

# This Week's Developments

June 13 - 19, 2021

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- Israel bombs Gaza in retaliation for Hamas balloons
- IDF strikes Syria in Bennett's first action in north
- Biden & Putin at Geneva summit but discord remains
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# Naftali Bennett: Israel's new Prime Minister

USA Today, June 14, 2021



Until recently, Naftali Bennett, the hard-charging, high-tech millionaire who has replaced Benjamin Netanyahu as Israel's prime minister, was perhaps best known for his inflammatory statements and extreme positions on the Palestinian conflict. He has vowed to do "everything" in his power to block Palestinian statehood, he supports annexing 60% of the West Bank, and he once espoused a "shoot to kill" policy on the Gaza border. Bennett will serve as prime minister for the next two years and then centrist leader Yair Lapid will take the position for the following two. His military background, in which he fought against Hezbollah in Lebanon in 1996, made him a defence hawk. Bennett has often advocated for targeted killings of Hamas leaders as well as his "lawn mower" doctrine, which essentially means destroying the organization by hunting down every Hamas commander in Gaza.

## COMMENT

Israel has a new prime minister – Naftali Bennett. Although he only won 4% of the vote he has done a deal where he is prime minister for 2 years and then he hands over to Lapid a more centrist (left wing) politician. Lapid's party advocates negotiation with the Palestinians and also a two state solution. His ideology is social liberalism. Bennett's ideology is national conservatism. In many ways he is more right wing than Netanyahu. So what does this all mean? Israel now has a prime minister whose outlook is that "the land" totally belongs to the Jewish people. He has total opposition to a Palestinian State. It is likely therefore he could act even stronger against Hamas and Hezbollah than Netanyahu – even though he is leading a divided government. Interestingly his first name Naftali (Naphtali) means to "wrestle". A wrestling is to come and Israel will prevail.

## BIBLE QUOTE

And Rachel said, With great wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali. A great wrestling is to come between Israel and the people "round about" her. Israel will prevail against this inner ring war and remove the pricking briars. Could Naphtali Bennett be the prime minister who achieves this? (Genesis 30:8)

# Israel bombs Gaza in retaliation for Hamas incendiary balloons

The Times, June 16, 2021



## EVENT

Israel's warplanes bombed Gaza this morning in response to the release of incendiary balloons from the territory, risking a return to fighting less than a month after a ceasefire came into effect. The Israel Defence Forces said they had struck military sites in Gaza City and the southern town of Khan Yunis. Palestinian media showed video of flames rising through the night sky. There were no immediate reports of civilian casualties. Inflammable balloons had been dispatched over the border fence yesterday, setting fire to dozens of fields inside Israel as a protest against a parade in East Jerusalem by far-right Israelis who shouted "Death to Arabs". Bennett's response will be watched closely in the White House, which has made little secret of its dislike of Netanyahu and his abrasive brand of politics, particularly since it was heavily endorsed by the former president Donald Trump. However, Bennett is also a deeply controversial figure.

## COMMENT

Within two days of Bennett being installed as Israel's new prime minister Hamas sent incendiary balloons into Israel. The choice of sending merely inflammable balloons suggests Hamas was not seeking a big confrontation on this occasion. However it was a test to see how Israel responded. Bennett authorised the bombing of Gaza. He is immediately showing that the slightest provocation will be dealt with, with a heavy hand. This is exactly what we would expect from his stance and his view of the Palestinians. A statement from the IDF said "Israel is prepared for any scenario including the resumption of warfare in the face of terrorist activities emanating from the Gaza Strip." Bennett has said he will not tolerate any violation of the ceasefire agreed on May 21. We know Hamas will be part of a confederacy against Israel – but Israel will prevail.

