



JEWISH WAR VETERANS

of the United States of America

Valley of the Sun -- Post 194

Phoenix, Arizona

December 2017

COMMANDER

Michael Halperin

602-973-7682

SR. VICE COMMANDER

David Wacknov

602-274-5959

JR. VICE COMMANDER

Lenore Katz

602-957-9311

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Jerry Beck

602-264-2325

ADJUTANT

Vacant

QUARTERMASTER

Nelson Magedman

623-556-1217

CHAPLAIN

David Wacknov

602-274-5959

OFFICER OF THE DAY

Vacant

POST SURGEON

Lenore Katz

602-957-9311

EDITOR NEWSLETTER

Nelson Magedman

623-556-1217

TRUSTEES

Ben Cypress (1 year)

480-391-9724

Mark Kutnick (2 year)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

by Michael Halperin

Well, it is that time of the year to wish the membership and their family a very happy and prosperous new year. It is also that time of the year when we set our new resolutions for the coming year. I suggest the following resolutions to be added to your list. First, I will attend to coming to the Post meeting more often. There are only ten meetings and they are on Sunday morning and I can eat my breakfast at the meeting. Secondly, I will help the Post to raise money to support our veterans projects. Thirdly, I will join a committee when asked to do so. Fourth, I will run for an office so that those who have held office over and over again will have a respite from holding an office. Finally, I will bring into the organization at least one new member. I know that these are hard resolutions to follow. But, we need more participation from our membership to maintain this Post. In 2017 we gained a few new members, but unfortunately, we lost a few good members too. I wish to thank all those members who have generously given their time to support this Post.

A Day that Will Live in Infamy

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise military strike by the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service against the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Territory, on the morning of December 7, 1941. The attack, also known as the Battle of Pearl Harbor, led to the United States' entry into World War II. The Japanese military leadership referred to the attack as the Hawaii Operation and Operation AI, and as Operation Z during its planning.

The Japanese Strike

At 7:55 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 7, the first wave of Japanese fighter planes struck; the second wave of attackers would come 45 minutes later. In a little under two hours, 2,335 U.S. servicemen were killed and 1,143 were wounded. Sixty-eight civilians were also killed and 35 were wounded. The Japanese lost 65 men, with an additional soldier being captured. The Japanese had two major objectives: Sink America's aircraft carriers

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The Fiscal Year for donations is July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.
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Nelson S. Magedman, PDC
Quartermaster Post 194
18007 N. 129th Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375

New donations must be received by the 10th of the month to be included in the next issue.

December

Birthdays



5 Steven Parker
11 Philip J. Adelman
17 Elvin S. Zieder
20 Michael D. Halperin
22 Allen R. Honig

Anniversaries



None on file

and destroy its fleet of fighter planes. By chance, all three U.S. aircraft carriers were out to sea. Instead, the Japanese focused on the Navy's eight battleships at Pearl Harbor, all of which were named after American states: Arizona, California, Maryland, Nevada, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

Japan also targeted nearby Army airfields at Hickam Field, Wheeler Field, Bellows Field, Ewa Field, Schoefield Barracks, and Kaneohe Naval Air Station. Many of the U.S. airplanes were lined up outside, along with the airstrips, wingtip to wingtip, in order to avoid sabotage. Unfortunately, that made them easy targets for the Japanese attackers. Caught unawares, U.S. troops and commanders scrambled to get planes in the air and ships out of the harbor, but they were able to muster only a feeble defense, largely from the ground.

The Aftermath

All eight U.S. battleships were either sunk or damaged during the attack. Amazingly, all but two (the Arizona and the Oklahoma) were eventually able to return to active duty. The Arizona exploded when a bomb breached its forward magazine (the ammunition room). Approximately 1,100 U.S. servicemen died on board. After being torpedoed, the Oklahoma listed so badly that it turned upside down.

During the attack, the Nevada left its berth in Battleship Row and tried to make it to the harbor entrance.

After being repeatedly attacked on its way, the Nevada beached itself. To aid their airplanes, the Japanese sent in five midget subs to help target the battleships. The Americans sunk four of the midget subs and captured the fifth. In all, nearly 20 American naval vessels and about 300 aircraft were damaged or destroyed in the attack.

