

06/11/2021 NEWS AM

ישתבח שמו ⚡ Yaakov Shwekey

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E\\_hzOuAK5gY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_hzOuAK5gY)

Lord of the Worlds I found two words That Jews say everywhere For what already was Which has not yet happened It does not matter because it will always be true We thank him every day And glorify to heaven	Thank God For everything he created for me For everything that happened to me Thank God On moments of happiness About light in the dark Thank God Together forever Thank God
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**"The reduction of political discourse to sound bites is one of the worst things that's happened in American political life."**

**-- John Silber (1926- ) Chancellor, Boston University Source: USA Today, 1 October 1990**

**Read the Prophets & PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!**

**That is the only hope for this nation!**

<p><b>Please Remember These Folks In Prayer- Check often They Change!</b></p>	<p><b>Pray that the world would WAKE UP!</b> Time for a worldwide repentance!          ALL US soldiers fighting for our freedom around the world          Pray for those in our government to repent of their wicked corrupt ways.          Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!          Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence          Pray for DH – Mother going into hospice.          Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug  <b>NOTE: Our prayer list was getting very long and there will little follow up. If you have people you want to have on the list please resubmit since we are revising it now– rdb]</b></p> <p>Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations?</p>
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**Genesis 31:<sup>13</sup> I am the God of Bethel, there where you anointed the pillar, where you vowed a vow to Me. Now rise up; go out of this land and go back to the land of your kindred. <sup>14</sup>And Rachel and Leah answered and said to him, *Is there yet to us a portion and an inheritance in the house of our father?* <sup>15</sup>Are we not counted strangers by him. For he has sold us, and selling he has sold *us* for silver. <sup>16</sup>For all the wealth which God has taken from our father, it *is* for us and for our sons. And now all that which God has said to you, do.**

**Please note:**  
The news postings will be spotty the next few days. I am preparing for a major family celebration – rdb]

**Violence erupts at Old City flashpoint as far right's Ben Gvir holds protest**

*Controversy-courting lawmaker carries Israeli flag to Damascus Gate after police ban him from marching through Muslim Quarter; at least 5 arrested; Hamas issues warning*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 8:36 pm

Clashes broke out Thursday afternoon between East Jerusalem protesters and Israel Police, as far-right lawmaker Itamar Ben Gvir marched to the flashpoint Damascus Gate entrance to the Old City. Ben Gvir waved an Israeli flag at the site, in

what he said was a personal protest, after police banned him from parading through the Muslim Quarter to reach the Temple Mount.

At least five people were arrested, as hundreds of people were reported to take part in scuffles between Arabs and Ben Gvir's Jewish supporters. One of those arrested reportedly snatched an Israeli flag from the hands of a Ben Gvir supporter. Police used riot dispersal means, including flashbangs against protesters. There were no immediate reports of injuries.



Last month, clashes on the Temple Mount and around the Damascus Gate spiraled into a major confrontation between Israel and terror groups in the Gaza Strip. The fighting ended with a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers.

*Far-right Religious Zionism party lawmaker MK Itamar Ben Gvir visits the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

**After Ben Gvir's visit, and amid the rioting that followed, the Hamas military wing issued a statement saying that it was watching the developments closely.**

**"The Al-Qassam Brigades and the leadership of the resistance are closely following the provocative and**

**aggressive actions by the usurpers and their leaders in Jerusalem and the Al-Aqsa Mosque," the group said in a statement. "They warn against harming Al-Aqsa, and salute her free defenders in Jerusalem for their confrontation and resistance of the desecration of Al-Aqsa and the aggression against it."**

**Ben Gvir went to the gate after the High Court of Justice earlier rejected his appeal against a decision by police to stop him from marching through the Muslim Quarter.** Police were concerned the march could reignite violence in the city and beyond. Ben Gvir had planned to march in protest of the postponement by authorities of a much larger annual flag march through the Old City by nationalist Jewish groups.

**That march had been scheduled for Thursday, and is now expected to take place on Tuesday** — as long as organizers and police can agree on its route.



*Police seen during clashes with protesters following a visit of right-wing Religious Zionism party lawmaker MK Itamar Ben Gvir at the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, on June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

**Ben Gvir, of the Religious Zionism party, has repeatedly been accused of deliberately stoking unrest.**

**Under heavy security from Border Police, Ben Gvir stood at Damascus Gate and demanded that Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai resign for "surrendering to terror."**

**He said he had come to protest the "disgrace" that "a member of the Knesset cannot walk through the Old City" and called the ban against him a "surrender to terror by the police chief, complete subservience."**

Having said that he would not confront the police, Ben Gvir nonetheless slammed the force's decision to prevent him from heading for the Temple Mount.

"The very fact that an MK in Israel cannot march in the Old City is a surrender to Hamas and terrorism; it is a victory of terrorism," Ben Gvir charged. "Of course, we will not give up Jerusalem, we will not give up the Old City."

"These terrorists," he said as he pointed at Arab protesters who gathered to demonstrate against his visit, "make threats, Israel surrenders, and the person who brought this upon us is the police chief."

