

Israel News Desk

With David Hoyle
November 2015

It is only 4 weeks since I wrote my last article but with the pace at which events are happening, even from day to day, it seems much longer.

Obviously the most significant and horrendous happenings of recent weeks was the carnage at the Bataclan concert hall in Paris and the events which accompanied it.

At first it does not seem to have a direct relationship to Israel but the concert hall was probably chosen for the slaughter that took place there because the Islamic terrorists thought it was Jewish owned.

The theatre was under Jewish ownership for 4 decades and only sold 2 months prior to the attack. Its owners Pascal and Joel Lalouse made aliyah to Israel in September but remain responsible for it until 2018. The theatre has hosted Jewish and Israeli events including a fund raising event for Migdal which supports Israel's border police. Last month it hosted 500 Zionist Christians showing their support for Israel. The theatre has previously received serious terror threats. Masked Palestinians had demanded its closure for fund raising for Israel and its defence forces (the IDF). The group warned of an attack if its demands were not met and 10 masked Arabs told a security guard they would pay the consequences for their actions. French security services were told in 2011 that the Bataclan would be attacked because its owners were Jews. The band playing at the theatre at the time of the attack had previously played in Tel Aviv, refusing to bow to the threats against them.

Elsewhere in Paris the wife of the Jewish owner at the bullet ridden La Belle Equipe Café died in her husband's arms. Her husband said, *"I was holding her hand in the full café, we couldn't revive her"*. The café has hung pictures of those that died in the attack on the windows.

Speaking after events in Paris Benjamin Netanyahu stated he stands *'shoulder to shoulder'* with French and all in the civilised world to unite to defeat the plague of global terrorism. Innocent people, he said, like in Paris, Madrid, Mumbai, Buenos Aires and Jerusalem are the victims of militant Islamic terrorism.

Yuri Edelstein the Knesset's speaker said, *"These attacks must be a wake up call to all countries in the free world and their leaders. Declare once and for all a right war on Muslim extremism"*.

Culture minister Miri Regev pointed out that the European Union had removed Hamas from its list of terrorist organisations!

6,500 Jews have left France for Israel and a further 1,500 are expected to leave before the year ends.

European Union Amid all this the EU spent (wasted) endless time deliberating about branding products from the West Bank settlements with warning labels. Mr Netanyahu said, *"We are not prepared to accept the fact that Europe labels the side being attacked by terror."* Those most affected by this labelling will be the ones importing wine, fruit and vegetables and the skin care firm Ahava, whom those who have been with me to Israel will have visited at the Dead Sea.

Let's respond to this by looking for Israeli goods in the supermarkets and by purchasing Ahava products on line (maybe from Amazon).

Palestinians have predictably blamed Israel for the Paris attacks. Fatah has suggested that Benjamin Netanyahu and Israel planned the massacre at the theatre, despite the fact that ISIS claimed responsibility. A Palestinian official said Mossad was behind the attacks.

Sweden Israel condemned as 'shockingly hostile' comments by Sweden's Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom that linked the Israeli – Palestinian conflict with the ISIS backed attacks in Paris. Israel's Foreign Ministry called her remarks 'appallingly impudent'. She demonstrates genuine hostility when she equates the attacks in Paris to the complex situation between Israel and the Palestinians.

Holocaust A new book on the Holocaust only contains one word 6,000,000 times! The title of the book is *'And Every Single One Was Someone'*. The writer wanted a different and meaningful way for his students (he was teaching) to relate to the holocaust. He definitely found it. The books ending is not revealed. The writer of the article from which I took this said, *"I don't want to give the ending away"*.

Boycott, Sanctions and Divestment Movement Liverpool Jewish Students Society has lost its fight against this anti Israel movement on the campus. By 1,479 vote to 934 the motion to boycott Israel was passed last week. The leader of the University Jewish Society said, "*The decision is racist and divisive*".