The U.S. Declares War

The day following the attack on Pearl Harbor, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed a joint session of Congress, seeking a declaration of war against Japan. In what would become one of his most memorable speeches, Roosevelt declared that Dec. 7, 1941, would be "a date that will live in infamy." Only one legislator, Rep. Jeanette Rankin of Montana, voted against the declaration of war. On Dec. 8, Japan officially declared war against the U.S., and three days later, Germany followed suit. World War II had begun.

General Pearl Harbor Facts :

The attack on Pearl Harbor occurred on December 7, 1941. The Japanese attacked the United States without warning. The attack lasted 110 minutes, from 7:55 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. A total of 2,335 U.S. servicemen were killed and 1,143 were wounded.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

High Tech Dreidel Operator's Manual

You are now the proud owner of a high-quality, state of the art "Dreidel" which can make you a winner! A multi-faceted, interactive educational and entertainment micro-system, the versatile Dreidel utilizes maximum kinetic transfer technology, putting years of wondrous experience at your fingertips.

Rapidly rotating on its axis, the Dreidel is driven by centrifugal forces that defy gravitational pull. The Dreidel operates efficiently on renewable energy sources at high, medium and low speeds. Velocity and RPM levels are adjusted by the flick of a finger. Perfectly balanced and precision engineered, the Dreidel is virtually maintenance free. It has no moving parts, and no batteries or upgrades are required.

TO USE: Hold joystick-like handle in upright position, using thumb and forefinger to accelerate. Best when operated on smooth surfaces with low coefficient of friction. Device may appear stationary, but sound indicates Dreidel is in use.

After completing its spinning mode, the Dreidel reaches its turning point and begins to gyrate, displaying various conic sections as it decelerates. Dreidel will then shut down automatically. Quick turnaround time allows Dreidel to be used repeatedly. Follow instruction code indicated above and restart.

WARNING: Playing with children under the age of eight may cause loss of money!

Xmas vs. Chanukah

Now, if anyone asks you what the difference is between Xmas and Chanukah, you will know what and how to answer!

1. Xmas is one day, same day every year, December 25.

Jews also love December 25th. It's another paid day off work. We go to movies and out for Chinese food and Israeli dancing. Chanukah is 8 days. It starts the evening of the 24th of Kislev, whenever that falls. No one is ever sure.

Jews never know until a non-Jewish friend asks when Chanukah starts, forcing us to consult a calendar so we don't look like idiots. We all have the same calendar, provided free with a donation from the World Jewish Congress, the kosher butcher, or the local Sinai Memorial Chapel (especially in Florida) or other Jewish funeral home.

2. Christmas is a major holiday. Chanukah is a minor holiday with the same theme as most Jewish holidays. They tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat.

3. Christians get wonderful presents such as jewelry, perfume, stereos...

Jews get practical presents such as underwear, socks, or the collected works of the Rambam, which looks impressive on the bookshelf.

4. There is only one way to spell Christmas.

No one can decide how to spell C h a n u k a h , C h a n u k k a h , Chanukka, hannukah, Hanukah, Hannukah, etc, so even if you are an illiterate klutz you can't go wrong.

5. Christmas is a time of great pressure for husbands and

boyfriends. Their partners expect special gifts.

Jewish men are relieved of that burden. No one expects a diamond ring on Chanukah.

6. Christmas brings enormous electric bills.

Candles are used for Chanukah. Not only are we spared enormous electric bills, but we get to feel good about not contributing to the energy crisis.

7. Christmas carols are beautiful...Silent Night, Come All Ye Faithful....

Chanukah songs are about dreidels made from clay or having a party and dancing the hora. Of course, we are secretly pleased that many of the beautiful carols were composed and written by our tribal brethren. And don't Barbara Streisand and Neil Diamond sing them beautifully?

8. A home preparing for Christmas smells wonderful from sweet smell of cookies and cakes baking.

A home preparing for Chanukah smells of oil, potatoes, and onions. Jews burn their eyes and cut their hands grating potatoes and onions for latkes on Chanukah. Another reminder of our suffering through the ages. Unless of course you are in Israel where they celebrate by eating inedible cherry donuts call suf-ganiot.

9. Parents deliver presents to their children during Christmas. Jewish parents have no qualms about withholding a gift on any of the eight nights.

10. The players in the Christmas story have easy to pronounce names such as Mary and Joseph.

The players in the Chanukah story are Antiochus, Judah Mac-

cabee, and Matta-whatever. No one can spell it or pronounce it. On the plus side, we can tell our friends anything and they believe we are wonderfully versed in our history.

