

01/25/2022 NEWS

***Biblical Hebrew singing: an ancient prayer***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-z5V-a-urgQ>

"Nations grow corrupt, love bondage more than liberty;  
bondage with ease than strenuous liberty."

-- John Milton (1608-1674) English Poet

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

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

**Please  
Remember  
These  
Folks  
In  
Prayer-  
Check often  
They  
Change!**

**Pray that the world would WAKE UP!** 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 TS bat Y - Returned home but still ill

Pray for BB – Severe sciatic needing procedure.

Pray for TH - Knee and Blood pressure problems.

Pray for EL – Had clot embolized to brain – successful ‘clot buster’ but long road to go.

Pray for BB – Severe West Nile Fever –still not mobile- improving!

Pray for RBH – cancer recurrence

Pray for GB – bad reaction from Cancer drug

Pray for Ella – Child with serious problems

Pray that The Holy One will lead you in Your preparations for handling the world problems. – Have YOU made any preparations?

Exodus 5:<sup>1</sup>And afterward Moses and Aaron came, and said unto Pharaoh: 'Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel: Let My people go, that they may hold a feast unto Me in the wilderness.' <sup>2</sup>And Pharaoh said: 'Who is the LORD, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, and moreover I will not let Israel go.' <sup>3</sup>And they said: 'The God of the Hebrews hath met with us. Let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest He fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.'

**Dr. Robert Malone Carpet Bombs Washington D.C. With Truth Bombs & Red Pills [VIDEO]**

<https://www.redvoicemedia.com/video/2022/01/dr-robert-malone-carpet-bombs-washington-d-c-with-truth-bombs-red-pills-video>

**Famous Covid Doctor Reveals What's Really Going On | Dr. Zev Zelenko 2021**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rvc4n08\\_pvc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rvc4n08_pvc)

9 minutes of TRUTH

Internal rifts impair ability to counter Iranian, Palestinian threats — think tank

**Warning Tehran can prepare nuclear weapon within weeks, INSS presents annual survey to President Herzog, calling for an integrated Israeli approach to external, domestic challenges**

By [Lazar Berman](#) Today, 6:00 pm



*Bedouin youth during a protest against tree planting by the Jewish National Fund, outside the Bedouin village of al-Atrash in the Negev desert, southern Israel, January 13, 2022 (Jamal Awad/Flash90)*

**A leading Israeli think tank presented its annual strategic survey to President Isaac Herzog on Monday, arguing that Israel's increasing domestic rifts hamper its ability to develop an integrated, long-term approach to the major challenges it faces.**

**Because of this, wrote researchers from the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) in Tel Aviv, Israel is failing to "maximize its security, economic, and technological potential in its**

**response to the political, security, and internal challenges."**

**The authors of the Strategic Survey for Israel 2022 decried an erosion of trust in Israeli institutions, alongside rising extremism in the country.** They specifically identified the weakness of Israel's police force and the spread of essentially ungoverned regions within Israel, including among Bedouin in the Negev.

**"Meanwhile, there are gaps in readiness for multi-front and high casualty war scenarios, or for violent incidents involving Jews and Arabs,"** according to the report. "The consequences of these weaknesses are affecting the responses to other national security challenges."

**The INSS study identified Iran and the Palestinians as the other leading threats.**

**The authors maintained that Iran, Israel's most serious external threat, currently has the capabilities needed to break out to a nuclear weapon in a matter of weeks, though it has not yet made that decision.**

**At the same time, Israel is at a "strategic impasse" over Iran, with no apparent good options.** A partial arrangement between Iran and the P5+1 powers during ongoing talks in Vienna would leave Israel facing Iranian proxies and the possibility of an Iranian nuclear weapon in the coming years, while a breakdown of talks would allow Iran to continue progressing toward nuclear weapons capability.



*Supporters of Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels carry a mock rocket as they demonstrate in the capital Sanaa to denounce a reported airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition on a prison in the country's rebel-held north, on January 21, 2022. (Mohammed Huwais/AFP)*

**"However," said the survey, "the opposition to an arrangement between the powers and Iran, focused on a freeze of the nuclear program, will leave Israel isolated with only the military option for preventing Iran from attaining a nuclear weapon."**

**Israel cannot handle the threats emanating from Iran — including its precision missile project and its attempt to surround Israel with threats from proxies — on its own,** the authors emphasized, and therefore it must

further increase coordination with the United States.

**The INSS report also stressed that Israel cannot treat the unresolved Palestinian conflict as a "secondary arena,"** as evidenced by the 11-day Gaza conflict with Hamas and Islamic Jihad in May 2021. Meanwhile, the West Bank "is nearing a boiling point due to the weakness of the Palestinian Authority in the face of united opposition from various factions and street gangs."

**The Palestinian Authority is weakened and could cease to function, warn the authors, while young Palestinians increasingly want a one-state solution.**

**Though it cooperates with Israel on security issues, the PA is pushing a dangerous international legal offensive against Israel, which could cause Israel to be seen as an apartheid state, according to the report.**

**The survey presented ten policy recommendations, including preparing a credible military option against Iran's nuclear program in coordination with the US;** strengthening the PA and improving Palestinian quality of life; pursuing economic development in exchange for security guarantees in Gaza; further investing in Israel's technological prowess as a means of improving its global status; and setting up mechanisms for handling crime in Arab society and restoring governance across the country.

"Today there is an emerging regional understanding that the future of the Middle East is a future of cooperation. In the face of the Iranian threat and its dangerous proxies in the region, we must cooperate with our friends," said Herzog in response to the INSS survey.



*INSS executive director Manuel Trajtenberg (L) presents the INSS Strategic Survey 2022 to President Isaac Herzog (Amos Ben-Gershon/GPO)*

**"Israel's security is tightly bound up with its national resilience, in our ability to deal with the most profound disagreements,** without giving up on our faith in ourselves," he continued. "We have the power to live together and act as one people. Bridging divides, including political ones, is perhaps the most important step for maintaining Israel's security, stability, and prosperity."

**Presenting the survey to Herzog were INSS chairman Frank Lowy, executive director Manuel**

**Trajtenberg, managing director Udi Dekel, and former National Security Council chief Meir Ben Shabbat, among other senior researchers.** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/internal-rifts-impair-ability-to-counter-iranian-palestinian-threats-think-tank/>

## **Marking 30 years of ties, Israel and China convene joint committee on innovation**

*Fifth meeting of senior governmental forum led by Foreign Minister Lapid; three-year plan signed during virtual talks with Beijing's vice president*

By [Lazar Berman](#) Today, 7:46 pm



*Foreign Minister Yair Lapid (second from left) speaks at the Fifth Israel-China Joint Committee on Innovation meeting, January 24, 2022. (MFA)*

**The China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation met virtually on Monday, led by Foreign Minister Yair Lapid and China's Vice President Wang Qishan.**

**The countries signed a three-year plan to regulate cooperation and government-to-government dialogue through 2024.**

**They also signed a series of bilateral agreements, including memoranda of understanding (MOUs) between the two science ministries, between the**

**culture ministries, and an MOU on carbon neutrality.** China and Israel also signed an MOU on emergency medicine cooperation, and an MOU on intellectual property between Israel's Justice Ministry and China's Intellectual Property Ministry.

**The Chinese and Israeli environmental protection ministries concluded a three-year cooperation agreement as well.** **China, the world's worst polluter,** is responsible for almost one-third of global CO2 emissions, more than the US, India and Russia combined.

**The Joint Committee was established in 2014 as a comprehensive bilateral dialogue framework** for senior government officials. Monday's meeting was the fifth time the committee has convened, and the first since 2018. The meeting is part of a series of events marking 30 years of diplomatic relations between Israel and China.

**"The Chinese, like Israelis, aren't afraid of new ideas," said Lapid at the meeting's outset. "There's a built-in curiosity in the character of our two peoples.** Give us a new and exciting idea, and we'll gather around it, enthusiastically discuss it, and immediately examine its origin and how it can be improved."



**A number of Israeli government ministries and offices participated in the meeting, including Science, Technology and Space Minister Orit Farkash-Hacohen and senior officials from the health, environmental protection, culture, agriculture and economy ministries, as well as the Innovation Authority and Patent Office.**

“Israel and China are marking three decades of diplomatic relations characterized by a continuing political dialogue, close economic and trade relations, and diverse collaborations which link the two peoples,” said a statement from the Foreign Ministry spokesman’s office on Monday. “The volume of trade with China has increased significantly over the 30 years of diplomatic relations and today, stands at approximately \$18 billion USD. China is one of Israel’s most important trading partners, and the free trade agreement is expected to contribute to increasing trade volume.”

**Israel maintains five diplomatic missions in China**, another indication of the importance of the bilateral relationship to Israel.

**In November, the presidents of Israel and China held the first-ever phone conversation between the countries’** leaders. During the call, Isaac Herzog and Xi Jinping discussed the Joint Committee, and invited each other on state visits.

**Israel’s initiatives to strengthen ties with Beijing come as the United States, Israel’s closest ally, increasingly sees China as its primary military and economic rival.** This reality has forced Jerusalem to seek a balance between its deep commitment toward its alliance with the US, and China’s growing importance as a global economic and military power. **[Hummm? Wonder why? Russia is a problem but China is THE problem unless their economy totally collapses. Russia keeps looking at the old USSR territory but China looks at the world. – rdb]**

Amid a US-China trade war that has ebbed and flowed in recent years under both the Trump and Biden administrations, China has shown interest in Israeli innovations, especially in medical tech, robotics, food tech and artificial intelligence.

**Washington’s main concerns lie in potential dual-usage technologies, where various technologies would have both civilian and military applications.** At the same time, Israel has regulations in place to prevent the sale of sensitive military-related technology to China (and other countries), following a 1990s deal in which Israel had to scrap the sale of advanced airborne radar systems to China amid fierce US opposition.

**Last October, Israel refrained from signing on to a joint statement at the United Nations last week that expressed concern over Beijing’s treatment of its Muslim Uighur minority.** An Israeli diplomatic official told The Times of Israel that Israel made the decision in an attempt to placate China.

Earlier that month, an Israeli official told The Times of Israel that Jerusalem is willing to modify its relationship with China and has not shied away from criticizing Beijing’s human rights record in international forums. However, Israel, along with other allies, has been put off by United States requests to reject tenders from certain Chinese companies when those same firms are operating on American soil.

