*Hashem hu ha-elokim*" (Hashem is the one God).

23 Artists to Visit Israel to Aid Effort to Save Diminishing Dead Sea

BY JNS.ORG

Twenty-three artists from around the world are scheduled to visit Israel in mid-March to raise awareness for the efforts to save the evaporating Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea, the deepest hypersaline lake in the world, is diminishing at a rate of more than a meter (3.3 feet) per year.

The initiative is the brainchild of the Ornithological Center in the Society for Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI), which partnered with the Netherlands-based Artists for Nature Foundation and the Tamar Regional Council in southern Israel to promote it.

Established in 1953, the SPNI is Israel's leading environmental nonprofit organization.



The Dead Sea. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

According to the SPNI's website, the Dead Sea venture also involves collaboration with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. The 11-day event, set for March 16-27, and will involve workshops in which the artists paint portraits of the Dead Sea as well as local landscapes from both the Israeli and the Jordanian sides of the sea.

Israel Notches Second Straight Upset Victory at World Baseball Classic in Seoul;

BY BARNEY BREEN-PORTNOY

Buoyed by an offensive onslaught that featured home runs by Ryan Lavanway and Nate Freiman, Israel on Tuesday notched its second upset victory in as many days at the 2017 World Baseball Classic in Seoul, defeating Chinese Taipei 15-7.

With its two wins (the first of which was a 2-1 extra-inning nail-biter over Korea on Monday), it appears likely that Israel will advance to the quadrennial tournament's second round, which begins on Sunday in Tokyo. Israel's final game in Pool A play at the Gocheok Sky Dome — against the Netherlands — is scheduled for 10 p.m. US Eastern time on Wednesday (12 p.m. Thursday

Korea time).

The championship round will take place in Los Angeles on March 20-22.

Israel's manager, Jerry Weinstein, told *MLB.com* on Tuesday, "One of the goals is to not put the cart before the horse. We're not in the second round yet. We're preparing for the game with the Netherlands and that's what we're thinking about right now. My experience has been that when you start getting ahead of yourself, you get out in the future, you're not taking care of the present. We need to take care of what we're doing here right now and when we know we're going to be in next round, then we'll start talking about the next round."

World Baseball Classic rules allow players to

compete for any countries in which they qualify for citizenship. This enables Israel to draw on the talent of non-native Jewish athletes who are eligible for Israeli citizenship under the Law of Return.



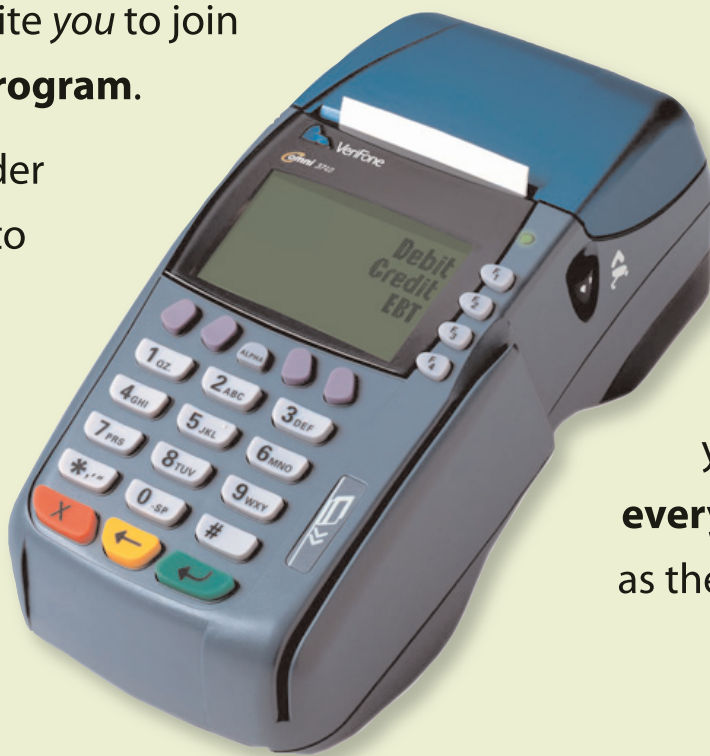
Team Israel players don kippahs during the playing of 'Hatikvah' at the World Baseball Classic in Seoul. Photo: Screenshot.

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