## BIBLE QUOTE

They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: ....Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah. (Psalm 83:4-8)

# IDF strikes Syrian army outpost in Bennett government's first action in north

Israel News, June 17, 2021



IDF DESTROYS SYRIAN OUTPOST USED BY HEZBOLLAH

**EVENT** Israeli military on Thursday allegedly struck and destroyed a Syrian army outpost in the first action carried out on the northern border by Prime Minister Naftali Bennett's government. Opposition groups in Syria reported that the attack took place near the Israel-Syria border in the Golan Heights. According to the IDF, local Hezbollah officials were seen over the past month in the outpost located near the Syrian border town of Quneitra. The officials are among those who appear to be in charge of the terror group's expansion in the region as part of its so-called "Golan Case". The strike came after Israel attacked in the Gaza Strip early Wednesday in retaliation for the launching of balloon bombs by terror groups in the Palestinian enclave throughout the day.

**COMMENT** So within just 4 days of becoming Israel's new prime minister Naftali Bennett has launched attacks on Gaza and Hezbollah outposts on Israel's northern border. Clearly Bennett wants to show despite the change in government and its perceived weakness as a coalition – Israel will not hesitate in using force. The inner ring war that comes before Russia invades is a war that Israel wins using force. This is very different to the Gogian invasion where Israel loses the war and Gog is destroyed by fire and earthquake. Zechariah 12 speaks of the initial inner ring war. It mentions “people round about” Israel. These people are Israel’s nearby / surrounding neighbours. Verse 6 tells us that the rulers (governors) of Judah will “devour all the people round about”. So it is Israel’s own military might that overcomes these people with fire. Jerusalem is then safely inhabited. It is a time of peace and safety. But into that void pours Russia....

**BIBLE QUOTE** In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem. God enables Israel to prevail against this initial inner ring war. (Zechariah 12:6)

# Biden and Putin praise Geneva summit talks but discord remains

BBC, June 18, 2021



## EVENT

The presidents of the US and Russia have praised their talks in Geneva but have made little concrete progress at the first such meeting since 2018. Disagreements were stated, said US President Joe Biden, but not in a hyperbolic way, and he said Russia did not want a new Cold War. Russian President Vladimir Putin said Mr Biden was an experienced statesman and the two "spoke the same language". The talks lasted four hours, less time than was scheduled. Mr Biden said they did not need to spend more time talking and there was now a genuine prospect to improve relations with Russia. The two sides agreed to begin a dialogue on nuclear arms control. They also said they would return ambassadors to each other's capitals - the envoys were mutually withdrawn for consultations in March, after the US accused Russia of meddling in the 2020 presidential election. However, there was little sign of agreement on other issues, including cyber-security, Ukraine and the fate of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who is currently serving a 2 ½ -year sentence in a penal colony. Mr Biden said there would be "devastating consequences" for Russia if Navalny died in prison.

## COMMENT

This summit was totally different to the Putin / Trump meeting in 2019. Back then there was a joint press conference with a lot of praise of Putin from Trump. This time Putin was meeting Biden. Both men appeared to avoid looking directly at each other during a brief and chaotic photo opportunity before a scrum of jostling reporters. There was no joint press conference afterwards and nothing concrete was actually agreed apart from saying they would continue to have dialogue on nuclear weapons. In Bible language we have witnessed a meeting of the king of the south and king of the north.

## BIBLE QUOTE

And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. King of the South – US/UK/ Saudi  
King of the North – Russia/Turkey / Iran They are adversaries. (Daniel 11:40)

# Horror acts of Iran's 'next president' Ebrahim 'The Butcher' Raisi

News.com.au, June 19, 2021



## EVENT

A notorious cleric poised to be named Iran's next leader **is a torturing killer who will spread terror and bloodshed across the world**, claim those who say they suffered at his hands. Ebrahim Raisi, 60, is the runaway favourite of seven contenders battling it out to replace sitting president Hassan Rouhani, 72, in an election due to be held today. The **hardliner allegedly ordered the torture of pregnant women, had prisoners thrown off cliffs, had people flogged with electric cords, and has overseen countless other brutal acts of violence.** The so-called "Butcher of 1988" is the favoured choice of the Islamic Republic's ruthless regime with the Iranian press now calling him the "unrivalled candidate". It's reported that he was a key member of the so-called "Death Commission", which **ordered thousands to be killed in the massacre of 1988.** As head of Iran's judiciary, the traditionalist cleric is a **close ally of the country's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenai**, whose confidence he has gained after holding key positions of power over four decades.