The US was notified before Monday’s meeting, a Foreign Ministry official told the Times of Israel.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/marking-30-years-of-ties-israel-and-china-convene-joint-committee-on-innovation/>

## **UAE intercepts 2 ballistic missiles over Abu Dhabi fired by Iran-backed Houthis**

*Attack on Emirates, days after another assault that killed 3, further escalates tensions across the Persian Gulf*

By [Agencies](#) and [TOI staff](#) Today, 6:19 am



*Interceptors are launched over Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates to hit incoming missiles, January 24, 2022 (video screenshot)*

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The United Arab Emirates intercepted two ballistic missiles targeting Abu Dhabi early Monday, its state-run news agency reported, the latest attack to target the Emirati capital.**

**Defense officials said the missiles were fired by Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen.**

**The attack on Abu Dhabi, after another last week killed three people and wounded six, further escalates tensions across the Persian Gulf as Yemen’s years-long civil war grinds on.**

**That war, pitting Iranian-backed Houthi rebels against a Saudi-led coalition, has become a regional conflict** as negotiations continue over Tehran's tattered nuclear deal with world powers. The collapse of the accord has sparked years of attacks across the region.

**The state-run WAM news agency said that missile fragments fell harmlessly over the capital, Abu Dhabi.**

**The Emirates "is ready to deal with any threats"** and "takes all necessary measures to protect the state from all attacks," WAM quoted the UAE Defense Ministry as saying.

Videos posted to social media showed the sky over the capital light up before dawn Monday, with points of light looking like interceptor missiles in the sky. The videos corresponded to known features of Abu Dhabi.

Interceptors launched tonight in Abu Dhabi against suspected Houthi missile attack.

[pic.twitter.com/I9SAR4XJeg](https://pic.twitter.com/I9SAR4XJeg)

— Joe Truzman (@JoeTruzman) [January 24, 2022](#)

**The missile fire disrupted traffic into Abu Dhabi International Airport,** home to the long-haul carrier Etihad, for about an hour after the attack.

No **one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack.** However, the attack came a week after Yemen's Houthi rebels claimed an attack on the Emirati capital that killed three people and wounded six others.

In recent **days, a Saudi-led coalition that the UAE backs unleashed punishing airstrikes targeting Yemen, knocking the Arab world's poorest country off the internet and killing over 80 people** at a detention center.

The Houthis had threatened to take revenge against the Emirates and Saudi Arabia over those attacks. On Sunday, the Saudi-led coalition said a Houthi-launched ballistic missile landed in an industrial area in Jizan, Saudi Arabia, slightly wounding a foreigner.

**A Houthi military spokesman did not immediately respond to questions from The Associated Press** on Monday's attack.

The hard-line Iranian daily newspaper Kayhan, whose editor-in-chief was appointed by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, just Sunday **published a front-page article quoting Houthi officials that the UAE would be attacked again with a headline: "Evacuate Emirati commercial towers."**

The newspaper in 2017 had faced a two-day publication ban after it ran a headline saying Dubai was the "next target" for the Houthis.

**Israel has voiced strong backing for the UAE following the attack.** Prime Minister Naftali Bennett on Tuesday [offered Israel's "security and intelligence support"](#) to the UAE following the attack.

On Thursday he spoke with Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

"The Israeli prime minister affirmed his country's support for all that the UAE is doing to defend its security against these attacks, stressing the need to confront terrorist forces that threaten stability and peace in the region," [the UAE's official WAM news agency said.](#)

And speaking to top military brass on Thursday, Bennett said [Israel's main mission is to hit the Iranian regime and its proxies,](#) in an apparent reference to Hezbollah, Hamas, and other groups backed by Tehran.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/uae-intercepts-2-ballistic-missiles-over-abu-dhabi-days-after-deadly-strike/> **[So who is the 'inciter in chief' in the ME? It is Iran and it shouldn't be tolerated. Sooner or later their ultra religious radical leadership is going to have to be taken down and destroyed. – rdb]**

## **Illegal outpost gets demolition notices days after Jewish extremist attack**

*Security forces will be able to wreck buildings in three days' time; men believed to have come from the outpost assaulted Palestinians and Israeli activists on Friday*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 6:05 am

**Security forces put up demolition notices on Sunday night in the illegal West Bank outpost of Givat Ronen, days after Jewish extremists, believed to have come from the outpost,** attacked Palestinians and Israeli activists nearby.

**The notices allow authorities to evacuate and demolish the buildings in three days' time.**

**It was not known whether the demolition orders for the outpost, located south of Nablus, were tied to Friday's events.**

**Footage from the Friday incident in the Palestinian village of Burin showed a group of men, apparently from Givat Ronen, attacking left-wing activists and Palestinians with clubs and stones, wounding at least six people and burning a car.**

Police Minister Omer Barlev on Sunday denounced the attack as “the organized action of a terror group.”  
“It is the tip of the iceberg of a terror organization,” Barlev told Kan news.

טוב, לא תתי אדם. אז איך תקראו להם?  
— Yair Golan – יאיר גולן (@YairGolan1) [pic.twitter.com/XZkfk5XLQs](https://twitter.com/XZkfk5XLQs) January 21, 2022

**He confirmed media reports that a police investigation was being assisted by the Shin Bet security service, the country’s internal intelligence agency.**

**Barlev defended the lack of arrests of perpetrators from Friday’s attack, as well as at similar recent clashes, saying it takes time before the military is called to incidents,** followed by a further delay until police are alerted, and by then “the terrorists are no longer there and have disappeared.”

**Speaking to the Radio 103FM station Barlev called the incident “another serious leap forward in the terror carried out by extremist settlers.”**

But, he said it is quite possible that some of those involved are not even settlers but “others who arrive from other places.”

The violence [drew denunciations from across the political spectrum](#), with several coalition lawmakers calling for the demolition of the outpost from where the assailants allegedly came.

**Israeli security officials have warned that violence by Jewish extremists in the West Bank has spiked in recent months. Shin Bet officials told The Times of Israel in late December that Jewish extremist violence had increased by 50 percent over the past year.**

Nonetheless, the internal political debate over the phenomenon has been divisive. **Right-wing Israeli politicians have resisted referring to these attacks as “settler violence,” charging that such characterization is an attempt to besmirch all Jews living in the West Bank.** <https://www.timesofisrael.com/illegal-outpost-gets-demolition-notice-days-after-attack-jewish-extremist-attack/> **[In today’s society where everyone wants to collect everyone into groups it is most unfortunate and may not be accurate but the actions of this few people are besmirching the name and reputation of all Jewish people. That is simply the nature of identity politics and the way things go. They really need to realize this because they are causing more trouble than they are solving. -RDB]**

### **3 Palestinians injured after Jewish extremists attack West Bank village near Nablus**

*Settlers parade through Hawara, stoning cars and storefronts, in convoy to celebrate release of Israeli imprisoned for attacking Palestinians*

By [Aaron Boxerman](#) Today, 9:54 pm



*A Palestinian examines damage to a shop allegedly from Jewish extremist stone-throwing in Hawara, near Nablus, on January 24, 2022. (courtesy)*

**Jewish extremists hurled stones at Palestinians while parading through a West Bank town near Nablus on Monday night, injuring three people and smashing cars throughout the village,** Palestinian officials and Israeli rights groups said.

**A convoy of settlers drove through Hawara, honking their horns and blasting music to celebrate the release of an Israeli imprisoned last year for throwing stones at Palestinians,** according to an Israeli security official. The extremists later began throwing stones at

local Palestinians.

**“The friction began when a number of cars driving on Road 60 through Hawara, threw stones at businesses and parked cars and caused much damage,”** the Israeli military said in a statement.

**At least 20 Palestinian cars were damaged and storefronts smashed in the village,** the left-wing Yesh Din rights group said. An Israeli police spokesperson said officers were investigating the incident.

**Local Palestinian Authority official Ghassan Daghlas said in a phone call that a 15-year-old Palestinian from Hawara was rushed to a Nablus hospital after being struck in the head by a stone thrown by a Jewish Israeli.**

**According to Hawara town mayor Mueen Dameidi, another two Palestinians, respectively aged 12 and 17, were also lightly wounded by the extremists’ stone-throwing.**



**Palestinian officials claimed that Israeli soldiers were present at the scene, but did nothing to prevent** the attacks. When Palestinians threw back stones at their assailants, soldiers fired tear gas and stun grenades to disperse them, Dameidi said.

“The settlers broke cars. They smashed storefronts and shouted and cursed at the village residents — all in the presence of the army,” Dameidi said.



*A Palestinian points at a car whose windows were allegedly smashed in by a stone-throwing Jewish extremists on January 24, 2022. (courtesy)*

**The Israeli army declined to comment on Dameidi’s claim.**

**Hawara mostly lies in the West Bank’s Area C, where Israel maintains full military and civilian control. An Israeli checkpoint at the northern end of the village has frequently seen clashes between Palestinians and soldiers.**

**To the northeast lies Yitzhar, widely seen as one of the West Bank’s most hardline Israeli settlements.** The Jewish Israeli former prisoner was reportedly being taken back

to his home in the town following his release.

Israeli security officials have warned that violence by Jewish extremists in the West Bank has spiked in recent months. Shin Bet officials told The Times of Israel in late December that Jewish extremist violence had increased by 50 percent over the past year.

**Following Monday night’s attack, Defense Minister Benny Gantz pledged more action on “nationalist crime.” As in previous statements, Gantz avoided specifying exactly who was carrying out the attacks.**

**“The recent incidents of nationalist crime in Judea and Samaria are grave and we will deal with them severely. Anyone who throws stones, sets vehicles ablaze... is a terrorist,” Gantz tweeted.**

Nonetheless, the internal Israeli political debate over the phenomenon has been divisive. Right-wing Israeli politicians have denounced the characterization of the attacks as “settler violence,” charging that it is an attempt to besmirch all Jews living in the West Bank.

**“There are marginal elements in every community** and they should be dealt with using all means, but we must not generalize about an entire community,” Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said in mid-December.

**תיעוד השיירה ומפגן הכוח היהודי בחווארה** [pic.twitter.com/z5zs67h8p8](https://pic.twitter.com/z5zs67h8p8)

— שחר גליק (@glick\_sh) **January 24, 2022**

**Much of the violence is allegedly perpetrated by Jewish extremists who live in illegal outposts.** Last Friday, masked figures descended from the Givat Ronen outpost — one of several outposts near Yitzhar — and viciously beat left-wing Israeli activists in the nearby Palestinian town of Burin, wounding at least six.