"I will not fold. The police chief is a failure and he needs to go. I will remain in Jerusalem," Ben Gvir said.



*Far-right Religious Zionism party MK Itamar Ben Gvir visits the Damascus Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem, on June 10, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

The [ban against Ben Gvir](#), which Channel 12 news said on Wednesday constituted an unprecedented removal of an MK's immunity rights, was endorsed by Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit.

Knesset Speaker Yariv Levin (Likud) on Wednesday night asked Mandelblit to reconsider.

**The high-level security cabinet on Tuesday evening announced the contentious flag march planned in Jerusalem would be permitted to take place in one week, if police approve the route.**

Police had initially refused to authorize the event, which was set to follow a path through the Old City's Damascus Gate entrance and Muslim Quarter, concerned of the potential for the parade to inflame tensions in the city and spark a fresh wave of unrest there, and potentially in other locations.

The Hamas terror group had warned of "consequences" if the march passed through Damascus Gate.

The original flag march on May 10 was stopped short by rocket fire from Hamas at Jerusalem during the unrest last month, which sparked an 11-day bout of intense fighting.

The Temple Mount is the holiest place in Judaism, as the site of the biblical Temples. It is the site of the third-holiest shrine in Islam, the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and has been a frequent flashpoint of violence.

Israel captured the Temple Mount and Jerusalem's Old City in the 1967 Six Day War and extended sovereignty throughout Jerusalem. However, it allowed the Jordanian Waqf to continue to maintain religious authority atop the mount, where Jews are allowed to visit under numerous restrictions, but not to pray. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/violence-erupts-at-old-city-flashpoint-as-far-rights-ben-gvir-holds-protest/> **[The entire situation is amazing. That a JEW can not go to the most holy site of their religion because of Islamic temper tantrums is ridiculous. Sorry Moshe Dayan but returning the mount to Jordan was a terrible mistake. – rdb]**

## **Likud promises peaceful transition of power, again accuses Bennett of fraud**

*Party continues to claim Yamina leader 'hijacked votes from the right,' falsely compares his actions to US electors switching voters' choice of president*

By [TOI staff](#) 10 June 2021, 10:05 pm

**Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party on Thursday issued a clarification of the premier's claims of "election fraud" in Israel that made international headlines and drew comparisons to former US president Donald Trump.**

**In an English tweet thread retweeted by the premier, the party for the first time said that Netanyahu is committed to a "peaceful transition of power."**

**However, his office has refused to state whether the prime minister will be attending the traditional handover ceremony of the premiership on Monday, and a transitional briefing with incoming premier Naftali Bennett has not yet been scheduled, with the government swear-in less than three days away.**

Bennett is set to become prime minister after he reached a coalition deal with opposition leader Yair Lapid of the Yesh Atid party and a wide array of parties aligned against Netanyahu, ranging from the dovish Meretz to the pro-annexation New Hope and the Islamist party Ra'am. Under the agreement, Bennett will serve as prime minister for two years before handing the office to Lapid for the remainder of the term.

On Sunday, Netanyahu told a Likud faction meeting, "We are witnesses to the greatest election fraud in the history of the country and in my opinion, the history of democracies." **MORE** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/likud-promises-peaceful-transition-of-power-again-accuses-bennett-of-fraud/>

## **Israel plans to allow individual tourists back into the country starting July 1**

*With okay already given to groups, interior minister recommends speedy entry process for those inoculated against coronavirus — from certain countries*

By [Stuart Winer](#) and [TOI staff](#) Today, 11:22 pm

**Israel could ease entry procedures for foreign visitors who have been vaccinated against the coronavirus from the beginning of next month, allowing regular tourists traveling outside organized groups to enter the country for the first time since the start of the pandemic.**

**International travel to Israel has been greatly limited, due to lockdown restrictions** imposed to prevent COVID-19 strains from reaching the country. At times, Israel's borders were entirely shut to foreigners. Tourists cannot currently travel to the country unless visiting a first-degree relative, and then under restrictive conditions.

**Interior Minister Aryeh Deri sent a letter Thursday to Border Authority Director-General Shlomo Mor-Yosef telling him that he had consulted with the Health Ministry Yuli Edelstein, Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi, and professional teams from various ministries on the matter.**

**As a result, a decision was taken to allow vaccinated visitors from a list of countries that is yet to be determined by the Health Ministry "to enter Israel with a shortened process that will be put together in the coming days."**

He did not explain what the "shortened process" would involve.

**Deri told Mor-Yosef that in light of the COVID-19 vaccination programs in other countries, "there is room to broaden the easing of entry to Israel** for foreigners and to change the existing methods of approval that put an enormous load on Israel's representatives abroad and on the Immigration and Population Authority in the country." Deri wrote that the target date to start the pilot would be July 1.



*Interior Minister Aryeh Deri gives a press statement at the Knesset in Jerusalem, June 8, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

**Tourism Minister Orit Farkash-Hacohen welcomed the move,** tweeting that "it is about time that Israel opens up to tourism and takes advantage of being a vaccinated country for the benefit of its economy."

Farkash-Hacohen said that the changes would apply to individual tourists, rather than groups.

