



Rabbinic Recap

The week ending July 24, 2015

IRAN

Verification Process in Iran Deal Is Questioned by Experts

The Obama administration's claim that the Iran nuclear accord provides for airtight verification procedures is coming under challenge from nuclear experts with long experience in monitoring Tehran's program. According to [The New York Times](#), several experts, including a former high-ranking official at the International Atomic Energy Agency, said a provision that gives Iran up to 24 days to grant access to inspectors might enable it to escape detection. David Albright, the president of the Institute for Science and International Security and a former weapons inspector in Iraq, said that three weeks might be ample time for the Iranians to dispose of any evidence of prohibited nuclear work. Among the possibilities, he said, were experiments with high explosives that could be used to trigger a nuclear weapon, or the construction of a small plant to make centrifuges. "If it is on a small scale, they may be able to clear it out in 24 days," Mr. Albright said in a telephone interview. "They are practiced at cheating. You can't count on them to make a mistake."

U.S. Public Disapproves of Iran Deal: Pew Research Center Poll

Americans are deeply skeptical of the deal struck last week between the P5+1 and Iran, according to a Pew Research Center poll released July 21. More Americans disapprove than approve of the proposed deal with Iran, which was announced last Tuesday. Among 79 percent of Americans who had heard about the deal, 48 percent disapprove while 38 percent approve (14 percent do not offer an opinion). Skepticism abounds over certain aspects of the agreement, namely the Iranian leadership's commitment to the terms of the deal. Of those familiar with the agreement, 35 percent have "not too much confidence" that the Iranian leaders will uphold their side of the deal, while 38 percent have "no confidence at all." Meanwhile, 42 percent say there will be little change in U.S.-Iranian relations as a result of the deal, and 28 percent believe relations will actually worsen. With regards to U.S. and international agencies' ability to monitor Iran's compliance, more than half of those familiar with the agreement are not confident in their ability. Only 11 percent of Americans have a great deal of confidence.

Israel Fears 'Major Escalation' by Iran-backed Terror Groups After Deal

Israel anticipates a "major escalation" of Iranian-backed terror attacks on its borders as a direct result of the nuclear agreement the U.S. and five additional world powers struck with Tehran, the Foreign Ministry's director-general Dore Gold said Wednesday evening, as reported by [The Times of Israel](#). Gold warned that "the moment that the funds become available from frozen accounts...that's when the Middle East goes south and things become extremely dangerous in the region." Saying that the release of \$150 billion of frozen funds would free Iran from having to choose which terror activities to support, Gold said Iranian troops and their proxies in the region "will have an ability to be everywhere simultaneously...we would expect a

major escalation of the insurgent and terror threat against the state of Israel, along most of our border[s]. And that's a direct result of removing sanctions and having this money that results from [it] go to Iran, first for Iran's own military buildup and secondly for Iranian surrogates, which surround the state of Israel." Gold also reiterated Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's assertion that the deal, reached earlier this month in Vienna, was a "bad agreement."

U.S. - ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

Ashton Carter Praises U.S.-Israel Relationship during Rec Visit to Israel

U.S. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter recently hailed the U.S.-Israel relationship during a July 20 meeting with his Israeli counterpart Moshe Ya'alon in Tel Aviv. Carter is the first Obama administration official to visit Israel following the announcement of the Iran nuclear agreement. During the meeting, Carter highlighted the years of close friendship between the U.S. and Israel and described Israel as a "critical friend" and "a critical ally." He also affirmed the Jewish state's qualitative military edge over its adversaries will be maintained. Ya'alon stressed how Israel "appreciates the relationship" with the U.S. and reinforced that "we share common interest and common values." Following Carter's meeting with Ya'alon, he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss the implications of the proposed Iran deal.

ISRAEL IN THE NEWS

Microsoft Buys Israeli Tech Company Adallom for \$320 Million

Software giant Microsoft has bought Israeli cloud security company Adallom for \$320 million, making it the largest acquisition made by the company in the country, according to [Ynet](#). Until now, Adallom has raised 50 million dollars from venture capital firms Sequoia Capital and Index Ventures, Zohar Zisapel, EMC Corporation and HP. According to estimates, Adallom is expected to serve as a basis for the establishment of Microsoft's cyber center in Israel. Adallom was founded in 2012 by three entrepreneurs, Assaf Rappaport, the CEO and graduate of the IDF's prestigious Talpiot program, Israeli Intelligence Corps' Unit 8200 and the special technical unit of the Intelligence Corps; Ami Luttwak, Chief Technology Officer, graduate of the Talpiot program and a senior software architect at Phonaris; and Roy Reznik, vice president of R&D, graduate of the Israeli Security Forces. Adallom can detect suspicious activity such as a one-time download of a large quantity of documents by an employee or lack of data overlap, (for example, a user in New York trying to connect to a particular network in Ukraine). Then it can perform a reconstruction of the system penetration and provide a layer of prevention against suspected users.