“I want to ask a question: if Palestinians attacked Israelis, with the Israeli army right there — would they just allow it to happen? Of course not,” said Hawara town mayor Dameidi. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/3-palestinians-injured-after-jewish-extremists-attack-west-bank-village-near-nablus/> **[So exactly what did these folks accomplish? Nothing. -rdb]**

**Netanyahu says he didn’t agree to ‘turpitude’ in plea talks, will keep leading Likud**

*Statement issued after negotiations on deal in graft cases said to collapse, with Mandelblit notifying ex-PM’s lawyers that talks will have to wait for next AG*



By [TOI staff](#) Today, 9:21 pm

*Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu issues a video statement on the corruption cases against him, January 24, 2022. (Twitter screenshot)*

**Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu publicly declared Monday that he has not agreed to acknowledge “moral turpitude” as part of a potential plea bargain that would end his corruption trial, and said he had no intention of leaving politics.**

**He issued the video statement, his first public reference to two weeks of reports on behind-the-scenes negotiations on a possible deal,** in an apparent response to the collapse of the talks with Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit.

**The former prime minister vowed to remain the leader of his Likud party and of the right-wing political camp, and to eventually return to power and lead the country.**

**Soon after the video was posted to his social media accounts, a spate of Hebrew media reports said Mandelblit, whose term ends in a week, had earlier in the day informed Netanyahu's attorneys that negotiations on a deal would have to wait until a new attorney general takes office.**

"In recent days, there were mistaken claims made in the media on things that I allegedly agreed to, such as the claim that I agreed to moral turpitude," Netanyahu said. "That is simply not correct."

**"I will continue to lead the Likud and the national camp in order to lead Israel, on your behalf,"** he promised.

Netanyahu also thanked his "millions" of supporters and reiterated his accusation that he is being mistreated by law enforcement officials and the justice system, declaring that "the entire public can see what is happening in the courthouse and how the investigation against me was handled." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/netanyahu-says-he-didnt-agree-to-turpitude-in-plea-deal-will-keep-leading-likud/>

## **Senior cop fled scene of stabbing, tripped over dying victim on way out — video**

*Jamal Hakrush, head of unit that battles Arab Israeli crime, put on leave after footage shows him running past bleeding man and out of plant in Kafr Kanna during 2020 killing*

*By TOI staff Today, 1:58 pm Updated at 3:11 pm*



*Israel Police commander Jamal Hakrush attends a Public Security Committee meeting at the Knesset in Jerusalem on November 8, 2021. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

**Israel's top Arab cop was put on leave Monday after security camera footage showed him leaving the scene of a fresh stabbing, failing to stick around to assist investigators, or the victim — whose body he stumbled over as he left.**

**According to a report Monday by the Haaretz news outlet, Jamal Hakrush — a brigadier general in the Israel Police and currently the head of the unit for fighting crime in the Arab Israeli**

**community — went to the Kanna Iron plant in Kafr Kanna on September 12, 2020, a Saturday.**

**At that time, Hakrush served as head of the administration to improve police services to the Arab community.** The 65-year-old resident of the northern Arab town was on his day off. He went to the plant to pay for an order he had made.

While he was in an office on the top floor, two men were arguing nearby — Ghazi Amara, the CEO of the plant, and his uncle Fadi Amara, according to the report. Fadi's attorney was also in the room with them.

**The fight between the uncle and the nephew — revolving around a land acquisition dispute — quickly devolved into a physical altercation.** During the exchange, Fadi reportedly head-butted his nephew, who bit him on the nose in retaliation.

**In an attempt to calm tensions, Fadi was taken to an adjacent kitchen, where he grabbed a knife and stabbed Ghazi in the chest. The injured nephew, yelling and clutching his chest, hobbled to the staircase, where he stumbled and collapsed. Fadi locked himself into a nearby room.**

**Security camera footage obtained by Haaretz showed Hakrush rushing out of the building despite the stabbing, stumbling over Ghazi and ignoring the assailant barricaded in the next room.**

Magen David Adom personnel attempted to resuscitate Ghazi, but in vain. He was pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital.

**Police officers arrived shortly afterward, broke Fadi out of the room and took him into custody.**

**Body cameras showed that several police officers noticed Hakrush after he returned to the scene and greeted them in Arabic, the report said.**

**Fadi later testified that Hakrush tried to break up the fight.** The top officer said in a report at the local police station that he had noticed a person bleeding from his chest who was being evacuated by two others, and that he did not know the man's condition.

**In the wake of the the report, Police Commissioner Kobi Shabtai said that there would be a probe into the incident and that Hakrush would be taking a leave of absence.** Public Security Minister Omer Barlev



had ordered Shabtai to get clarifications from Hakrush regarding the event. **[Sounds a bit like the security officers at some of the school shootings who went the other way. – rdb]**

“The **publication apparently shows significant failures in Hakrush’s conduct,**” Barlev wrote to Shabtai. “I request your response to the incident, clarification of the details, and an update on any measures taken regarding the officer.”

Senior police officials were quoted as saying they were shocked by the report, with some even insisting that Hakrush could not continue to serve in the police in light of it. “It is expected of such a senior officer to at least provide assistance to the wounded — this is not behavior that is expected of a police officer,” one senior officer told Haaretz.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/senior-cop-fled-fresh-murder-scene-trippid-over-victim-on-way-out-report/>

## Israel extends Holocaust pension to over 8,000 unrecognized survivors

*Report says lack of Hebrew literacy or knowledge of eligibility among reasons many survivors find themselves without financial aid*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 12:41 pm

**Over the past three years, the Social Equality Ministry has managed to identify some 8,300 Holocaust survivors who had yet to receive a special state pension, according to data released ahead of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.**

**Israel is home to some 165,800 recognized Holocaust survivors and victims of antisemitism during World War II.**

**According to a Channel 12 news report Sunday, many of those survivors did not receive the stipend because they were unaware of their eligibility.** The total amount of unexercised benefits was estimated at around NIS 1 billion (\$317 million).

**Among the reasons are that many of the survivors have low Hebrew literacy** or lack familiarity with the changes in eligibility conditions, with some previously not interested in financial assistance and now unable to request it.

“We are not content to just respond and provide service to the survivors who contact us, but conduct tests and investigations to proactively reach those who have yet to receive what they deserve,” Social Equality Minister Meirav Cohen said.

**The number of Holocaust survivors in Israel requiring financial assistance has risen in recent years,** exacerbated further by the coronavirus pandemic, many of whose victims were elderly survivors.



*Holocaust survivor Motti Liber, 88, receives care from a volunteer on the premises of the Yad Ezer L'Haver foundation, which supports survivors of the Holocaust by providing them food as well as medical and psychological assistance, in Haifa on January 24, 2021. (Emmanuel DUNAND / AFP)*

A [survey](#) released last year ahead of Israeli Holocaust Remembrance Day found that over half of the Holocaust survivors living in Israel require food handouts, with many saying they don’t have the funds to pay for essentials such as eyeglasses and hearing aids.

In a poll conducted by the Holocaust Survivors’ Welfare Fund, 51 percent of respondents said they relied on food given to them by various charities, with a third saying they were in

“dire need” of the assistance.

According to the poll, many Holocaust survivors say they are forced to give up essentials in order to have enough money for food. Forty-three percent of respondents said they didn’t have enough money for glasses, 33% said they couldn’t afford dental care and 27% said they couldn’t pay for hearing aids. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-extends-holocaust-pension-to-over-8000-unrecognized-survivors/> **[This is way too bad. It is a bit strange that the government had not identified these folks in the past in order to help them. These are actually considered a treasure because they did survive and help to perpetrate the Jewish nation. – rdb]**

## Knesset speaker to address Bundestag on International Holocaust Remembrance Day

*Mickey Levy says his visit to Berlin ‘symbolizes the true friendship between... two democracies that share liberal values and a mutual commitment to remember the Holocaust’*

By [Amy Spiro](#) Today, 6:30 pm Updated at 8:33 pm



*Knesset Speaker Mickey Levy seated in the Knesset in Jerusalem on January 17, 2022. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)*

**Knesset Speaker Mickey Levy arrived in Berlin on Monday for a state visit that will include an address to the Bundestag in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.**

**Levy's visit is also slated to include meetings with new German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock.** He is also scheduled to visit the historic House of Wannsee, the Berlin villa where the Nazis planned the Final

Solution, as well as meet with two of his European counterparts, Bundestag President Bärbel Bas and Austrian National Council President Wolfgang Sobotka.

**His slated address to the Bundestag on Thursday will mark the first time a Knesset speaker has addressed the full German parliament.**

**"For the first time in history, the Speaker of the Knesset – the democratically elected parliament of the only Jewish state – will stand where more than 80 years ago Nazi oppressors called for the annihilation of our people before executing the most horrific crime in mankind's history – the Holocaust,"** said Levy following his arrival in Berlin. "I will stand proud being Jewish, with six million silent souls by my side and deliver the speech in Hebrew, the eternal language of the Jewish people."

**On Thursday, Israel and Germany served as "co-facilitators" on a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly aimed at combating Holocaust denial.**

"It is Germany's historical responsibility to keep the memory of the Holocaust alive and we are fully aware that we carry a special obligation in this regard," the country's UN envoy Antje Leendertse said in a statement after the adoption of the resolution.

Earlier last week, [Israel and Germany inked](#) a 3 billion euro deal for the purchase of submarines, with Defense Minister Benny Gantz thanking Berlin for "its commitment to Israel's security."

His visit this week, Levy said, "symbolizes the true friendship between Israel and Germany. Two liberal democracies that share liberal values and a mutual commitment to remember the Holocaust, protect the sanctity of the murdered and fight antisemitism around the world." <https://www.timesofisrael.com/knesset-speaker-to-address-bundestag-on-international-holocaust-remembrance-day/> **[The real issue is do the German people really mean they don't want to forget the Holocaust and they awful deeds that occurred or do they still have a wretched opinion of people who are Jewish but like to mouth the words. In today's society it seems there are many who say words but not deeds. - rdb**

## **2021 was the worst year in a decade for antisemitism around the world, report finds**

*Joint summary by World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency says there was a daily average of 10 incidents, with attacks in Europe accounting for 50% of global total*

By [TOI staff](#) Today, 5:27 pm Updated at 5:59 pm



*A sticker with a swastika is seen in Anchorage, Alaska, on May 25, 2021. (Anchorage Police Department)*

**Last year was the worse year for antisemitic attacks in a decade, seeing an average of ten incidents a day with the likelihood of many more incidents not being reported,** according to an annual review published Monday by the World Zionist Organization and the Jewish Agency.

**The Antisemitism Report for 2021 was released ahead of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, which falls on Thursday.**

**2021 was "the most antisemitic year in the last decade,"** the

two organizations said in a joint statement, "but at the same time, this year no Jew in the world has been murdered on antisemitic grounds."