In April, Farkash-Hacohen [unveiled a four-part plan](#) to restart foreign tourism to Israel in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, including a global advertising campaign, flight incentives to Eilat, and the reintroduction of large international events.

Israel recently began accepting organized tour groups back into the country. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-plans-to-allow-individual-tourists-back-into-the-country-starting-july-1/>

## **In stunning, revelatory interview, ex-Mossad chief warns Iran, defends Netanyahu**

*Days after stepping down, Yossi Cohen gives specific details of Mossad actions against Tehran nuke program, his role in UAE deal, his Gaza error, and his prime ministerial hopes*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 1:49 am

**Yossi Cohen, who retired as head of the Mossad last week, provided highly specific details of recent Mossad activity against Iran, his interactions with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his role in Israel's normalization** with the UAE, and his own undercover career in an extraordinary interview on Israeli television broadcast on Thursday night.

**Cohen intimated that his agency blew up Iran's underground centrifuge facility at Natanz, gave a precise description of the 2018 operation in which the Mossad stole Iran's nuclear archive from safes in a Tehran warehouse,** confirmed that Iran's assassinated top nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh had been in Mossad's sights for years, and said the regime needs to understand that Israel means what it says when it vows to prevent Iran attaining nuclear weapons.

**In what would appear to be the most revelatory interview ever given by a Mossad chief so close to the end of his active service, Cohen, who was appointed by Netanyahu, said he did not rule out seeking to become prime minister** one day, though he wasn't contemplating such an ambition at the moment.

The interview was presumably approved by Israel's military censors, and Cohen was circumspect on numerous occasions, but nonetheless talked about his career and key operations with an openness and detail radically atypical of spy chiefs, especially those whose service has only recently ended.

Early in the more than an hour of conversations for journalist Ilan Dayan's "Uvda" (Fact) documentary show on Israel's Channel 12, **Cohen indicated that he was deeply familiar with Iran's various nuclear sites, and said that, if given the opportunity, he would take Dayan to the underground "cellar" at Natanz,** where, he said, "the centrifuges used to spin."

"It no longer looks like it did?" Dayan asked.

"Indeed," said Cohen.

"Unless they fixed it," she said.

“It doesn’t look like it used to look,” insisted Cohen.

Cohen did not explicitly confirm responsibility for sabotage at Natanz in the interview, but said more generally: “We say very clearly [to Iran]: We won’t let you get nuclear weapons. What don’t you understand?”

Dayan noted that two major blasts at Natanz were attributed in foreign reports to the Mossad in the past year, and said “a huge quantity of explosives” were built into a marble platform used to balance the centrifuges.

#### **Watching Fakhrizadeh**

**Regarding Fakhrizadeh, identified by Israel as the father of Iran’s rogue nuclear weapons program, who was killed in an ambush near Tehran in November 2020 that has been widely attributed to Israel, Cohen said that he was watched by Mossad for years and that** the Mossad was physically close to him before November 2020.

Fakhrizadeh “most troubled us from the point of view of the science, the knowledge, the scientists of the Iranian military nuclear program,” said Cohen, and therefore “he was a target for [intelligence] gathering for many years.” Interviewer Dayan said of Fakhrizadeh’s killing: “Yossi Cohen cannot take responsibility for this action, but his personal signature is on the entire operation.”

Asked whether he believes killings of potent Israeli enemies are worthwhile, Cohen said: “If the man constitutes a capability that endangers the citizens of Israel, he must stop existing.”

In some cases, however, Cohen said, Israel conveys the message to such a potential target that “if he is prepared to change profession and not harm us any longer, then yes” — implying such a target would be spared.

Did any such people get the hint and become, say, a piano player, Dayan asked?

Yes, said Cohen, and added that this pleased him. Others, however, he said, did not get the message that this was an offer they shouldn’t refuse.

For all the Mossad’s actions, “the Iranians are closer than ever” to the bomb,” Dayan suggested. “Not so,” said Cohen. “That’s not true.”

#### **7 hours in a Tehran warehouse**

In the interview, Cohen described the planning and execution of the Mossad’s theft of a vast archive of Iranian nuclear documents from a Tehran warehouse on the night of January 31, 2018 — an operation for which Israel has openly taken credit.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-stunning-revelatory-interview-mossad-chief-warns-iran-defends-netanyahu/>

## **Hamas honors Al Jazeera for ‘highly professional’ coverage of Gaza conflict**

*On visit to temporary Gaza bureau of Qatar-funded agency after old office was leveled by IDF, terror group officials present certificate, laud outlet’s ‘high level of nationalism’*

*By TOI staff Today, 6:27 pm*



*Hamas officials present Al Jazeera with a certificate after what the terror group called the outlet’s ‘high level of nationalism’ in its coverage of last month’s conflict with Israel, June 10, 2021 (via Twitter)*

A Hamas delegation paid a visit to the temporary bureau of Al Jazeera in Gaza Thursday, lauding the Qatari news agency for its coverage of the recent conflict between Israel and terror groups in the coastal enclave.