11. In recent years, Christmas has become more and more commercialized.

We save money on Chanukah, less gifts to buy, less to return, less junk to deal with, easier to sleep with.

Better to stick with Chanukah!

Chanukah Gelt

It was two days before Chanukah and Mr. Feldman, quite downcast, was trudging home. "Where will I get money to buy presents for the holiday?" he asked himself sadly, thinking of his wife and children. On the way, he passed a church, in front of which was a sign: Five Hundred Dollars Cash To Anyone Who Joins This Church Today!

Here was the solution to Feldman's problem! He went in, joined, and was given the five hundred dollars as the sign promised. That evening, at supper, he told his family how he had come by his sudden wealth. "And here's the money," he announced grandly, waving the money before them.

"Darling," said his wife, "you remember that coat you promised me three years ago? Well it's on sale at Macy's."

"How much is it?"

"Only a two hundred and fifty dollars, and it's worth at least three hundred and fifty."

Feldman peeled off five fifties and gave them to her. The son spoke up. "Pop, for a long time I've been saving up to buy one of

the money, but I need a little more."

"How much more?"

"One hundred and fifty dollars."

Feldman handed over the money.

"Daddy," said his teen age daughter, "next week our school is having the most important dance of the whole year. If I don't have a new dress,

I'll simply die."

"Don't die Sweetheart. How much is the dress?"

"Only a hundred dollars, Daddy dear."

Feldman handed over the remaining twenty five dollars, leaned back and grinned. "It never fails," he announced. "The minute we Gentiles have a little money, you Jews take it away from us!"

Hanukkah Holiday



Hanukkah is a Jewish Holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar. It is also known as the Festival of Lights and the Feast of Dedication.

In recent years, the menorah has become a universal symbol of religious freedom and the

power of even a small light to illuminate the darkest of nights. But what does it take for a series of candles to actually be considered a menorah? It turns out that after meeting a few basic requirements, not very much. The flames (no lightbulbs, please!) must be arranged in a straight line and at the same height (save for the "shamash" used to light the eight candles), the flames must burn for at least half an hour after nightfall, and the menorah itself must be no taller than 32 or so feet. Beyond that, though, menorahs can be as beautiful and diverse as the communities that make them.

Veterans Administration News

Phoenix

A 33-year-old man took his own life at the Phoenix Veterans Affairs medical center. The VA says the man fatally shot himself outside the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center on Friday morning. The man was in a secluded area and nobody else was injured. Two years ago, a veteran killed himself in the parking lot of a different VA office in Phoenix.

A New Billboard

A new billboard decrying the care veterans receive went up near the Phoenix VA Health Care System Monday. The message? "VA is LYING! Veterans are DYING!"

The billboard is located on Indian School Road near Eighth Street. It's a strategic location. The Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center is at 650 E. Indian School Road.

The VA scandal blew up na-

guarantee that such efforts will work in the Marine Corps," he said. "That is why we have chosen to pursue our own internal studies, rather than risking a premature leap to operational usage."

The assessment period of at least five years means no currently serving Marine will face career repercussions as a result of taking the test upon re-enlistment, officials said.

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Two days after findings by that audit were released, the FBI opened a criminal investigation. A White House investigation found "significant and chronic system failures," as well as a "corrosive culture" in the VA.

Army veteran Ron Nesler of Harmony, IN is behind the VA is LYING Facebook group, which sponsored the billboard.

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"The VA is LYING group was founded because we believe that U.S. military veterans are America's most noble and deserving citizens, and that veterans are owed respect, honesty and safe health care from VA, as promised to us when we served," Nesler said. "We contend that VA is wildly corrupt and is currently operated for the profit and luxury of VA employees, VA contractors and certain corrupt politicians. We hold that every member of Congress knows this.

"Our group's purpose is to raise public awareness of the corruption at VA, and thereby to force Congress and VA officials to clean things up," he continued. "Many of us support shutting down VA health care completely and issuing veterans a Medicare-style health care card with no co-pays and a prescription benefit, very similar to what members of Congress have."

The new Phoenix billboard is not the only one of its kind.

"They've been popping up nationwide," VA whistleblower Brandon Coleman said. "This is for the veterans that are no longer able to speak."

The goal is accountability, according to Coleman. A Marine vet, Coleman used to be an addiction therapist at the hospital. "Accountability goes all the way to the top, from janitors and food service workers up to directors," he said. "When directors break the law such as they're doing here, they need to be held accountable just like everyone else."