**The average number of antisemitic incidents reported in 2021 was more than ten per day,** the report found.

“However, the actual number of incidents was significantly higher, since many are not reported by the victims out of fear, and due to the lack of surveillance and prosecution of local authorities and law enforcement agencies,” the statement said.

**Europe was the leading continent in the number of antisemitic incidents during 2021, with close to 50 percent of all incidents globally taking place there.**

**The UK recorded a 49% increase in the first six months of 2021**, with 1,308 incidents compared to 875 in the same period in 2020. Austria also recorded a doubling of the number of incidents, **while in Germany the rate stayed roughly the same, with 1,850 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first 10 months of 2021 compared to 1,909 cases** reported in all of 2020, according to the report.

**In the German capital Berlin, 522 antisemitic incidents were recorded in the first half of 2021, an increase of about 27% compared to 2020**, when there were 410 recorded incidents in the first six months.

**By contrast, a trend of declining antisemitic incidents in Russia has continued**, according to feedback from the local Jewish community. However, the report noted that sufficient documentation to verify the figures was not available.



*Swastikas were spray-painted on Montreal's Congregation Shaar Hashomayim's front doors, January 13, 2021. (Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center)*

**The next continent with the most antisemitic incidents was North America, with 30% of antisemitic incidents in the continent taking place in the United States**, the report finds.

**Within the US, New York recorded a 100% increase in the number of antisemitic incidents in 2021, with 503, compared to 252 in 2020. In Los Angeles, there was a 59.2% increase in the number of antisemitic incidents in the first six months of 2021 compared to the same**

period in the previous year, LAPD data cited in the report showed.

**The incidents mostly included vandalism and property destruction**, graffiti and the desecration of monuments.

**Physical and verbal violence accounted for less than a third of all antisemitic incidents.**

Such episodes and attacks peaked during May, when Jewish and Muslim religious festivals led to clashes in Israel and a war with Hamas, the Islamist terror group ruling Gaza, the report said.

**In addition, many European countries lifted their pandemic lockdowns that month, which allowed antisemitism that spread online “to move around the public space again,” the report said.**

**2020 also featured a rise in antisemitic incidents, which mainly took place in the digital realm**, as countries imposed tight COVID lockdowns. But as countries resumed in-person gatherings the following year, such incidents took place outside of cyberspace as well.

“Many demonstrations against the COVID vaccines and restrictions included Holocaust motifs, such as the yellow star, as well as antisemitic conspiracy theories accusing Jews as spreaders of the pandemic to control the world,” the report said, expressing concern over the “trivialization of the Holocaust.”

The United Nations General Assembly last week adopted an Israeli-German non-binding resolution calling on all member states to fight against Holocaust denial and antisemitism, especially on social media. The Holocaust saw the genocide of six million European Jews between 1939 and 1945 by the Nazis and their supporters.

**“Despite the grim statistics, this year we have also seen a little light emanating in various forms, such as the adoption of the IHRA [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance] working definition of antisemitism by many countries, Holocaust education laws passed, laws passed to prevent the use of Holocaust symbols, and of course in the war on BDS,” the report concluded.**

**“It is the duty of every country to provide its citizens with security and to protect them in every event that takes place on its land, including the Jewish community,” said Raheli Baratz-Rix, head of the Department for Combating Antisemitism and Enhancing Resilience at the World Zionist Organization.** “At the same time, the State of Israel will always continue to be an anchor for every Jew who desires it.”

**The semi-governmental Jewish Agency is the executive branch of the World Zionist Organization.**



The report came the day after a [similar report by the Diaspora Affairs Ministry](#) that also noted the spike in antisemitism in May caused by the 11-day conflict between the IDF and Hamas.

The ministry's Antisemitism Cyber Monitoring System (ACMS), which focused on four social media networks — the largest of which was Twitter — detected 3.5 million social media posts with antisemitic content that were posted by some 430,000 users during 2021. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/2021-was-the-worst-year-in-a-decade-for-antisemitism-around-the-world-report-finds/>

## **Israel again sees glum record with 83,088 single-day COVID cases**

*Health Ministry says over 1 million Israelis infected by COVID in January alone, and 207 people die; over 800 hospitalized in serious condition, highest number since the start of the pandemic*

*Yaron Drukman | Updated: 01.24.22, 17:46*

**Israel on Monday reported yet again another glum record of 83,088 confirmed cases on Sunday**, as the Omicron variant has already [infected 10% of the country's population in January alone](#).

**The Health Ministry said that since the beginning of the month 1,000,225 Israelis were infected by the coronavirus**, and a total of 207 people have passed away.

**Since the start of the pandemic, 8,458 people have succumbed to coronavirus-related complications** in Israel, four of whom died on Monday.

**According to the ministry, the chances to be infected with COVID-19 among unvaccinated people aged 60 and over, is 6.5 times higher** than those who had received the vaccines, while the odds of people under the age of 60 are 2.7 times higher.

**The latest strain, which has been shown to be particularly contagious, but less severe in vaccinated people** than the Delta variant, raises hopes that the pandemic is beginning to move to its endemic stage.

But [medical teams in Israeli hospitals are working tirelessly](#) to treat an influx of COVID patients, with 814 patients hospitalized in serious condition, which is another grim record in the current wave.

**On Sunday only 1,038 Israelis received the first dose of vaccines, and 2,771 received their booster jab**. While on Saturday the numbers were even lower, when just 303 people received the first shot, and 981 received the third one.

**Health experts believe the reason for the low vaccination rates is the continuous public and media discourse about abolishing the COVID-19 Green Pass** which [gummed up Israel's vaccination campaign](#).

Regarding mortality and seriously ill patients, in the first weeks of the Omicron wave health experts estimated that most of the patients were infected with the Delta variant and not Omicron. Now, however, the belief is that also among seriously ill patients, the rate of infection with Omicron is very high.

Also on Sunday, Prof. Ran Balicer, who heads the panel of experts on pandemics and also advises the Health Ministry, published a report that said only 2% of all those who were infected in Israel, were battling the Delta variant rather than Omicron. [https://www.ynetnews.com/health\\_science/article/hyfb4nhak](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/hyfb4nhak)

## **Discourse over axing Green Pass gummed up Israel's vaccine push, health expert says**

*Prof. Yehuda Adler not encouraged by recent forecasts predicting pandemic will soon begin to ebb as he believes Israel is still not out of the woods with mounting cases stretching the healthcare system's resources thin*

*Alexandra Lukash | Published: 01.24.22, 16:06*

**Public and media discourse about abolishing the COVID-19 Green Pass gummed up Israel's vaccination campaign, a leading physician said on Monday, as the country struggles to contain a mounting coronavirus outbreak stoked by the highly transmissible Omicron variant.**

**"From the moment [abolishing the Green Pass] became the talk of the day, the vaccination drive collapsed. Children are almost not getting vaccinated at all," Prof. Yehuda Adler**, the chair of the European Cardiovascular and Myocardial Disease Association, lamented in an interview with the Ynet studio. [\[Wonderful! What a blessing. Maybe they will save some of the kids from a bad fate. BE SURE and look at the second video at the bottom of the first page – rdb\]](#)

"I think canceling the green character at this time is a mistake. We are at the peak of the outbreak, we can wait with it a little longer. After all, most severe patients, all patients on life support, are not vaccinated, which means that the vaccine has an effect.

It might not be as effective in preventing Omicron infection, but it is very effective in preventing severe illness. Now we have halted the vaccination campaign because the Green Pass might get canceled. Why? How is it helpful? Perhaps it

is right from an epidemiological standpoint, I'm not sure, but when it comes to vaccination, it devastated, crushed, gummed up Israel's vaccination campaign." **[I am not sure there is any truth to that statement either. – rdb]**

**Prof. Adler was not encouraged by recent forecasts predicting the outbreak will begin to ebb in the coming days and weeks**, as he believes Israel is still not out of the woods with mounting cases stretching the healthcare system's resources thin.

"Hospitals are facing very dire times. This coming month will be very taxing, not only for hospitals but for healthcare providers and our communities as well. We're already seeing hundreds of severe patients, many are intubated, and this is a very troubling situation. We must not forget that medical teams are already sapped. Manpower is scant, the system is stretched thin, it is starving. I'm worried," he said.



*Prof. Yehuda Adler (Photo: Avigail Uzi)*

**The cardiologist also expressed his discontent over a World Health Organization (WHO) official's statement, saying the Omicron variant could be make up the "pandemic endgame" in Europe.**

"I think this statement isn't wise, to say the least. Nobody knows what will happen next, if there'll be another wave or not," he said. **[Hummm? Sounds like someone who has swallowed the Red pill too much. – rdb]**

"There is an estimate that Omicron may bring her immunity, but I very much doubt it because Omicron causes a much milder illness in most people and therefore it does not stimulate a strong immune response. There are also new variants, so we have to wait.

After all, each variant is distinct, and we are seeing recurring infections as each strain has its own mutations. There's no doubt whoever's vaccinated is much more protected from severe illness than their unvaccinated counterparts. As for the rest, nobody knows do not know what a tomorrow may bring. Coronavirus gave us a lesson in humility."

[https://www.ynetnews.com/health\\_science/article/byenim3pt](https://www.ynetnews.com/health_science/article/byenim3pt)

## **Iran talks: Will a deal be reached? Doubtful - INSS report**

*The report shows how Iran has taken an emboldened stance, and that Israel is not properly preparing for the worst.*

By [YONAH JEREMY BOB](#) Published: JANUARY 24, 2022 17:30 Updated: JANUARY 24, 2022 18:18

**Iran and world powers are unlikely to reach a deal to resolve the nuclear standoff, a report from the Institute for National Security Studies (INSS) issued on Monday states.**

**According to the report, the Islamic Republic feels emboldened by its nuclear achievements, and backing from various countries and will not be willing to return to the deal's nuclear limits without some sweeteners that are beyond what the US is willing to provide.**

**The report warns that Israel is not properly mobilizing its various military, diplomatic, economic and technological powers to achieve its national interests based on a clear and coherent strategy.**

The report's authors include INSS executive director Emmanuel Trachtenberg, Brig.-Gen. (res.) Udi Dekel, former national security council chief Meir Ben Shabbat, former IDF intelligence analysis chief Dror Shalom, former Mossad Iran desk chief Sima Shine and many others.

**"Tehran represents the most serious external threat to Israel, first and foremost due to Iran's quest to achieve military nuclear capability,"** the report reads.