The visit, one of what Hamas said was a series by its officials to honor media outlets for their coverage, featured the presentation to the Al Jazeera team of a certificate marking appreciation for coverage of what Hamas called the “Sword of Jerusalem” battle.

Hamas deputy chief in Gaza Khalil al-Hayya told Al Jazeera reporters that they “demonstrated their belonging to the cause of the oppressed Palestinian people,” according to a statement from the group.

“What distinguishes the Palestinian journalist [from others] is that he has a national message,” Hayya said. “We saw a high level of nationalism and a national tone in Al Jazeera’s coverage.”

The senior Hamas official also lauded the agency’s “high professionalism” and noted the sacrifice of its reporters, whose office was leveled by the IDF on the fifth day of the 11-day conflict. Israel says Hamas had been using several offices in the al-Jaala media tower, including one where operatives were working on technology that could jam the Iron Dome missile defense system.

בכירי חמאס בעזה מעניקים תעודת הוקרה לערוץ אל-ג'זירה הקטרי על סיקור מופתי של מבצע שומר החומות

נציג הערוץ בעזה ואיל דחדוח מקבל את התעודה מידי סגנו של יחיא סינוואר, ה'ליל אל-

[pic.twitter.com/5w8qw2L8p0](https://pic.twitter.com/5w8qw2L8p0) #חיהקטר זה רעל

— Gal Berger ברגר גל (@galberger) [June 8, 2021](#)

The Associated Press also worked from the building, the destruction of which led to intense international criticism.

All occupants were warned by Israel to evacuate ahead of time, and no one was hurt.

Hayya also used the opportunity to praise Al Jazeera journalist Givara Budeiri, who was detained by Israeli forces last week while covering protests in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of East Jerusalem, where Palestinian families are under threat of eviction. Police said Budeiri participated in riots at the scene, though he denied the claim.

Separately on Wednesday, Al Jazeera announced that it had been targeted in successive hacking attempts over the past several days, adding that it managed to fend them off.

Al Jazeera's websites and platforms experienced "continued electronic attacks aimed at accessing, disrupting and controlling some of the news platforms" from Saturday to Tuesday, the network said in a statement picked up by Reuters.

"Al Jazeera's service provider was able to monitor and fend off all the hacking attacks and prevent them from achieving their goal," the network added.

It claimed that the cyberattacks peaked on Sunday ahead of the premiere of a documentary detailing indirect negotiations taking place between Israel and Hamas, including [a voice recording](#) purportedly of an Israeli soldier held prisoner in Gaza, which was widely regarded as fake.

The Qatari news agency has long been accused of having an anti-Israeli, anti-American slant in its coverage.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/hamas-hands-al-jazeera-award-for-highly-professional-coverage-of-gaza-conflict/>

## Iran rejects UN report it is stalling on answering queries on nuclear sites

*Tehran's envoy to International Atomic Energy Agency says claim is 'counterproductive' and 'deeply disappointing,' warns attitude could become an 'obstacle' in negotiations*

By [AFP Today](#), 9:08 pm

VIENNA, Austria — Iran accused the UN nuclear agency on Thursday of having taken "a counterproductive approach" after its head said Tehran had not clarified queries over possible undeclared nuclear activity.

Last week, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) voiced concern in a report to its members that Iran had not clarified the long-outstanding queries.

The regular report comes at a delicate time when world powers are meeting to bring the US back to the Iran nuclear deal and Tehran back into compliance with it.

The 2015 landmark accord has been hanging by a thread since the US left it in 2018 and re-imposed sanctions, leading Tehran to step up its nuclear activities long curtailed by the deal.

Iran Ambassador Kazem Gharib Abadi told the IAEA's board of governors' meeting that the latest agency report is "not credible," calling it "deeply disappointing."

Iran insists that it is cooperating with the IAEA as it seeks clarity on several undeclared Iranian sites where nuclear activity may have taken place, mostly in the early 2000s.

"The secretariat has taken a counterproductive approach at the expense of its own credibility," he said, warning that this "could turn into an obstacle for future goodwill interactions between the two sides."

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi [told reporters on Monday](#) that it was "becoming increasingly difficult" to extend a temporary inspections arrangement with Iran.

In February, Tehran suspended some IAEA inspections, leading the agency to negotiate continued, though reduced access.

The latest understanding runs out on June 24.

A joint statement by France, Germany, and the UK to the board of governors on Wednesday supported the IAEA's work.

"In limiting IAEA access, Iran makes it harder for the international community to assure themselves that Iran's activities remain exclusively peaceful," it said.

The US also urged Iran in a statement to the board to "fully cooperate."

Negotiators are expected to resume their talks in two downtown Vienna luxury hotels on Saturday to revive the 2015 accord, according to diplomats.

Representatives from Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia, and Iran — all party to the deal — have been meeting

since early April.

Negotiators from the US are also taking part indirectly in the EU-chaired discussions.