The money for the "VA is LYING" billboards in Phoenix and other cities came from a crowdfunding campaign. "The proceeds that brought this billboard about were primarily raised by Phoenix VA employees who were too scared to speak out for fear of being retaliated against, however, they're donating on the Go Fund Me page," Coleman explained.

The campaign has raised more than \$30,000 in nine months. "We were able to raise enough money to put the billboard so the administrators at the Phoenix VA could see it every day when they walk into their office to know that we're not going anywhere until we can bring accountability to ground zero," Coleman said. "Phoenix is ground zero with everything going on with the VA." In coming forward about the deep-seated issues at the VA, whistleblowers like Coleman have had to face potential reprisal.

Last month, a Senate committee held a hearing, the second of its kind, to deal with the culture of whistleblower retaliation at the

VA.

Coleman testified. "I came forward because suicidal veterans were walking out of the hospital," he said before his September trip.

In May, Thomas Murphy took his own life on the property of the Phoenix VA administrative offices.

"Thanks for nothing VA," Murphy wrote in his suicide note. He blamed the VA for doing nothing to help him with his chronic pain and said the VA wanted to take away the pain medication he was receiving.

"I believe it was a symbolic act and that he did it because he would want us to talk about it," Coleman said two weeks later. He mentioned Murphy's death and his suicide note when talking about the new billboard.

Israel Vows to Protect Borders

Kuwaiti newspaper Al Jarida revealed on Sunday that an Israeli source disclosed a promise from Jerusalem to destroy all Iranian facilities within 40 kilometers (25 miles) of Israel's Golan Heights.

The source, who remains unnamed, said that during Syrian President Bashar Assad's surprise visit to Russia last week, Assad gave Russian Premier Vladimir Putin a message for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: Damascus will agree to a demilitarized zone of up to 40 kilometers from the border in the Golan Heights as part of a comprehensive agreement between the two countries, but only if Israel does not work to remove Assad's regime from power.

The report also claims that Putin then called Netanyahu to

relay the message, and that the Israeli prime minister said he would be willing to accept the deal, but that Israel's goal of eradicating Iran and Hezbollah from the country would remain.

According to the source, Jerusalem sees Assad as the last president of the Alawite community, indicating that a change of regime in Syria - at least towards a government less-linked to Iran - would be favorable for Israel. The Alawites are a minority Shi'ite community in Syria, and have long been supported by Iran, which seeks to extend its influence from the Gulf across the region to the Mediterranean.

The source also commented that after the defeat of the Islamic State, the conflict in Syria would become "more difficult," likely pointing towards a vacuum that would be left without the group. Russian, Syrian and Iranian-backed forces have been fighting against ISIS, while also seeking to knock out rebel groups that oppose the current regime. Russia's stated interests have been in line with Iran's in wanting to keep Assad in power.

Israel has participated mostly on the periphery of the war in Syria, responding to fire on the northern border and occasionally bombing positions, including a weapons depot and scientific research center that allegedly produces chemical weapons. Damascus and Jerusalem have exchanged heated remarks as well, with Netanyahu threatening to bomb Assad's palace, and Syrian officials warning of "dangerous repercussions" to Israeli strikes on Syrian targets.

Over the course of the war, Israel has operated several field

hospitals near the Syrian border, where those injured from the war are treated and subsequently returned to Syria. Some of those who have been treated have been rebels fighting against the Assad regime, leading some to say that Israel is assisting the rebels to unseat Assad.

Saudi anti-terrorism summit panned on social media

Palestinians and Arabs on social media have reacted with anger after a newly formed, self-proclaimed anti-terrorism coalition opened their first meeting in Riyadh with a video that included a scene of a Palestinian fighting Israeli occupation forces.

Monday's summit of the Islamic Coalition Against Terrorism was attended by representatives from 41 Muslim countries and was led by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

It is unclear whether the inclusion of the clip was deliberate.

People on social media characterized the incident as a form of Arab "normalisation" with the Israeli occupation, at the expense of Palestinians.

The image of the Palestinian dates back to 2001, during the second Palestinian uprising (intifada) against the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Social media lit up after the video presentation, with many Palestinians and Arabs showing their discontent on Twitter about the usage of the image.

Iron Dome goes nautical

Israel's military has for the first time deployed its Iron Dome

rocket defense system aboard a ship.

Head of the Weapons Department in the Israeli Navy Col. Ziv Barak said the system will defend Israel's ships and "strategic assets" at sea, like its offshore gas platforms, and is now operational.

