



Rabbinic Recap

The week ending April 1, 2016

IRAN

Exclusive: Iran missile tests were 'in defiance of U.N. resolution

By launching nuclear-capable missiles Iran has defied a United Nations Security Council resolution that endorsed last year's historic nuclear deal, the United States and its European allies said in a joint letter seen by [Reuters](#) on Tuesday. Iran's recent ballistic tests involved missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons and were "inconsistent with" and "in defiance of" council resolution 2231, adopted last July, said the joint U.S., British, French, German letter to Spain's U.N. Ambassador Roman Oyarzun Marchesi and U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon. The letter said the missiles used in the recent launches were "inherently capable of delivering nuclear weapons." It also asked that the Security Council discuss "appropriate responses" to Tehran's failure to comply with its obligations and urged Ban to report back on Iranian missile work inconsistent with 2231.

U.S. – ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

U.S. National Security Agency head paid secret visit to Israel

The head of the United States National Security Agency (NSA), Admiral Michael Rogers, was secretly in Israel last week for a working visit that dealt with forging closer cooperation in the cyber field with the Israel Defense Forces' Intelligence Corps Unit 8200, especially against attacks by Iran and Hezbollah, a senior Israeli official has told [Haaretz](#). A senior Israeli official noted that Rogers came to Israel as a guest of the commander of Unit 8200, but also met with senior officials from other Israeli intelligence agencies. The senior Israeli official noted that one of the subjects that Rogers discussed in Israel was cooperation in the field of cyber defense, particularly in the face of attacks from Iran and Hezbollah. A few days before Rogers' arrival in Israel, the U.S. Justice Department filed indictments for the first time against a group of Iranian hackers on charges of carrying out cyber-attacks on banks and essential infrastructure in the U.S. three years ago at the behest of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. Israel has also faced cyber-attacks from Iran and Hezbollah, which according to senior IDF officers were prominent during the fighting with Hamas and its allies in Gaza in the summer of 2014, but have risen in intensity in recent months. Cooperation between the NSA and Unit 8200 is deep, intimate and has been ongoing for decades.

ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS

Fatah holds girls' basketball cup in terrorist's honor

A Palestinian Authority school recently honored a female terrorist responsible for one of the worst terror attacks in Israel's history, naming a girls' basketball tournament after Dalal Mughrabi, who took part in the Coastal Road Massacre. In 1978, Mughrabi and several other

Fatah terrorists landed on a beach near Tel Aviv, hijacked a bus on Israel's Coastal Highway and eventually killed 38 civilians, 13 of them children, and wounded over 70. Over the years the terrorists, who died in a firefight with Israeli security forces, have been hailed as heroes by Fatah. Palestinian Media Watch reported that a Ramallah-area school for girls, Al-Awael, this month held the "Dalal Mughrabi Cup" in honor of the killer. According to [The Times of Israel](#), the cup was also co-organized by the Al-Razi Cultural and Social Association, a Palestinian NGO that works with the Anna Lindh Foundation to promote "intercultural dialogue" and "build trust and improve mutual understanding."

ISRAEL IN THE NEWS

Israel and China announce NIS 260 million academic cooperation

Israel and China have signed seven academic cooperation agreements with Chinese universities, it was announced Tuesday. The announcement comes as Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong is visiting Israel to co-host the second meeting of the China-Israel Joint Committee on Innovation Cooperation. The agreements include the establishment of joint Israeli-Chinese study institutes, as well as investments in student exchange programs. During her visit, Liu revealed that China and Israel had agreed to enter negotiations over the establishment of a free-trade zone, reports [The Times of Israel](#). "China is Israel's third-biggest trading partner and I believe there is great potential," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, standing next to Liu at the launch of the committee meeting in the Foreign Ministry's headquarters in Jerusalem. "China agreeing to start negotiations over a free-trade agreement is a significant statement and we're ready to start immediately." During her visit to Israel, Liu is expected to sign agreements that reach beyond trade and higher education, and will include cultural exchange, scientific and technological cooperation and healthcare. "Israel is an important country in the Middle East with its own distinct features and China takes Israel very seriously," she said.