Diplomats are hoping to conclude the negotiations before Iran's presidential election on June 18.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/iran-rejects-un-report-it-is-stalling-on-answering-queries-on-nuclear-sites/>

## **Russia said providing Iran advanced spy satellite to surveil military targets**

*Officials say satellite would be a major upgrade to Iranian capabilities, letting Tehran continuously photograph Israeli and US bases in Mideast and share data with terror groups*

By [TOI staff](#) and [Agencies Today](#), 6:22 am

Russia is set to provide Iran with an advanced satellite that officials say can be used to track military targets across the Middle East and would significantly boost Tehran's intelligence-gathering ability, the [Washington Post](#) reported Thursday.

The report, citing three current and former US and Middle Eastern officials, said Russia will supply Iran with a Russian-made Kanopus-V satellite equipped with a high-resolution camera.

While technically a civilian satellite, it would give Iran the ability to continuously monitor sites ranging from Israeli army facilities to US military bases to Saudi oil refineries, the officials said.

Iran has stepped up its attempts at a satellite program in recent years. In April 2020 Iran's Revolutionary Guard launched their first satellite into space, dramatically revealing what experts described as a secret military space program.

However, Pentagon officials derided the "Noor" satellite as little more than a "rotating webcam" and Israel's Foreign Ministry described the launch as a "façade for Iran's continuous development of advanced missile technology."

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But it appears Iran's military is also actively pursuing advanced surveillance capabilities.

The Washington Post said that senior Revolutionary Guards officials have made multiple trips to Russia since 2018 to help negotiate the terms of the agreement to purchase the satellite, while Russian experts were in Iran to help train ground crews that would operate the satellite from a newly built facility near the northern city of Karaj.

The Guard, which operates its own military infrastructure parallel to Iran's regular armed forces, is a hardline force answerable only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

The satellite would be supplied in the next few months and be launched by Russia, the report said, noting that Russia declined to comment.

A Middle Eastern official told the Post that the Kanopus-V would feature Russian hardware, including a camera with a resolution of 1.2 meters — a significant improvement over Iran's current capabilities, though still far short of the quality achieved by US spy satellites or high-end commercial satellite imagery providers.

Iran would be able to "task" the new satellite to spy on locations of its choosing, and as often as it wished, the officials said.

"It's not the best in the world, but it's high-resolution and very good for military aims," the Middle Eastern official told the Post. "This capability will allow Iran to maintain an accurate target bank, and to update that target bank within a few hours" every day.

The official also said that Iran would be able share the images with its terror proxies across the region, like Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Huthis in Yemen, and militias operating in Iraq.

The report comes as the US is involved in indirect talks with Tehran to [reenter the Iran nuclear deal](#), and ahead of a meeting between US President Joe Biden and Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

In the past, the US and Israel have condemned Iran's satellite efforts as defying a UN Security Council resolution calling on Iran to undertake no activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.

Iran, which long has said it does not seek nuclear weapons, previously maintained its satellite launches and rocket tests do not have a military component. The Guard launching its own satellite calls that into question.

Russia has also defended Iran's right to launch satellites.

Months after the launch of the Noor, [Russia defended Iran's right](#) to launch a satellite, dismissing US claims that Tehran was defying the UN resolution endorsing the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and six major powers by sending it into space.

Russia's UN ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, said that "the ongoing attempts of the United States side to deprive Iran of the right to reap the benefits of peaceful space technology under false pretexts are a cause for serious concern and profound regret."

[Iran has suffered several failed satellite launches in recent years](#). A fire at the Imam Khomeini Space Center in February 2019 killed three researchers, authorities said at the time.

A rocket explosion last August drew even the attention of then-US president Donald Trump, [who tweeted what](#)

[appeared to be a classified surveillance image of the launch failure.](#) The successive failures raised suspicion of outside interference in Iran's program, something Trump himself hinted at by tweeting at the time that the US "was not involved in the catastrophic accident."



*This Jan. 26, 2020, satellite image from Planet Labs Inc. that has been annotated by experts at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at Middlebury Institute of International Studies shows preparations at a rocket launch pad at the Imam Khomeini Space Center in Iran's Semnan province. (Planet Labs Inc, Middlebury Institute of International Studies via AP)*

Over the past decade, Iran has sent several short-lived satellites into orbit and in 2013 launched a monkey into space.

Experts told the Post that Iran previously managed to acquire high-resolution images by purchasing them from commercial satellite companies, however, their ability to obtain real-time data about potential military targets was limited.

"A domestic capability to take those pictures is something the military wants, because it's valuable to them," Jeffrey Lewis, a nonproliferation expert and professor at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey, Calif told the Post. He added that acquiring Russian technology essentially would allow the Iranians a faster path to a capability they would have acquired on their own, given enough time.

"Is Iran's military delighted? Yes, it is, and this is a real change," Lewis said. "But it was going to happen sooner or later." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-said-providing-iran-advanced-spy-satellite-to-surveil-military-targets/>

## New study supports 'Trump drug' as COVID treatment

*Increased survival rate of severely ill patients nearly 3 times*

By [Art Moore](#) Published June 10, 2021 at 7:19pm

Yet another study has supported former President Trump's suggestion that the common malaria drug hydroxychloroquine is an effective treatment for COVID-19.

This time, [a study on 255 patients by St Barnabas Medical Center in New Jersey](#) found that when used in a high dosage and with zinc, the drug increased survival rates nearly three times for severe cases in which patients were on ventilators.