The announcement Monday came after the military said it had successfully tested the system in an exercise where "projectiles that simulated existing threats in the region" were intercepted.

Its deployment on ships stems from lessons learned from the 2014 Gaza war and is part of Israel's multi-layer rocket and missile defense system.

The Israel army's naval Iron Dome was declared operational Monday evening, the IDF spokesperson's unit announced.

The Tamir-Adir system was declared operational after a final test where Grad rockets were fired in both single shots and in barrages at the INS Lahav Sa'ar 5 corvette as well as towards Israel's offshore gas rigs, scenarios envisioned in future conflicts with Hamas or Hezbollah.

During the test the navy took an Iron Dome launcher and placed it on the helipad of the ship and connected it to the ship's radar. The naval Iron Dome uses the Tamir interceptor missile which was developed for the Iron Dome as well as the Adir radar used in the Arrow system.

In the experiment all the rockets fired were intercepted by the system.

Designed to shoot down short-range rockets, the Iron Dome is able to calculate when rockets will land in open areas, choosing not to intercept them, or towards

civilian centers. It went into service in April 2011 and has since been used during two military operations against Hamas, intercepted roughly 85 percent of projectiles fired towards Israeli civilian centers since its first deployment.

The IDF believes that Hezbollah has long-range missiles which can hit the country's gas rigs, which supply a large amount of the electricity consumed in Israel. And while the threat posed by Hezbollah on Israel's northern border remains the main focus of the Navy and the IDF in general, the threat on Israel's border with Gaza remains just as real.

Financial Aid for War Era Veterans and Surviving Spouses Aid & Attendance Benefit

Wartime veterans and their surviving spouses, 65 years and older, may be entitled to a tax-free benefit called Aid and Attendance provided by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

The Benefit is designed to provide financial aid to help offset the cost of long-term care for those who need assistance with the daily activities of living such as bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, and transferring.

American Veterans Aid, a private company, is dedicated to helping war era veterans and their surviving spouses receive this Benefit which they so deserve.

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The Aid & Attendance Benefit provides benefits for veterans and their surviving spouses who require the regular attendance of

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Call (877) 427-8065 now to see if you qualify!

MARINE CORPS WANTS 'TOXIC LEADERSHIP TEST' TO AID PROMOTION DECISIONS

The Marine Corps wants better enlisted leaders -- and it's on the hunt for a diagnostic tool that can help find them. In October, the service published a request for information regarding an emotional intelligence test that can identify "career Marines who may develop into ineffective or counterproductive leaders."

Officials said the Corps plans to use such a tool during a study period of at least five years, beginning in June 2018, to determine if it can help the service root out problem leaders

"In his 'Message to the Force 2017,' [Commandant Gen. Robert Neller] stated that main-

guarantee that such efforts will work in the Marine Corps," he said. "That is why we have chosen to pursue our own internal studies, rather than risking a premature leap to operational usage."

The assessment period of at least five years means no currently serving Marine will face career repercussions as a result of taking the test upon re-enlistment, officials said.

Data in the study period won't be used for assignment or promotion purposes. But, a Marine Corps manpower official said, if the effort is successful and the test is adopted as part of the leadership screening process, the data may be used to "better align people and positions to ensure the greatest opportunities for success."

Timing -- ensuring a Marine gets the right job at the right point in his or her career -- is also a focus, the official said.

While officials cited Neller's goals for the force rather than any specific event, the announcement does come in the wake of a scandal involving multiple allegations of hazing by Marine Corps drill instructors at Parris Island, South Carolina.

Earlier this month, the drill instructor facing the most severe allegations of misconduct, Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Felix, was convicted of hazing three Muslim recruits and assaulting others during his year on the drill field. He was sentenced at general court-martial to 10 years' confinement and a dishonorable discharge.

The Corps is planning a "methodical and deliberate approach" in studying the possibility

of using a tool like a toxic leadership test, officials said.

No operational changes are planned ahead of data collection.

Transgender People Can Enlist in the Military

A federal judge ruled that the government must allow transgender people to enlist in the military beginning on January 1, 2018.

The order came after the government asked Washington D.C. District Court Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly if it could push back the January 1 enlistment date, which was established under President Obama.

Last month, Kotar-Kelly issued a preliminary injunction that blocked the Trump Administration's plans to exclude transgender people from the military. She said the government had offered no solid evidence that showed why the ban was necessary.