France A Jewish teacher in Marseilles was stabbed by a man wearing an Islamic State tee shirt. A local Jewish leader said, "*Islamic extremism is changing the Marseilles we used to know*". Our own country here is changing isn't it?!

Two State Solution Israel is a small country, about the size of Wales, and is expected by the international community to part with one third of its land, plus East Jerusalem as its capital city. A writer in the Jewish Telegraph says the land could then be ceded 'to rabid Jew hating Arabs who want to see the state of Israel gone forever and all the Jews with it'!

Milan Extra security has been put on Jewish sites in Milan after an Israeli Jew was knifed. He was walking near a Jewish school. The attacker escaped. A Jewish leader said we have never had this problem in Milan before.

Ethiopia |Israel has approved the entry of 9,000 Ethiopians who claim Jewish descent. These Ethiopians are known as Falash Mura and will be flown to Israel over 5 years. 135,000 Ethiopians are currently living in Israel.

The Bible The world's most important private library of Hebrew books is to be sold at Sothebys. It includes a Hebrew Bible from 1189, the only surviving Hebrew manuscript written before Jews were expelled from England in 1290.

Hebron 24 Israeli commandos, some wearing Palestinian head scarves and fake beards raided a Hebron hospital and shot dead one Palestinian before spiriting another away. The man restrained in a wheelchair was accused of stabbing an Israeli settler. The Israeli army said both men were members of Hamas.

Germany An 87 year old German woman dubbed '*Nazi Grandma*' was jailed in Hamburg for holocaust denial. She will go to prison for 10 months for stating, "The holocaust was the biggest and most sustainable lie in history and that Auschwitz was only a belief".

Jonathan Pollard Jailed 30 years ago in America for selling state secrets to Israel has been released from prison but his parole states he cannot leave America for 5 years! He has Israeli citizenship. Let's hope that when Obama leaves office they get a more humane president who will show him some mercy! After 30 years!!!

Luciana Berger who has suffered vile abuse over a lengthy period has criticised Twitter for its frustratingly slow response to anti Semitic abuse. She said she continues to this day to suffer abuse. She said she has protested to Twitter about one particular word but is told they can't stop it! They no doubt would if she was a Muslim.

Belgium has been described as a Jihadi nest at the heart of Europe. It is also at the centre of anti Semitism in Europe: 4 people were murdered in 2012 at the Jewish Museum in Brussels and Amed Coulibali killed 4 Jews in a Paris grocery store in January. These and other atrocities are linked to Molenbeek in western Brussels.

Labour Shadow Foreign Secretary Hilary Benn told Labour Friends of Israel that Labour's bonds with Israel are strong and deep. However no one at the Westminster lunch mentioned Jeremy Corbyn, who did not attend?!! It is beyond argument that Mr Corbyn is an anti Israel activist. Mr Benn stated one often ignored fact that, '*Israel is a hightech giant second only to the USA*'.

Spain A Spanish judge has issued a warrant for the arrest of Benjamin Netanyahu and other top Israeli officials for their part in the Gaza flotilla raid! Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs called this a provocation.

ISIS Israel's security forces have broken up a terror cell in Northern Israel, ISIS are everywhere.

German Protestants have acknowledged the anti Semitism of Martin Luther and pledged to confront the issue by the 500th anniversary of his death. They said, "The history of guilt cannot be ignored".

Hungary Thank God that Hungary have rejected the labelling of goods from Judea and Samaria, and have also closed their borders to Muslims stating they will only accept Christian refugees. Praise God that he is in control and will have the last word in world affairs. Praise the Lord He is coming back soon and that ultimately the Jewish people will bless the whole world. We owe them a debt of gratitude for our Bible, the Apostles and most of all our Jewish Saviour Messiah. Pray for Israel and the Jewish people and for their salvation and protection.

Breaking News is of yet more stabbings in Israel which show no sign of abatement. Also Mr Netanyahu has authorised 454 new flats in East Jerusalem.