Establishment media mocked Trump in April 2020 when he said hydroxychloroquine is a "powerful drug on malaria, and there are signs that it works on [the coronavirus], some very strong signs."

A month later, he told attendees during a roundtable event at the White House that he "happen to be taking it" as a preventative.

"A lot of good things have come out. You'd be surprised at how many people are taking it, especially the front-line workers," he said. "Before you catch it. The front-line workers, many, many are taking it."

In March, the World Health Organization [issued a warning against using the drug to treat COVID-19](#). And last month, [the Canadian Global Television Network called](#) hydrochloroquine and ivermectin "two drugs that conspiracy theorists say cure COVID-19 and that scientists say are useless at treating the disease."

But there are 219 peer-reviewed studies indicating the effectiveness of hydroxychloroquine as a treatment and prophylaxis against COVID-19. And 54 peer-reviewed studies show the effectiveness of ivermectin.

A study by International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents published in December found hospitalizations were reduced 84% when COVID patients were treated with hydroxychloroquine.

In the last week alone, we've learned that the media, so-called fact checkers and their Big Tech enforcers lied to us about the lab-leak theory, Hydroxychloroquine and the clearing of Lafayette Square.

All to hurt Donald Trump.

What else are they lying about?

— Donald Trump Jr. (@DonaldJTrumpJr) [June 10, 2021](#)

Remember when the media mocked and derided Trump for mentioning hydroxychloroquine?

I DO! <https://t.co/nteB58CCOk>

— Kayleigh McEnany (@kayleighmcenany) [June 10, 2021](#)

Will Fauci & Friends ever admit error? Nah, that's what independent scientists and media would do:

Hydroxychloroquine and zinc could increase some COVID survival by 200% <https://t.co/8SjfOtCo84> via [@MailOnline](#)

— Laura Ingraham (@IngrahamAngle) [June 10, 2021](#)

Last November, [renowned cardiologist Dr. Peter McCullough was among the physicians who in Senate testimony](#) decried the politicization of hydroxychloroquine, ivermectin and other drugs as COVID treatments.



In [an interview last month](#), McCullough told Fox News' Tucker Carlson that "something has gone off the rails" in the world's approach to the novel coronavirus pandemic, with health authorities in the U.S. and abroad suppressing safe, cheap and effective treatments while promoting experimental vaccines that have received only emergency use authorization. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4922409/>

## **German vaccine panel advises against giving COVID shot to youths**

### **Recommended only for those with risky medical conditions**

By [Art Moore](#) Published June 10, 2021 at 7:38pm

Germany's scientific advisory committee on vaccinations recommended Thursday that young people under age 18 not receive COVID shots unless they have serious medical conditions that could make the disease riskier to them.

[Reuters reported](#) the committee, known as STIKO, was weighing in on the vaccine produced by Pfizer and partner BioNTech.

In a statement, STIKO said it recommends a vaccination only for children and youth with an illness that poses a risk if they contract the novel coronavirus.

The German government has said it plans to offer shots to children as young as 12 in June. The European health regulator authorized the vaccine for use in adolescents last month. However, STIKO committee member Ruediger von Kriess, a pediatrics professor, has urged caution because of the lack of data on long-term effects. He believes children should get the shots only if they have risk factors.

### **To risky for someone with 99.997% survival rate**

Dr. Peter McCullough, a prominent cardiologist, internist and professor of medicine who has testified to the U.S. Senate, said recently that with increasing reports of adverse effects, [it's too risky for people who have a more than 99% survival rate to receive one of the experimental vaccines](#).

According to the CDC, the survival rate for people from birth to age 19 who contract COVID-19 is 99.997%.

"Based on the safety data now, I can no longer recommend it," he said in an interview with journalist and author John Leake.

"There are over 4,000 dead Americans, there are over 10,000 in Europe that die on days one, two and three after the vaccine," said McCullough.

The figure for the United States comes from reports submitted to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System, or VAERS. Between Dec. 14, 2020 and May 7, 2021, more than 190,000 adverse events were reported, with 4,057 deaths.

VAERS includes a disclaimer that says the reports "may contain information that is incomplete, inaccurate, coincidental, or unverifiable."

But health care professionals who are concerned about the COVID shots point out the reports suggest the number of adverse events is exponentially higher than for previous vaccines. They note that the Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson shots are being administered under emergency use authorization by the FDA while they continue in trials expected to last another two and a half years, until Dec. 31, 2023.

"Why are we pushing this in a way where people's jobs and education and livelihoods [rely] on a decision that could be potentially fatal?" McCullough asked.

He [testified to the U.S. Senate last November](#) against what he described as the federal government's politicization of health care during the pandemic, curbing or blocking the availability of cheap, effective treatments for COVID-19 such as hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin.

In his interview with Leake, he said "the tension is high" as colleges and universities announce students who want to return to campus in the fall must be vaccinated.

"There are parents who say, 'I want my kid to go to college this year, but I don't want to lose 'em to the vaccine,'" McCullough said.

"They know what's going on. The internet is full of these cases -- blood clots, strokes, immediate death."