*A rally takes place in the Gaza Strip last month marking the 34th anniversary of the founding of Hamas. Israel is likely to wage a multifaceted war against Iran's terrorist proxies this year. (credit: ATIA MOHAMMED/FLASH90)*



**"Israel's structural inability to handle on its own all the challenges posed by Iran's conduct, as well as the growing need to increase coordination with the United States and tighten the special relationship with it – whether or not the agreement is reached between Iran and the great powers on its nuclear program,"** it emphasized.

**Along those lines, INSS said it was critical that Jerusalem prepares its military options for deterring Iran from crossing the**

**nuclear threshold.**

The report then **stated that the Islamic Republic's nuclear progress "has given Iran the shortest time ever to break out to nuclear weapons – if the regime in Tehran decides to do so,"** which **"reinforces the temptation not to return to the nuclear agreement without considerable rewards."**

**The Biden administration “might have neither the ability nor the desire to grant them.** Also, Iran’s confidence and readiness to attack its enemies through its proxies has increased.”

Striking a pessimistic tone, the report said next, “Israel... is at a strategic impasse regarding the Iranian nuclear issue. The various possible **scenarios for the dialogue between Iran and the great powers, whether resulting in a partial agreement or lengthy foot-dragging or even breakdown of talks**, are all negative for Israel.”

**Still, the report cautioned that Israel should avoid opposing a return to the nuclear deal because such a position “will leave Israel isolated with only the military option for preventing Iran from attaining a nuclear weapon.”**

In addition, it said that “Iran continues with its program of regional subversion, including its efforts to surround Israel with the threat of attack, especially through its precision missile project for Hezbollah in Lebanon and its proxies in Syria.”

**But on top of the missiles and rockets threat, “Iran is equipping its proxies with thousands of unmanned aerial attack vehicles [UAVs], with a range that enables them to penetrate deep into Israel’s skies from all fronts.”**

**SURPRISINGLY THOUGH, there was less discussion of the threat from Hezbollah than in past years, possibly reflecting that INSS views that threat as even less imminent than in the recent past.**

The report addressed the Palestinian issue next, saying the country could not rely merely on passive conflict management since current trends could “drift toward a one-state reality” that could undermine “the vision of Israel as a Jewish, democratic, secure and moral state.”

**Ignoring the Palestinians as a long-term time bomb would be delusional, according to the report,** which said that the May 2021 war with Hamas, the boiling friction in the West Bank and the ongoing weakness of the more moderate Palestinian Authority is a recipe for escalating future conflict.

**In addition, the report warned that the ongoing conflict with the Palestinians continues to undermine “Israel’s international political and legal standing.”**

Recognizing the ideological limits of the current government, the report’s recommendations to create conditions for economic prosperity and to set the stage for vague future diplomatic processes were less ambitious than some past reports which included concrete proposals to [withdraw from certain parts of the West Bank](#).

Further, Israel has been unable to untangle the web of dilemmas in Gaza from improving the humanitarian situation to avoiding security escalation to pressing for the return of prisoners and missing persons held by Hamas to preventing Hamas “from achieving further military and political control.”

**One of the major security challenges the report focused on, even though it is not a conventional physical threat, was “an intensification of trends of polarization between different groups, incitement, and weak governance, particularly in uncontrolled enclaves, which compound the erosion of trust in state institutions.**

**“All these constitute a substantive threat to social resilience and national security,” the report says.** Specifically, the report flagged “[changes in norms](#) in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and increasing concerns over the resilience of liberal democracies.”

**In parallel, the report said that there was a growing trend of the Police being unable to hold back ethnic violence between extremist Jews and Arabs.**

Regarding relations with the US, the report expressed concern that two issues [related to China](#) could dilute Washington’s support for and attentiveness to Israel and to the Middle East in general.

At one level, it said that Israel was caught directly in the middle of contradictory and conflicting wishes from China and the US in the economic and technology arenas.

On another level, the report stated that even if Jerusalem and Washington were more on the same page than they actually are, the Biden administration and America in general simply do not have the same headspace to deal with and assist Israel as in the past. This is because they are escalating their focus on competing with China on a range of playing fields.

In a similar vein, the report expressed concern that the Biden administration was much less motivated and focused on expanding on the success of the Abraham Accords normalization process.

The report strongly recommended that the government work on strengthening what was once strong, but has become a shakier consensus of bipartisan support for Israel among both Democrats and Republicans.

Moreover, the report said that Israel should more effectively capitalize on its peace deals with Egypt and Jordan while trying to reduce friction with Turkey. <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-694399> **[This is somewhat repetitious but there is new information about this group in this account and the problem is the**



essence of Israel's military survival in an environment which is hell bent on destroying the land. It isn't only Iran but also all of their surrogates. – rdb]

## **Russia said to be conducting joint patrols of Syrian border airspace**

*As tensions mount between Putin and world powers over Ukraine, Moscow appears to make a statement regarding its presence in the Middle East*

By [TOI staff](#) and [Agencies Today](#), 3:12 pm

**Syria and Russia held joint military jet patrols of the airspace along Syria's borders on Monday, including in the Golan Heights area, according to a Russian Defense Ministry statement reported by Interfax.**

**According to the report, Russia's Defense Ministry said such joint patrols are expected to be a regular occurrence moving forward.**

**The news came amid tensions along the Russia-Ukraine border as Western powers scramble to counter an implied threat by Russian President Vladimir Putin to invade the neighboring country.**

Putin is considered one of few allies of Syrian President Bashar Assad, and Russia is seen as using its presence in the war-torn country to gain a foothold in the Middle East.

**Israel's close relations with Russia and Putin are often seen as linked to the two countries' close military coordination in Syria, in particular when the IDF carries out purported strikes on sites within Syria.**

Russia joined Syria's 10-year conflict in September 2015, when the Syrian military appeared close to collapse, and has since helped in tipping the balance of power in favor of Assad, whose forces now control much of the country. Hundreds of Russian troops are deployed across Syria and they also have a military air base along Syria's Mediterranean coast.

Putin and Assad [met in Moscow](#) in September to discuss the cooperation between their military forces. Syria's conflict began in March 2011 with anti-government protests and later turned into a civil war that has killed half a million people and displaced half the country's pre-war population of 23 million, including 5 million who are refugees outside the country. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/russia-said-to-be-conducting-joint-patrol-of-syrian-border-airspace/>

## **Biden puts 8,500 U.S. troops on alert as he gropes toward Russia policy**

*Calls move 'heightened preparedness'*

By [Bob Unruh](#) Published January 24, 2022 at 5:00pm

**While Joe Biden lets literally millions of foreigners break through America's largely unprotected southern border in what has to be one of the largest such invasions ever, he's apparently not going to stand for any such aggression against Ukraine.**

**The Daily Caller News Foundation on Monday confirmed Biden has been briefed by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on what steps the U.S. could take as Russia exhibits more and more of an aggressive posture against Ukraine.**

Experts believe an invasion may be imminent and Russia could end up with a takeover of Ukraine as it did with Crimea not that long ago.

[Fox News](#) documented that several thousand American soldiers now are on "heightened preparedness" in the developing standoff.

The report said some 8,500 troops were put on heightened readiness – and no decisions had been made when or how to deploy them, yet.

**"Secretary Austin has placed a range of units in the United States on a heightened preparedness to deploy, which increases our readiness to provide forces if NATO should activate" a NATO National Response Force, according to the Pentagon press secretary, John Kirby.**

**The NRF is a quick-moving force that includes land, air and sea components that act as Special Operations Forces.**

**"The United States is deeply concerned about the current situation in Europe," Kirby explained. "We remain keenly focused on Russia's unusual military activities near the Ukrainian border, including in Belarus, and consulting extensively with our transatlantic allies and partners. The department continues to support diplomatic efforts to deescalate the situation."**

**Kirby added, "Now, as the president has said, even as we continue to prioritize diplomacy and dialogue, we must also increase readiness in support of its obligations to the security and defense of NATO and the security of its citizens abroad."**

**Options apparently include bomber flights over the region, ships dispatched to the Black Sea and troops and equipment moved from other regions to Poland, Romania and other Ukraine neighbors, according to a report from NBC News.**

**The problem is that Moscow already has an estimated 100,000 troops at its border with Ukraine and diplomacy so far has had an impact so small that almost cannot be measured.**

NATO did confirm that several allies planned to dispatch troops, with Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg confirming the coalition plans to take "all necessary measures to protect and defend all allies."

**NBC has revealed that Biden's State Department already is urging Americans to leave Ukraine, as it expects to be unable to fully evacuate those who want to leave should the expected conflict erupt.**

The [Daily Mail](#) reported officials in Ukraine already were upset with the Biden administration for its decision to withdraw some embassy staff and family members.

**The decision to provide an alert to 8,500 followed reports that Biden wants to send U.S. soldiers to the region. Biden was scheduling a telephone call with European officials on the potential for conflict.**

Those expected to attend were European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, European Council President Charles Michel, President Emmanuel Macron of France, Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany, Prime Minister Mario Draghi of Italy, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, President Andrzej Duda of Poland, and Prime Minister Boris Johnson of the United Kingdom, the Mail reported.

**The report noted Biden may actually be considering sending up to 50,000 American soldiers, as well as aircraft and warships – into harm's way.**

While Biden is expected to review a plan to send American soldiers to that region, it's well-known that entering a military conflict distracts the American public's attention from most other issues, such as Biden's catastrophically low approval rating heading into this year's midterms, the southern border crisis, inflation, his own agenda's failure, a diminution of American status around the world, the ongoing COVID disaster and more.

The **New York Times suggested that Biden's dispatch of American troops might not actually have them moved directly to Ukraine, because of his deeply problematic removal of American troops of Afghanistan earlier.**

That left hundreds of Americans and tens of billions of dollars worth of American war machinery in the hands of the terrorists in the Taliban.