"This is an important clarification because it means the military can't do an end run around the judge's decision," said Jennifer Levi, of the GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders, or GLAD, said about Monday's order.

2018 military pay raise is the biggest in eight years, but how generous is it?

WASHINGTON — Congressional lawmakers are boasting that the recently passed fiscal 2018 defense authorization bill has the largest pay raise for troops in the past eight years.

But that has less to do with newfound generosity among lawmakers and more to do with the expected rise in civilian wages

next year.

Included in the massive budget bill, finalized by the Senate Nov. 16 and expected to be signed into law by President Donald Trump in coming days, is a 2.4 percent pay raise for service members starting Jan. 1.

It's only the second time since 2010 that the pay raise has topped 2 percent (it was 2.1 percent last January) and was a point of pride among congressional leaders who backed the bill.

The mark is 0.3 percent above what President Donald Trump and the Pentagon had requested. It translates into about a \$680 annual boost from 2017 pay for younger enlisted ranks, and about \$1,080 a year for more senior enlisted and junior officers. A mid-career officer will see almost \$2,000 a year extra under the plan.

New rules on sexual assault and harassment

WASHINGTON — Amid a national conversation on sexual assault and harassment, Congress is pushing military leaders to enact a host of new rules designed to protect victims and curb inappropriate behavior in the ranks.

The moves, included in the annual defense authorization bill, build off of similar congressional efforts in recent years, which critics have said don't go far enough to address cultural problems in the ranks.

The most well-known change in the budget bill are provisions that outlaw "the non-consensual sharing of of intimate images" by service members.

Egypt pressures PA to renew negotiations with Israel

PA official: Egyptian pressure has significantly increased following attack in Sinai on Friday.

Egypt and other moderate Arab countries in the region are pressing Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas to return to negotiations with Israel, Israel Hayom reported.

A senior Egyptian official told the newspaper that Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Persian Gulf countries are interested in creating a front aimed at dealing with the common terror threats in the region.

A senior official in Abbas' office in Ramallah confirmed to Israel Hayom that "the PA is under tremendous pressure from countries in the region to return to the negotiating table with Israel and to fully and comprehensively renew security coordination with Israel, in an attempt to create a regional front in the fight against terror and Iranian influence in the region."

According to the PA official, the pressure exerted by Egypt on Abbas to renew security coordination immediately with Israel has increased significantly in light of the attack in Sinai on Friday, and the Egyptian security establishment's suspicion that some of the perpetrators of the attack and other wanted persons in Sinai have fled to Gaza through Hamas smuggling tunnels in Rafiah with the knowledge of senior members of the organization.

Australian rabbi denies report he does not feel safe there

An Australian rabbi has denied a report saying he does not feel safe in his country.

Rabbi Shmueli Feldman, a fourth-generation Australian, made the remarks about his safety to The New York Times in the wake of a report released Sunday finding a 9 percent increase in anti-Semitic incidents over the past year, as well as personal incidents.

The annual report also found a nearly 20 percent rise in incidents over the past two years.

While Feldman in an interview with JTA refuted The Times report, the Chabad rabbi also said he dreads another attack on his suburban Canberra home by a group of young white Australians and "I feel currently a lot less safe in our own home for the first time ever."

His family's experience was highlighted in the report on anti-Semitism in Australia released by The Executive Council of Australian Jewry. The report said there were 230 incidents in Australia through Sept. 30.

On Sukkot this year, as the rabbi, his wife and five children sat in their sukkah in the late afternoon, passengers in a car that approached their home screamed anti-Semitic epithets. The car sped off well ahead of the police's arrival, but a surveillance camera installed by the rabbi captured the license plate number.

"The police interviewed the driver who said it was his passengers who had been screaming the hate, but he refused to comply with the police's request to identify them," Feldman told JTA.

"Laws must be tougher. The

police should have been able to get the information from the driver. They told me they had done everything they could."

The Feldman family, which reportedly was traumatized by the incident, had experienced others.

"Rocks and eggs are regularly thrown at our home and the Chabad center," the rabbi told JTA. "It's not safe for our children to play in our garden. We see incidents at our home or the center around every three weeks."

Feldman recalled strolling through a Canberra mall with his 5-year-old daughter when two men yelled at her in Arabic, which the rabbi understands, "You filthy Jewish slut."

Still, the rabbi denies saying he doesn't feel safe in Australia, which the international media have reported.