McCullough has 600 peer-reviewed publications to his name. Many have appeared in top-tier journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine, Journal of the American Medical Association and The Lancet. He is the president of the Cardiorenal Society of America, the co-editor of Reviews in Cardiovascular Medicine and associate editor of the American Journal of Cardiology and Cardiorenal Medicine. He has led monitoring safety boards in major drug trials.

*See Dr. Peter McCullough's remarks:*

Peter McCullough, MD [pic.twitter.com/3IaKhEk8Gq](https://pic.twitter.com/3IaKhEk8Gq)

— Anna Brees (@BreesAnna) [May 25, 2021](#)

*See the full interview:*

McCullough said in an [interview in May with the Fox Nation show "Tucker Carlson Today"](#) that pregnant women and

others excluded from the trials should not get a COVID-19 vaccine.

"We never let anything pathogenic into a woman's body who's pregnant," he said.

All of the vaccines produce a viral spike protein that is pathogenic and can cause blood clotting and damage blood vessels, he explained. <https://www.wnd.com/2021/06/4922419/>

## **Pentagon chief 'absolutely concerned' about Iranian ships crossing Atlantic & 'proliferation of weapons in our neighborhood'**

11 Jun, 2021 00:59

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said two Iranian vessels transiting the Atlantic toward Latin America are a "great concern," despite reports that the Pentagon has no plans to intercept the ships or even monitor them more closely.

Asked about the two Iranian ships, which US officials allege are headed for Venezuela to fulfill a weapons sale inked last year, Austin told lawmakers that he shares their concerns, suggesting they pose a proliferation threat in the Western Hemisphere.

"I am absolutely concerned about the proliferation of weapons, any type of weapons, in our neighborhood," he said during a Senate Armed Services Committee [hearing](#). "The precedent of allowing Iran to provide weapons to the region causes me great concern."

The ships' voyage marks the first time the Iranian Navy has entered the Atlantic successfully, reaching the ocean after a 30-day journey.

Austin declined to say what weapons they might be carrying, telling Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut) he would have to field that question in "another forum," off the record.

A Wednesday [report](#) in Politico said one of the vessels is likely loaded with fast-attack boats destined for Venezuela, citing anonymous intelligence officials. The outlet also suggested they could carry long-range missiles based on [previous claims](#) by the Donald Trump administration about a planned sale last summer, though the officials cited no evidence at the time.

While the Pentagon head voiced grave concerns about the Iranian ships, another unnamed defense official indicated a lack of urgency among the military, [telling](#) Politico on Thursday that there are currently no plans to "conduct an intercept in international waters," nor to even "monitor the ships more closely."

Nonetheless, senior Pentagon figures said the delivery of weapons to Venezuela would be a "provocative act" and a "threat to our partners in the Western Hemisphere," claiming Washington reserves "the right to take appropriate measures" to stop the alleged arms sale.

[Also on rt.com Iran's Revolutionary Guard blames Washington for Gulf incident that saw US ship firing warning shots at its gunboats](#)

Top lawmakers have taken much the same stance, with Senator Marco Rubio (R-Florida), vice chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee, insisting Venezuela should "unconditionally turn [the ships] around, or we should force them to turn around."

After questioning Austin, Senator Blumenthal said an Iranian arms sale would set a "pretty alarming" precedent, adding it could be a "first testing blow" by the Islamic Republic "as to whether they can get away with it and make mischief."

Throughout the Trump administration, officials repeatedly singled out Iranian fuel shipments to Venezuela, with the military even [seizing four tankers](#) bound for the Latin American nation last year. As both countries remain heavily sanctioned by Washington, President Joe Biden has also apparently taken interest in the petroleum sales, with his State Department [saying](#) it is "aware" of the shipments and would "continue to monitor the situation" earlier this year. The department, however, declined to say at the time whether it would carry out another seizure in the future.

<https://www.rt.com/usa/526259-pentagon-concern-iran-atlantic/>

## **Commentary: Is COVID a Bioweapon?**

[Dinesh D'Souza](#) Posted: Jun 09, 2021 3:50 PM

Is COVID-19 a bioweapon? Is it a biological weapon deliberately released by the Chinese government and the Chinese Communist Party in order to achieve its global objectives? The debate hasn't really gone there. But I think it

needs to. Why not?

If the virus leaked out of the Wuhan lab, there are two ways that could happen. The first one, of course, is an accidental leak; oops, the virus got out. But the other is they wanted the virus to get out. And that cannot be written off without looking into it. That's what I'm calling for.

Early in 2020, almost a year and a half ago, Debbie and I were on a long plane flight from California, I believe, to Texas after doing a speaking event. And Debbie was on the WiFi, and she said, "Hey, take a look at this!" And she showed me a video. This was really before the lockdowns, before the global awareness of COVID. But it was a scene in China, and you saw a group of Chinese people in full hazmat suits. And they were going into the apartments of Chinese families and dragging people out by force. Those people were screaming, "Please, please!" One guy was holding onto one leg, another guy to another leg; they were pulling these people out and tossing them into vans. And then you would see these same Chinese guys in hazmat suits walking through the streets with huge, it seemed like leaf blowers, but they were fumigating the streets.