Meanwhile, Russia has not let up in its faceoff with the Western world: It plans live-fire sea drills of the coast of Ireland in just weeks. **MORE - <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/biden-puts-8500-u-s-troops-alert-gropes-toward-russia-policy/> [This does not look good folks. This is an incompetent commander in chief leading a group of incompetents (if you look at their decision process in Afghanistan) into a precarious situation with an adversary that is well organized and controlled and experienced. The US is at this juncture outclassed by Pootie Poot and his people in this area and the US leaders just keep blowing smoke and making threats. We could well see the US in a major conflict which could get out of hand very quickly. – rdb]**

## **Russian Navy warships embark on 'long-distance' mission amid NATO tensions (VIDEO)**

*A pair of corvettes from Russia's Baltic Fleet has set sail amid Western build-up*

24 Jan, 2022 14:30

**Two Steregushchiy-class ships of the Russian Baltic Fleet have been launched from their home port of Baltiysk to take part in large-scale navy exercises that are scheduled to last through February.**

**The two vessels are the Soobrazitelnyy and the Stoikiy advanced multipurpose corvettes, the fleet's press service said on Monday. Ships of that class are predominantly designed for operations in the littoral zone, but have some deep sea capabilities as well.**

**The pair will conduct a number of training exercises to hone the crew members' skills in various types of missions, including submarine detection and pursuit, anti-ship warfare, air defense, and search and rescue operations, the report said. Both carry units of marines, who will train in fending off simulated terrorist attacks on the ships during periods of exposure, such as passing through a strait or port calls.**

**While the navy did not specify where the vessels will be headed, it said they've set out on a 'long-distance' voyage.**

**The deployment is part of a massive series of exercises that the Russian Navy will be conducting through February. The navy is sending over 140 warships and support ships, some 60 aircraft, and 10,000 troops for the drills. The training will be taking place in waters close to Russia, as well as in strategic parts of the world like the Mediterranean or the North Sea, the Russian Defense Ministry said last week.**

**The news comes amid the deployment of additional military assets to the Baltic region by NATO members. The alliance said** on Monday that Denmark will be sending a frigate to the Baltic Sea and relocating F-16 warplanes to Lithuania. Other nations are sending troops and equipment to other member states located close to Russia. The movements were touted as enhancing NATO deterrence against a possible Russian invasion of Ukraine, which Russia has repeatedly said it has no intention to launch.

Moscow had previously said that the bloc's expansion to eastern Europe and deployment of troops close to Russia compromised Russian national security. Washington and Brussels rejected Russia's proposal to deflate tensions by giving legally binding assurances that NATO's doors would be closed to nations neighboring Russia and by removing some of the military assets deployed next door. <https://www.rt.com/russia/546944-navy-baltic-fleet-exercises/>

## **Two US carriers enter S. China Sea, to 'counter malign influence'**

*US Navy ships routinely sail close to the islands to challenge Chinese sovereignty claims, to Beijing's anger.*

By *REUTERS* Published: JANUARY 24, 2022 11:52 Updated: JANUARY 24, 2022 13:28

**Two US aircraft carrier groups have entered the disputed South China Sea for training, the Department of Defense said on Monday as Taiwan reported a new Chinese air force incursion at the top of the waterway including a fearsome new electronic warfare jet.**

The **South China Sea and self-governing Taiwan are two of China's most sensitive territorial issues** and both are frequent areas of tension between the United States and China.

**US Navy ships routinely sail close to Chinese-occupied islands in the South China Sea to challenge Chinese sovereignty claims, as** well as through the Taiwan Strait, to Beijing's anger.

The **US Department of Defense said the two US Navy Carrier Strike Groups**, led by their flagships USS Carl Vinson and USS Abraham Lincoln, had begun operations in the South China Sea on Sunday.

The **carrier groups will carry out exercises including anti-submarine warfare operations, air warfare operations and maritime interdiction** operations to strengthen combat readiness, it said in a statement.

**The training will be conducted in accordance with international law in international** waters, the Department of Defense added, without giving details.

"Operations like these allow us to improve our combat credible capability, reassure our allies and partners, and demonstrate our resolve as a Navy to ensure regional stability and counter malign influence," it quoted Rear Admiral J.T. Anderson, commander of the strike group led by the USS Abraham Lincoln, as saying.

**Both carrier groups were reported on Sunday by the US Navy to have** been exercising with Japan's navy in the Philippine Sea, an area that includes waters to the east of Taiwan.

The news of the US operations coincides with Taiwan reporting the latest mass incursion by China's air force into its air defense identification zone - 39 aircraft - in an area close to the Taiwan-controlled Pratas Islands in the northern reaches of the South China Sea.

**Taiwan on Monday reported a further 13 Chinese aircraft in the zone, with one, an anti-submarine Y-8, flying through the Bashi Channel which separates Taiwan from the Philippines and connects the Pacific to the South China Sea, according to a map provided by Taiwan's Defence Ministry.**

The **ministry added that two Chinese J-16Ds took part in the mission**, though kept close to China's coast, a new electronic attack version of the J-16 fighter designed to target anti-aircraft defenses of the sort Taiwan would rely on to fend off an attack.

**China has yet to comment, but has previously said such missions are aimed at protecting its sovereignty** and to prevent external interference in its sovereignty claims over democratically-governed Taiwan.

Security sources have previously told Reuters that China's flights into Taiwan's defense zone are also likely a response to foreign military activity, especially by US forces, near the island, to warn that Beijing is watching and has the capability to handle any Taiwan contingencies.

Taiwan calls China's repeated nearby military activities "grey zone" warfare, designed to both wear out [Taiwan's](#) forces by making them repeatedly scramble, and also to test Taiwan's responses.

The South China Sea, crossed by vital shipping lanes and also containing gas fields and rich fishing grounds, is also claimed by Taiwan, while Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines claim parts.

<https://www.jpost.com/international/article-694381> **[Careful fellows or you could have a war on two fronts with poor excuses for leadership. – rdb]**

## **Gingrich makes ominous prediction for Pelosi's Jan. 6 committee**

*'It's basically a lynch mob'*

By [Bob Unruh](#) Published January 24, 2022 at 12:57pm



**Senior GOP statesman Newt Gingrich says there may be jail in the future for members of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's partisan Jan. 6 investigating committee, which he described as "basically a lynch mob."**

**That committee was set up by Pelosi to review the events of Jan. 6, 2021, the riot at the U.S. Capitol.**

**It's under challenge because it failed to follow the requirements of the resolution in Congress that created it, and in fact is completely partisan because Pelosi rejected the members nominated by the minority GOP.**

Instead, she picked two Republicans who have been rabidly anti-Trump, and seated them.

It has interviewed hundreds of people, dispatched hundreds of subpoenas and is creating an atmosphere in which it appears to be trying to assemble a storyline that its Democrat party can use to attack President Trump should he choose to run again in 2024.

Here are Gingrich's comments:

**"You are going to have a Republican majority in the House and a Republican majority in the Senate, and all these people who have been so tough and so mean and so nasty are gonna be delivered subpoenas for every document, every conversation, every tweet, every email because I think it's clear these are people who are just running over the law, pursuing innocent people, causing them to spend thousands and thousands of dollars on legal fees, for no justification,"** he said.

"And it's basically a lynch mob and unfortunately the attorney general of the United States has joined that lynch mob and is totally misusing the FBI and I think when you have a Republican Congress, this is all gonna come crashing down and the wolves are going to find out that they're now Sheep and they're the ones who in fact are going to face a real risk of jail for the kind of laws they're breaking."

According to [Just the News](#), Gingrich's comments came in an interview with Fox News' Maria Bartiromo.

**One of the anti-Trump GOPers picked by Pelosi, Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, who is facing an uphill fight to retain her seat this year, blasted Gingrich.**

"A former speaker of the House is threatening jail time for members of Congress who are investigating the violent January 6 attack on our Capitol and our Constitution," she said.

And she claimed, "This is what it looks like when the rule of law unravels."

**Pelosi's special commission has been mired in controversy since before its creation.**

**Recently, WND reported that only a handful of its subpoenas actually are addressed to people involved in the riot, meaning the committee members are clear in that they are** looking at a lot of other issues as well as the Capitol events.

That was clear because perhaps among the first witnesses should have been Pelosi, who holds responsibility for the operations and security of the structure, and key federal law-enforcement officers, to explain what FBI agents or informants were on hand, and what they were doing that day.

But that's not what's happened so far. In fact, the FBI has refused to reveal his operatives in the riot that day.

**An analysis published at The Federalist reveals that only one in 10 of the subpoenas the commission has issued "relate to the Capitol riot."**

Tristan Justice documented the analysis of the 84 subpoenas issued publicly showed "only 8 have targeted individuals or groups with any connection to the Capitol riot."

"The rest have taken aim at former government officials and private citizens in a smear campaign for exercising their constitutional right to protest," he explained.

Not included in the study were the 100 subpoenas the commission has issued secretly, trying to get telephone records of individuals who haven't even been told they're being investigated.

The violence that day erupted after Pelosi reportedly refused to approve the assignment of National Guard troops, "not once, but six times, according to testimony from former Capitol Police Chief Steven Sund," the report said.

**Meanwhile, Democrats in Congress reportedly have told federal agencies not to provide information to members of the GOP who have launched an actual investigation into the violence that day.**

**Rep. Rodney Davis, R-Ill., raised the issue with Pelosi in a letter that said, "There is irony in the fact that the same time House Democrats are holding witnesses in criminal contempt of Congress for raising genuine questions of legal privilege, you continue to obstruct Republican access to House records relating to the security preparedness of the Capitol complex."**

The report said one of those subpoenaed was Andrew Surabian, who is working to unseat Cheney in Wyoming, even though he was "overseeing a Super PAC in support of Republican Senate candidates in Georgia" at the time.

His lawyer said, in a statement, "Accordingly, we believe this is nothing more than harassment of the committee's political opponents and is un-American to the core." <https://www.wnd.com/2022/01/gingrich-makes-ominous-prediction-pelosis-jan-6-committee/>

[The old bat that is the current speaker needs to rot in a solitary confinement cell in the DC prison where the patriots are currently locked up until she is no more. – rdb]

## Commentary:

### More Media Gaslighting As Their Covid Narrative Falls Apart In South Africa

*Scott Morefield Posted: Jan 24, 2022 12:01 AM*

Last week, China Daily [published](#) an article that perfectly encapsulates the magical thinking taking place worldwide around Covid-19 vaccines. Titled "Plea for jabs even as Africa infections trend lower," the piece described how African "health experts" are "stepping up calls for more people to get vaccinated against COVID-19 in a bid to ward off future outbreaks even as trends point to a decline in the growth rate for new infections."

That's right, despite a clear downward trend in mostly-mild OMICRON cases, "health experts" want MORE "jabs." And adding even more to the cognitive dissonance here are the reasons they cite for the decrease:

"John Nkengasong, director of the Africa CDC, attributed South Africa's decrease in new infection cases to increased population levels of antibodies, meaning that many people have been infected so hence developed antibodies combined with the high vaccination rate in the country." wrote Edith Mutethya before adding the kicker: "To date, South Africa has fully vaccinated 27.3 percent of its population."

This is, of course, a perfect example of how 'health officials' massage and manipulate the facts to suit their narrative. In this case, in his drive to get more "jabs," Nkengasong laughably tells us the country's "high vaccination rate" is partially responsible for the decline in OMICRON cases. A "high vaccination rate," in this case, of ... wait for it ... 27.3 percent.