"I think we're lucky to live in Australia," he told JTA. "Our political leaders and law enforcement officers condemn hatred and anti-Semitism. However, with people still at large who have targeted my home and my family, including five little children, I feel currently a lot less safe in our own home for the first time ever."

Feldman said he is hoping to see tougher laws to combat racism, giving the police the power to stem the tide of rising anti-Semitism.

The Editor & Staff of this Post's newsletter wishes all our members and their families a very Happy New Year. The same goes for those non-members who placed ads in our newsletter and those who donated to us on behalf of vets.

SINAI MORTUARY



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Raymond Perlman, Director – Johnathan Perlman, Director

602-242-0030

4538 North Sixteenth Street

Phoenix, Arizona

Syrian Hospital Have Been Bombed

Last year, Al Jazeera reporter Amro Halabi was covering the aftermath of a chemical attack in Aleppo. Once the emergency room filled up, the hospital was hit.

Targeting hospitals is the atrocity that started the Geneva Conventions 153 years ago and led to the creation of the Red Cross. It is the original war crime. Since 2011, there have been more than 450 attacks on Syrian hospitals.

Emergency medicine has been driven underground. Every neighborhood airstrike delivers too many patients with too little time. Doctors improvise with scavenged drugs and salvaged equipment. So many doctors have been killed, or have fled, that veterinarians and dentists are pressed to do surgery.

Samer Attar: You work with the understanding that you might find yourself dead, or crippled, or dismembered on the floor next to the people you're trying to save.

Dr. Samer Attar is a leading orthopedic surgeon from Chicago who volunteers in Syria's makeshift hospitals.

Samer Attar: The bombs would land so close they'd knock you off your feet. And at times, they would directly hit the hospital. But all I did was look around and follow everyone else's lead because they're like rocks. They don't lose their cool, they don't lose their composure. They just keep working.

Dr. Attar enlisted in the Syrian American Medical Society, which began in the 1990's as a

professional association. But, since the revolution, these American doctors have raised nearly \$100 million in aid and sent more than 100 members into rebel-held Syria, including Aleppo where Dr. Attar worked.

Samer Attar: We'd find ourselves doing surgeries, sometimes without anesthesia, on people lying on gurneys in the hallway, because you're just so over-stretched. I remember another child that was brought in. She couldn't have been more than five. Her whole body was pockmarked with shrapnel from her chest to her belly and one of the surgeons in Aleppo, a Syrian surgeon, heroically rushed her to the operating room, and opened up her belly, and stopped the bleeding in her liver. But she had lost so much blood. We can't. You can't give all of your blood to save one life if can you save it to give a little bit each to five who you know will make it. And I saw that all the time.

Scott Pelley: Did that little girl make it?

Samer Attar: That girl? No, she did not. Seeing little bodies wrapped in white shrouds -- with the cloth still bleeding, because the bodies still bleed. They'd be wrapped in white shrouds and just placed outside to be taken to be buried.

Explosion kills 4, collapses building in central Israel

JERUSALEM – Israeli police say an explosion in the port city of Jaffa killed four people and led to the collapse of a building.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld says Tuesday an investigation is under way to dis-

cover the cause of the large explosion late Monday. He says an emergency team discovered four people dead under the rubble. Five others were taken to a hospital.

Local media reports say the explosion took place at a store for construction material in the Ajami neighborhood of Jaffa, south of Tel Aviv, and was likely caused by an electrical short and gas leak. Local residents described a huge blast that led to initial fears of a militant attack. Large plumes of smoke billowed above the neighborhood before firefighters put out the blaze.

Photos of Pearl Harbor 1941





JEWISH WAR VETERANS

of the United States of America
Valley of the Sun — Post 194
18007 N. 129th Drive
Sun City West, AZ 85375

**DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE EXPEDITE
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE SERVED
PRIOR TO THE MEETING
BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.

DECEMBER 3, 2017
10:00 A.M.
THE MEETING WILL BE HELD
IN THE ARIZONA VETERANS
HOME CONFERENCE ROOM
4141 N.S. HERRERA WAY
3RD STREET NORTH OF INDIAN
SCHOOL ROAD

The Jewish War Veterans invites any qualified veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States of America to become a member in the oldest veterans organization in the Nation!
If you are not a qualified veteran, you may join as a Patron Member and support the organization. If you are on active duty, there is no requirement to pay dues. You have all the benefits of membership.