It was an eerie scene; it's a scene out of "Apocalypse Now." And Debbie was discombobulated and disturbed by this. And she asked, "What's going on? This is not normal." And I agreed, but I didn't really make too much of it. But I'm thinking about that scene, one of the most, to me, arresting images, of COVID in retrospect, because it almost seems like, at a time when the world didn't know much about COVID (it knew about it but didn't know much about it, there was no talk at that time of a global pandemic), it seems like the Chinese knew what they had on their hands. They knew what they were dealing with.

This, of course, raises the question, was this part of something that they orchestrated or planned? When I look at all the talk surrounding the investigations of the origin of COVID-19 now, it seems that there are two possibilities: either this emerged naturally out of a wet market, or it leaked accidentally out of the Wuhan lab. Those are the two options.

Here is the important article I've cited before by the two leading scientists Steven Quay and Richard Muller from The Wall Street Journal – ["The Science Suggests a Wuhan Lab Leak."](#) And think of that title, "The Science Suggests a Wuhan Lab Leak." They go on to point out that the virus looks to be manmade. But they seem to assume that if it was manmade, it is a *leak*. In other words, it came out inadvertently. They don't even seem to consider the possibility that this could have been done deliberately.

Now, why do people make deadly viruses? Well, I can think of three reasons.

One, they're doing it to find cures for disease. Two, they're doing it because they can, out of you may say, the kind of idle scientific curiosity that proverbially killed the cat. We can do it. So, let's do it. We'll worry about the risks later. Or three, as a bioweapon.

The Chinese have had, no one denies, a biological weapons program. In fact, they've had one since the mid-1980s. The New York Times published an article in 1993 talking about how China is building up its bioweapons program, a highly clandestine program initiated by the Communist Party and its leadership.

So, we have to look at the two competing theories. Either it was an accidental leak, or it was a bioweapon. It seems to me that the best argument for a leak is the idea that the virus got out in Wuhan. That would seem to suggest a leak; why? Because if it were really deliberate if it was a bioweapon, why release it in your own country? We seem to mean that the Chinese would be more likely to say, "Hey, listen, let's take this over and release it in the Netherlands. It'll get out over there and spread from there, and it'll be more difficult to trace to us."

But I think that this way of thinking, although it seems plausible, is actually a little bit naive. Why? Because it now turns out that you can look at the virus itself and see inside of the genetic code of the virus, a signature that suggests it's manmade. So the Chinese, if this were a bioweapon, would know this. And they would know that if they release it in the Netherlands, people would say, "Whoa, wait a minute, this was a manmade virus! Well, who's making these deadly viruses? The leading place in the world: Wuhan, China!" So, in other words, then you would know it was released deliberately.

Now, here's the advantage of having it released in Wuhan, from the Chinese point of view. You can make a deliberate release of the virus look like a leak. If the virus got out in Wuhan, if it kills a bunch of Chinese, people are going to say, "Well, gee, obviously it leaked out. There was some kind of negligence." So even though China is responsible, it's one thing to be responsible for negligence. It's a whole other thing to be responsible for something deliberate.

Here's the point.

It's a little hard for many people to believe. In fact, Fauci said recently, I'm paraphrasing, "The Chinese have every interest in cooperating. They have every interest in disclosing what happened here." He's assuming that they wouldn't dream of releasing this virus deliberately. But I think that is Fauci naivete, Fauci stupidity.

Why? Because communist governments have never hesitated to kill a whole bunch of their own people. They mainly kill their own people. Even if you look at the socialist government in Nazi Germany, the National Socialists, and you

think of the Jews, the other Jews were seen by Hitler as not, you know, "they're aliens," but they were Germans. Stalin killed millions of his own people, millions of Russians. Mao killed millions of Chinese. So this idea that "the Chinese would never dream of killing some of their own people," they certainly would if their leadership was inoculated. If the leadership had the vaccine in advance, if the leadership had a way of protecting them, that's who they care about. This was also true in the Soviet Union. They cared about their own inner circle, their own nomenklatura; they didn't care about anyone else.

It would seem to me that there are three good reasons for the Chinese to want to use COVID-19 as a bioweapon if they could.

One, to get rid of Trump. Trump was a menace as far as the Chinese were concerned. Look at the timing of the virus. It was almost like a political and scientific nuclear bomb dropped in the middle of the 2020 election year.

Two, to deliver a body blow to the world economy, and particularly to the U.S. economy. The U.S. has been essentially the world's superpower, but think of what happens if the U.S. is essentially blown up from within. And if the Chinese are able to take a blow but recover much more quickly. That is, in fact, what has been the case.

And the third is to thin out the Chinese population. The Chinese don't exactly have a shortage of people. This is a virus that disproportionately affects old people who would otherwise be wards of the state.

So, if you think this kind of diabolical reasoning is impossible for a socialist government, impossible for a communist party, well, it's time to learn a little bit of history. <https://townhall.com/columnists/dineshdsouza/2021/06/09/is-covid-a-bioweapon-n2590750>

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