Granted, 27.3 percent is higher than the meager 10 percent full vaccination rate for the rest of Africa. But given these low percentages, especially by Western standards, one would be forgiven for thinking Covid-19 was raging like a wildfire across the continent, overwhelming hospitals and leaving massive levels of death and severe illness in its wake. Except, that's not the case at all. Not even close. In fact, deaths per million are surprisingly low for the vast majority of countries in Africa. Tunisia, a small country of 12 million, leads the pack at ~2,200, and only five others - South Africa, Namibia, Seychelles, Eswatini, and Botswana - are even above 1,000. That's a stark contrast to the United States' ~2,600, Brazil's ~2,900, or Bulgaria and Hungary with more than 4,000 each.

Still, according to World Health Organization regional emergency director Abdou Gueye: "Although Africa appears to be emerging from the peak of its fourth pandemic wave, vaccination which is a pivotal measure against the virus remains far too low. About 50 percent of the world's population is fully vaccinated. In Africa, this is just 10 percent."

After a peak of 37,875 reported cases on December 12, 2021, South Africa - 'home' of the OMICRON variant that now dominates the globe - has seen its case numbers decline steadily since. How can this be? Nkengasong, to his credit, tells a partial truth by partially crediting natural immunity. He should have stopped there. Why didn't he? I submit that it's because of the magical thinking around Covid vaccines. Even a paltry 27.3 vaccination rate, he reasons, \*must\* have contributed to the decline. Would that 'health officials' here in the States were so generous. Instead, the paltry third of the country that remains unvaccinated is blamed for everything from virus spread to the Black Death.

We're told that vaccines against a spike protein that is no longer dominant are the keys to ending the pandemic, but they refuse to explain in light of recent data exactly how. Instead, our overlords allow the majority of the public to falsely blame the unvaccinated for contraction and spread, even while knowing full well that the vaccinated are just as responsible.

Why is the virus [raging again](#) in Israel, the most vaccinated and boosted country on the planet? Why is there no statistical difference between virus infection rates in highly vaccinated versus lower uptake areas in the U.S.? Why do the unvaccinated have the \*lowest\* infection rate according to disturbing [newly revealed data](#) from Scotland? I could go on and on. (And yes, we [have asked](#) the same questions about mask use.)

The sad, tragic fact is that their measures, from lockdowns to masks to even vaccines, have done little to nothing to curb the spread of this highly contagious respiratory virus, and taken as a whole they've likely done more harm than good. I take no pleasure in pointing this out. Truly, I wish something HAD worked. If so, we wouldn't be talking about this two years in. But alas, the only thing that's working is viral attenuation and OMICRON infecting everything it touches,

regardless of masking or vaccine status.

It's not that these vaccines don't have their uses. If someone is at high risk for a bad outcome from Covid, perhaps taking the "jab" and even endless boosters could be a smart move. But we were promised something else a year ago, weren't we? "Take the shot," we were told, "and you can live a normal life free of masks and restrictions." That promise, like so many others, has been broken and memory-holed, relegated to the dustbin of so many other Faucian 'noble lies.'

Try to get into a restaurant in New York City or Chicago with eight masks on but without a vaccine card and see where that gets you. Walk into almost any large restaurant or retail establishment in the country, even here in eastern Tennessee, and every employee will be forcibly masked. It seems like the more the vaccines don't work to stop this pandemic, the more our overlords double down on nonsense. Thankfully, the prevalence of OMICRON is exposing their absurdity for the world to see, if people would only look.

"But but but ... iT WoUld hAvE bEeN WooOrSe," the sheeple smugly retort. To that, I would simply point to South Africa, where OMICRON is on its last legs despite a horrible healthcare system, most of its population living in squalor, and a vaccination rate that would have Joe Biden REALLY losing his patience.

<https://townhall.com/columnists/scottmorefield/2022/01/24/more-media-gaslighting-as-their-covid-narrative-falls-apart-in-south-africa-n2602238>

## America: Stay Awake

By [Amil Imani](#) / January 24th, 2022

For decades, I have argued that the enemy is Islam without adjectives, Islam "pure and simple." Adjectives such as "extremist," "radical," "moderate," "fundamentalist," "moderate," "political," "Islamist," etc. simply mislead the blind, the ignorant, the naive, and wishful thinking humanists, liberals, as well as soft-headed Jews, Christians, and idiotic atheists to succumb to their own fears and previous follies regarding the savagery intrinsic in Islamic scriptures and history, which have been recognized by former Muslims who have somehow overcome their previous misconceptions about the most vicious and dangerous enemy of civilization and mankind.

A revealing book on the subject is Robert Reilly, "The Closing of the Islamic Mind." This purely scholarly work should be supplemented by the work of theologian [George Weigel](#), "Faith, Reason, and the War against Jihadism."

Terms such as "Political Islam," "Radical Islam," or "Militant Islam" are the contributions of Useful Idiots. These terms do not even exist in the native parlance of Islam, simply because they are redundant. Islam, by its very nature and according to its charter—the Quran—is a radical political movement. It is the Useful Idiot who sanitizes Islam and misguides the populace by saying that the "real Islam" constitutes the main body of the religion; and, that this main body is non-political and moderate.

Regrettably, a large segment of the population goes along with these nonsensical euphemisms depicting Islam because it prefers to believe them. It is less threatening to believe that only a hijacked small segment of Islam is radical or politically driven and that the main body of Islam is indeed moderate and non-political.

Islam is not a religion. It is a political ideology. In Islam, the mosque and State are the same—the mosque is the State. This arrangement goes back to the days of Muhammad himself. Islam is also radical in the extreme. Even "moderate" Islam is radical in its beliefs as well as its deeds. Muslims believe that all non-Muslims, bar none, are hellfire bound and well-deserve being maltreated compared to believers.

Many people wonder why Islam is blossoming in the US! They are bewildered as to why Democrats back Islamic ideology, honor their holidays and customs, and promote it as the religion of peace, knowing that Islam is not a religion of peace. In fact, it is an ideology of war. The answer is quite simple: The Democrat Party stands with anyone who hates America and the Republican party. History has proven that once Muslims have the majority, they institute sharia law and adopt their own legal system. A government within a government.

The Democrat Party has shown by both words and actions that they despise the U.S. Constitution. When it comes to the support of Muslims, they will not hesitate to hold the Bill of Rights over anyone who dares to accuse Islam and Muslims of wrongdoing. While crime and threats skyrocket, Islamized citizens will ignore the wrongdoing. They will look the other way for fear of retribution, honor killings, and punishments from those who uphold the Islamic requirement to seek revenge on anyone who dishonors or disagrees with Islam.

The Democrat Party has descended into nihilism, which describes the present state of America. This is a logical consequence of America's abandonment of its Declaration of Independence, which she never really understood, and which, unknown even to eminent scholars, represent a synthesis of classical and modern political science—which is elaborated in my masterwork "A Judeo-Scientific Guide for the Perplexed."

The primary target of the Left is the Bible of Israel. The Bible says that God creates nations, as well as individuals, and the Left is opposed to both nationalism and individualism. Do you fathom this? This does not require a lengthy



discourse.

“[By each passing day](#), the death of Western Civilization – specifically, the death of Europe, will not have been a suicide, but a cold-blooded, premeditated murder, carried out by the western ruling oligarchy.”

In plain language, western Europe has been betrayed by the very people entrusted with its protection and stewardship – its political leaders and their enablers. People like former EU President Jean-Claude Juncker, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron, and many others.

When the wolf gets into the fold and begins terrorizing the sheep and preying upon them, who is most at fault – the wolf or the shepherd who was supposed to guard the flock? The wolf, although his fangs, may be bloody, is only being what he is – a predator. The shepherd, on the other hand, has failed in his duty to protect the flock.

In the case of Europe, the “shepherds” have done much, much worse than simply fail through negligence. They have actively aided and abetted the enemy and let them into the heart of Europe to prey upon its native peoples.

The Muslims who now terrorize Europe must be dealt with like the rabid dogs that they are – but a great evil has been done and the job will not be done until the traitorous leaders of old Europe have been brought to justice and pay the price for their enormous betrayal. They literally have the blood of innocents on their hands – men, women and children alike.

In the Germany of the 1930s, for instance, very few people were Nazis, and most Germans dismissed them as a bunch of hotheaded fools. Before long, the hotheaded few cowed the dismissive masses, and as a result, millions lost their lives.

America Stay Awake. It has started to happen here too. Time is of the essence. <https://newswithviews.com/america-stay-awake/>

## The Houthis Must Be Relisted as a Terrorist Group

by [Majid Rafizadeh](#) January 24, 2022 at 5:00 am

This morning, Abu Dhabi, in the United Arab Emirates, [intercepted two ballistic missiles](#), launched courtesy of the Houthis.

The problem began almost a year ago, courtesy of the Biden administration. After less than a month in office, the Biden administration reversed yet another policy of the former administration. On February 12, 2021, Secretary of State Antony Blinken officially [revoked](#) the designation of the Houthis, an Iran-backed militia group, also known as Ansar Allah ("Partisans of Allah"), as a Foreign Terrorist Organization. According to the U.S. State Department press release:

"This decision is a recognition of the dire humanitarian situation in Yemen.... on Yemenis' access to basic commodities like food and fuel. The revocations are intended to ensure that relevant U.S. policies do not impede assistance to those already suffering what has been called the world's worst humanitarian crisis."

Just [two days](#) after removing the Houthis from the list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations, the State Department had to call on the Houthis to "immediately cease attacks impacting civilian areas inside Saudi Arabia and to halt any new military offensives inside Yemen." The Houthis, it turned out, had [launched four drones](#) into Saudi Arabia, which the Saudis had "intercepted and destroyed."

In February alone, in fact, the Houthi forces, [fired](#) more than 40 drones and missiles at Saudi Arabia. Even Western officials had to [acknowledge](#) the escalation. As a senior U.S. defense official [told](#) NBC News on a condition of anonymity:

"We're certainly aware of a troubling increase in Houthi cross-border attacks from a variety of systems, including cruise missiles, ballistic missiles and UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles)".

France, Germany, Italy and Great Britain also [condemned](#) the Houthi offensive and characterized it as a "major escalation of attacks the Houthis have conducted and claimed against Saudi Arabia."

The Houthis, based in Yemen at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, had, in May 2021, [launched](#) a drone at the King Khalid military airbase in the southern Saudi city of Khamis Mushait, and had also [claimed](#) responsibility for the 2019 attacks on two Aramco plants at the heart of the Saudi Arabia's oil industry — the world's biggest oil processing facility at Abqaiq near Dammam and the country's second-largest oilfield at Khurais.