## COMMENT

Iran's hardline **candidate Ebrahim Raisi, the conservative head of the judiciary, has taken an unassailable lead in presidential election** after 90 percent of the votes were counted, the interior ministry said on Saturday. Raisi is a protégé of Supreme Leader Ali Hosseini Khamenei and **by any calculation is a monster** – someone behind torture and massacres in the past. He is now certain to be president of Iran. Asked about his foreign policy this week he said it "would be to **establish ties with every country except Israel.**" We know that Iran controls the "people round about" Israel. Ie Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestinians and some of Syria. The Bible says **Iran will act treacherously over a deal and this will cause labour pains** like a woman giving birth....

## BIBLE QUOTE

A grievous vision is declared unto me; the treacherous dealer dealeth treacherously, and the spoiler spoileth. Go up, O Elam [Iran]: besiege, O Media [Iran]; all the sighing thereof have I made to cease. Therefore are my loins filled with pain: pangs have taken hold upon me, as the pangs of a woman that travaileth: I was dismayed at the seeing of it.

(Isaiah 21:2-3)

# Israel Expects New War in Gaza in Weeks or Months

Israel Radar, June 18, 2021



## EVENT

Israel will face another war in Gaza within a few weeks or months, a senior defence official estimates. At the very least, the IDF and Hamas will engage in several days of significant fighting, the high-ranking source told N12 News. The remarks come after the IDF launched extensive strikes in Gaza Thursday night in response to arson balloon attacks on southern Israel. Air Force jets and drones targeted several Hamas military sites and rocket launching pits, the army said in a statement. Gaza's terror groups believe that another round of violence could boost their status as the defenders of Jerusalem. Moreover, engaging in two military clashes with Israel within months would be considered a stunning achievement. Moreover, defence officials believe that Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar is in a hawkish and messianic mood following the recent Gaza flareup, Lev-Ram reported.

## COMMENT

Reports from Israel say that Israel's new prime minister Naphtali Bennett is seeking to change the Gaza equation and end the constant friction. The IDF is also recommending a harder line and tougher policies against Hamas. As tensions rise again, IDF Chief Aviv Kochavi instructed the army this week to prepare for the resumption of military operations. We don't know when the inner ring war will start but it is interesting that within a week there has been a change of leader in Israel and Iran. Israel's leader is determined it seems to clamp down (one might even say stamp out) the Hamas issue. Iran's leader is determined it seems to have no relationship with Israel and who will work towards its destruction. The initial inner ring war may never have been closer....

## BIBLE QUOTE

And I will make thee unto this people a fenced brasen wall: and they shall fight against thee, but they shall not prevail against thee: for I am with thee to save thee and to deliver thee, saith the LORD. And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible.  
(Jeremiah 15:20-21)

## ADDITIONAL AND SUPPORTING ARTICLES

**DebkaFile Review** (world events through the bi-focals of Israeli military intelligence)

2021-06-18 Hamas Targets Israel with MORE Arson Balloon Attacks and IDF Responds - YouTube

2021-05-20 Israel Shoots Down IRANIAN Drone; Hamas Blindsided By Israel's Response

2021-05-20 Israeli Air Strikes on Hamas “Metro” Tunnel System in Gaza

2021-05-22 CEASEFIRE- As Hamas Regroups, Iran Preps for a Future War Against Israel

2021-05-15 UPDATE- Israel Destroys Gaza Tower Where Hamas Used Media as Human Shields - YouTube

2021-05-25 Did Israel Just Destroy an Iranian Attack Drone Factory - YouTube

2021-05-28 Israel's operation against Hamas was the world's first AI war - The Jerusalem Post      PDF version

2021-05-26 Hamas Has Made Its Goal Clear- DESTROY Israel. Is the Media Listening? - YouTube

2021-05-27 Hezbollah Leader Threatens Israel - with Regional War - Over Jerusalem - YouTube

2021-05-28 UN Hypocrisy EXPOSED as it Singles Out Israel for Gaza Casualties - YouTube

2021-05-21 Israel's Gaza war is like no other military operation in history – Opinion - The Jerusalem Post

2021-06-05 Will Iran Test a New Israeli Government? (Approx 11 minutes)