Last week, on January 17, 2022, the Houthis [launched](#) a military attack on the United Arab Emirates; it blew up three oil tanker trucks in Abu Dhabi, and killed three people.

The group, which, [according](#) to a Yemeni government intelligence report, "works closely" with Al Qaeda and ISIS, in addition, it seems, [commits](#) crimes against humanity. It has reportedly, since 2015, [killed and injured](#) more than 17,500 civilians -- and it [recruits](#), injures and kills children. [According](#) to Human Rights Watch's World Report 2020:

"Since September 2014, all parties to the conflict have used child soldiers under 18, including some under the age of 15, according to a 2019 UN Group of Eminent International and Regional Experts on Yemen report in 2019. According to the secretary general, out of 3,034 children recruited throughout the war in Yemen, 1,940—64 percent—were recruited by the Houthis."

The Houthis, by the same token, use landmines. [According](#) to Human Rights Watch:

"Houthi-planted landmines across Yemen continue to harm civilians and their livelihoods.... Since January 2018, at least 140 civilians, including 19 children, have been killed by landmines in just the Hodeidah and Taizz governorates."

The Houthi militia group also, it seems, routinely [resorts](#) to various methods of torture. [According](#) to Human Rights Watch:

"Former detainees described Houthi officers beating them with iron rods and rifles and being hung from walls with their arms shackled behind them.... The association [Mothers of Abductees Association] reported that there are 3,478 disappearance cases, at least 128 of those kidnapped have been killed."

After the Houthi's recent deadly [attack](#) on the United Arab Emirates and after the UAE [urged](#) the US administration to reinstate the Houthi's terrorist designation, the Biden administration said that it is [mulling](#) relisting the Houthis as a foreign terrorist group. The reluctance to do so, it appears, is linked to the [argument](#) that such a move will hamper the delivery to Yemen of humanitarian aid, which seems under Houthi control.

This issue, however, can be resolved by following the case of Iran: Although Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is [listed](#) as a foreign terrorist organization, and the US State Department currently lists Iran's regime as a "state [sponsor](#) of terrorism," delivering humanitarian aid is still [permitted](#), and institutions will not be [punished](#) for exporting humanitarian goods to Iran. Similarly, the Biden administration can list the Houthis as a terrorist group *and* at the same time issue a waiver enabling the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Attempts to deliver humanitarian aid to the poverty-stricken people of Yemen appear to have been [blocked by the Houthis](#) themselves, as well as by the [United States](#), which has [withdrawn support for Saudi Arabia](#), while giving the Houthis a free pass.

The Houthi strategy, it appears, is to use the dire living situation of the civilians under its control as a shield to get what it wants, such as being removed from the terrorist list and continuing its terror activities without facing any consequences.

If the Biden administration surrenders to this strategy, not only will the terror group feel it has won, it will also feel empowered to ratchet up its violence, crimes, and drone and missile attacks.

A surrender to this form of extortion will also set precedent for other terrorist groups or countries to deprive their populations of humanitarian aid, and hold them as hostages while they blackmail the US and international community into handing them as a ransom whatever they dream up -- in addition to continuing their terrorist activities without any consequences.

The Biden administration needs immediately to re-designate the Iranian-backed Houthi group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization both for their crimes against humanity and their military aggression against other nations. The United States can, as it is doing with Iran, re-list the Houthis as a Foreign Terrorist Organization *and* allow the export of humanitarian goods to Yemen -- if the Houthis even [permit](#). If they do not, it is all the more reason to hold them accountable even more harshly rather than reward them.

*Dr. Majid Rafizadeh is a business strategist and advisor, Harvard-educated scholar, political scientist, board member of Harvard International Review, and president of the International American Council on the Middle East. He has [authored](#) several books on Islam and US foreign policy. He can be reached at [Dr.Rafizadeh@Post.Harvard.Edu](mailto:Dr.Rafizadeh@Post.Harvard.Edu) <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/18164/houthis-terrorist-group>*

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### ARUTZ SHEVA

#### Burkina Faso army seizes power

*Army in West African country announces suspension of constitution, dissolution of government and parliament, and closure of borders.*

*Israel National News 24.01.22 23:17*

**Soldiers in the West African country of Burkina Faso on Monday announced on state television that they have seized power following a mutiny over the civilian president's failure to contain an Islamist insurgency, AFP reports.**

**A junior officer announced the suspension of the constitution, the dissolution of the government and parliament, and the closure of the country's borders as of midnight Monday, reading from a statement signed by Lieutenant Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba.**

**The officer said the new Patriotic Movement for Preservation and Restoration (MPSR) would re-establish "constitutional order" within a "reasonable time",** adding that a nationwide nightly curfew would be enforced.

**Hundreds of people gathered to celebrate the military coup in Ouagadougou,** welcoming soldiers, honking car horns and waving the national flag.

Earlier on Monday, African and Western powers denounced what they called an "attempted coup" and the EU demanded the "immediate" release of President Roch Marc Christian Kabore.

The United States also called for Kabore's release and urged "members of the security forces to respect Burkina Faso's constitution and civilian leadership."

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in a statement he "strongly condemns any attempted takeover of government by the force of arms", calling events a "coup".

**A government source had said Kabore was "exfiltrated" from his home late Sunday by his presidential guard "before the arrival of armed elements who fired on the vehicles of his convoy".**

**Kabore, in power since 2015 and reelected in 2020, has faced rising public anger about the failure to stop the bloodshed in the country.**

On Monday, the People's Movement for Progress ruling party said Kabore was the victim of an "aborted assassination attempt".

A government minister, who was not named, also survived an attempt on his life and the president's home was ransacked, it added.

The party said the presidential palace had been "encircled" by "a group of armed and masked men" and the national radio and television "occupied". <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/321063>

## **'The State built an entire neighborhood on the Syrian-African rift'**

*This neighborhood is the most dangerous in Tiberias - and the residents are petrified of what might happen in a quake. Israel National News 24.01.22 13:55*

**Residents of the Kiryat Moshe neighborhood in Tiberias are concerned over the possibility of another earthquake, Ynet reported.**

**The neighborhood, which sits on a fault the Syrian-African rift, is home to 260 families who felt the two recent earthquakes quite strongly.**

"I am very worried," one resident told *Ynet*. "I have young children and the day there is a stronger earthquake, my building will collapse. **The building is not stable, we don't have a bomb shelter, and we don't have anywhere to run to.** I live on the third floor and I will not manage to escape with my children - the only thing we'll manage to do is stand in the stairwell."

Another **resident, who has lived in Tiberias for 29 years, has slept outside since the first earthquake,** on Saturday night. "We went down to the courtyard at night and I slept here together with my husband, who is on pension," she told *Ynet*. "We sat in the rain, we slept outside at night. It was scary. You can't sleep, you wake up at three in the morning."

**"There are a lot of cracks in the building, and we are afraid that what happened in Holon will happen here.** There are cracks in the wall, and if there is an earthquake that's a 6 or 6.5, G-d forbid, part of the building will fall - it's crooked anyways."

Boaz Yosef, chairman of the committee in charge of Tiberias, told *Ynet*: "Kiryat Moshe is the most dangerous neighborhood in the city when it comes to earthquakes. The neighborhood has about 60 buildings that if there is an earthquake - they will fall first. **The buildings were constructed by initiative of the Housing Ministry, who did not examine [the location] 50 years ago, and built an entire neighborhood on the Syrian-African rift.** Today no one would have approved such a building."

The Tiberias municipality, for its part, has pointed a finger at the State, demanding it take responsibility for reinforcing the buildings.

"These buildings were constructed on the State's initiative, so it should take responsibility for them. From my acquaintance with the residents, they cannot afford such an expense. In the state of Tel Aviv, there wouldn't be a problem - they would evacuate the buildings and reconstruct them, compensate the residents, and add apartments. But in Tiberias,



and especially in this neighborhood, such a process is not economically worthwhile."

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/321029>

## San Francisco targeted with antisemitic messages

*Pacific Heights neighborhood in San Francisco, California becomes latest area to be targeted with antisemitic flyers in recent months.*

*Israel National News 24.01.22 21:59*

**The Pacific Heights neighborhood in San Francisco, California became the latest area to be pamphleted with antisemitic flyers, which were found over the weekend.**

As was the case in [multiple other recent incidents](#), the flyers were found in plastic bags, in this case weighed down with rice to keep them from blowing away.

**Similar flyers, weighed down with rocks, were discovered in Miami Beach and Surfside**, Florida on Sunday.

According to *Fox KTVU*, the flyers found in Pacific Heights, a wealthy enclave, are being investigated by police. In each case, the flyers blamed the Jewish community for the pandemic. "It instills a certain amount of fear in the community when you have people walking through your neighborhood distributing this kind of garbage and promoting a very extreme ideology,"

ADL San Francisco regional director Seth Brysk calls **the leaflets "unnerving," adding that it was part of a trend of growing antisemitism across** the US.

"It instills a certain amount of fear in the community when you have people walking through your neighborhood distributing this kind of garbage and promoting a very extreme ideology," he told the news outlet.

Brysk said that the same group behind [previous distributions of antisemitic flyers](#) in Beverly Hills and Pasadena, California was behind the incident. <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/321059>

## Watch: Biden caught insulting Fox News reporter on hot mic

*Biden caught on live microphone calling Fox News journalist a "stupid son of a b\*\*h".*

*Elad Benari 25.01.22 03:13*

**US President Joe Biden was caught on a live microphone Monday calling a Fox News journalist a "stupid son of a b\*\*h" on the sidelines of a White House photo op, AFP reported.**

**The incident occurred as journalists were leaving the room after the event. Peter Doocy, a reporter from Fox News asked whether inflation is a political liability.**

Biden, possibly unaware that his microphone was still on, began by deadpanning, "It's a great asset. More inflation." He then muttered, "What a stupid son of a b\*\*h."

A pool reporter who was in the room at the time admitted to not being able to hear what Biden actually said over the noise.

Doocy shrugged the insult off in a later interview on *Fox*, saying, "Yeah, nobody has fact-checked him yet and said it's not true."

Biden has had several run ins with reporters in his year in office. Last June, [Biden snapped](#) at *CNN* reporter Kaitlan Collins for asking, "Why are you so confident (Putin) will change his behavior, Mr. President?"

Biden turned back and responded, "I'm not confident I'm going to change his behavior. What the hell? What do you do all the time?"

The President [later apologized](#) for the incident.

In August, [Biden sparred with a reporter](#) who asked him questions about the controversial US withdrawal Afghanistan.

In October, the President [did not take well](#) to a reporter asking him why he wasn't able to "unite the party." <https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/321067>

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