

NEWS REVIEW



THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE BODY
OF NSW JEWRY

19 AUGUST 2011
19 AV 5771



New team at the Board

The 66th Annual General Meeting of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies took place on Tuesday, 16 August 2011. At the AGM, the following Executive was elected:

Honorary Officers

President:	Yair Miller
Vice Presidents:	Yaron Finkelstein, Jeremy Spinak
Hon. Secretary:	Roma Shell
Hon. Treasurer:	Sam Zweig

Executive Members:

Dikla Blum, Dr George Foster, Judi Hall,
Jeremy Jones AM, Uri Windt

Committee Chairs:

Shoah Remembrance:	Michael Jaku
Education:	Di Englander
Public Affairs:	Yaron Finkelstein
Non Government Relations:	Jeremy Spinak
Social Justice:	Professor Bettina Cass AO
Membership Development:	Kati Haworth

Our Executive team looks forward to another year of providing leadership and a respected voice on behalf of the NSW Jewry.

Israeli Arab journalist addresses the Board's AGM

Henry Benjamin | J-Wire | 17 August



A distinguished Arab Israeli journalist, Khaled Abu Toameh, addressed the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies' Annual General Meeting on Tuesday night.

The Board's president Yair Miller introduced Abu Toameh telling over 300 members of the community at the

standing room only meeting at Sydney's Central Synagogue that he brings a unique perspective on Palestinian society and the interaction between Israel and its Palestinian neighbours. [READ MORE](#)

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Combined terror attack in the south of Israel

BICOM Briefing | 18 August

Key points

- A combined terror attack took place today against Israeli vehicles near the Israeli-Egypt border. At least seven Israelis are reported to have been killed and dozens were injured in the attack.
- Several terrorist cells reportedly took part in the attack and it is still unknown whether all the terrorists have been killed.
- There has been a sharp deterioration in the security situation in the Sinai Peninsula over the past months. Egyptian forces have operated in Sinai in recent days against extensive terror activity that has been affiliated with Al-Qaeda and with terror groups emanating from Gaza.
- It is still unclear which organisation is responsible for today's attacks. Both Palestinian terror groups and organisations affiliated with Al-Qaeda are known to operate in the region. [READ MORE](#)

Australian Government condemns attacks in Southern Israel

Media Release | Dept of Foreign Affairs & Trade | 19 August

The Australian Government condemns in the strongest possible terms the terrorist attacks in southern Israel on 18 August.

These deplorable acts of violence have claimed innocent civilian lives, and undermine efforts towards peace and security in the region. They are indefensible.

Initial reports indicate that attacks by gunmen on an Israel bus near the Israel-Egypt border, and subsequent attacks on two other vehicles, have resulted in the loss of at least six lives.

"The Australian Government stands with the people of Israel against these brutal actions and calls for those responsible to be brought to justice," said Acting Foreign Minister Dr Craig Emerson.

The Australian Government's deepest condolences go to the families and friends of those killed and our hopes are with the injured for a full recovery.

Boycott the UN's racist farce

Editorial | The Australian | 19 August

Regardless of how badly it might set back the federal government's campaign for a seat on the UN Security Council, Australia has no alternative but to join other western nations in boycotting UNESCO's so-called anti-racism summit, Durban III, in New York next month. [READ MORE](#)

Hot chocolate a cure for those who ignore history

Prof Doug Kirsner | The Punch | 18 August

A militant campaign that singles out Israel alone in the world as worthy of boycott, divestment and sanctions has met with a surprising form of resistance. Michael Danby MP, the Member for Melbourne Ports, has been organizing these Hot Chocolate 'sit-ins' together with members of



the ALP leadership and other public figures such as Gerard Henderson and Jana Wendt.

Kevin Rudd and Michael Danby at the Max Brenner Chocolate Bar

Gerard Henderson explained the context in his Sydney Morning Herald column: 'Jews know acceptance still has its

exceptions when he pointed to the 1930s British Fascists' targeting and smashing up Jewish-owned shops in London's East End. [READ MORE](#)

The Greens oppose condemnation of Max Brenner Boycotts

Henry Benjamin | J-Wire | 18 August

When the Nationals Senator for Queensland Ron Boswell moved a motion in the Senate to condemn extremist groups and their calls for boycott of Max Brenner and all other Israeli companies, as well as to acknowledge the sovereignty of Israel, it was supported by Labor, the Independents and the Coalition.

Senator Ron Boswell



The Greens, however, requested that their opposition to a motion condemning the boycott and persecution of the Max Brenner chocolate stores be recorded in Hansard. [READ MORE](#)

Facebook's Holocaust problem

Lloyd Grove | The Daily Beast | 18 August

For years, international organizations opposing anti-Semitism have been urging the planet's preeminent social-networking platform to delete any content that asserts the Nazi-orchestrated extermination of 6 million Jews never took place.

And for years, officials of Facebook, boasting more than 750 million active users, have refused, insisting that mere denial of the Holocaust, however "repugnant and ignorant," doesn't constitute "hate speech" as defined by Facebook's Terms of Service policy prohibiting "content that: is hateful, threatening, or pornographic; incites violence; or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.

The social-networking giant bans hate speech—but allows the proliferation of Holocaust-denial pages, saying it recognizes 'people's right to be factually wrong about historical events.' [READ MORE](#)

Become a Member

Ensure that the voice of your community is heard by supporting the work of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies.

Join us in the work of strengthening Jewish life

Contact the Board for more information:

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We're on the net!

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Iranian report attacks Jews, Israel and the UK

Iranian Press News | 15 August

Close relations between the Bundestag and Iran's parliament, the Majlis, led a prominent German-Iranian scholar, Dr. Wahied Wahdat- Hagh, an expert on the Islamic Republic and a senior fellow at the Brussels-based European Foundation for Democracy, to issue an analysis of a July- August Majlis report that attacks Jews, Israel, Rupert Murdoch's media enterprise, women's rights and Western culture.

The results of Wahdat-Hagh's investigation, which was written in German and based on his analysis of the 27-page Persian-language parliamentary document, appeared on the foundation's website on Friday. [READ MORE](#)

Did you know?

[Weizmann offers new cancer therapy](#): Weizmann Institute scientists may have developed a new approach to boost the body's defenses against cancer that is both more effective and cheaper than currently available therapy.

[An answer to diabetes?](#): A peptide developed in Israel offers a promising potential treatment for the Type 1 form of this very common serious condition.

[GM's engines rev up on Israeli ingenuity](#): At its R&D center in Herzliya, General Motors looks to Israeli engineers for tomorrow's automotive technology, and invests in Israeli startups with exciting products to share.

[MayDay](#), an iPhone app developed by an Israeli space engineer, automatically sends emails or SMS messages to predetermined addresses when it senses the impact of a car crash.

One thousand hearing-impaired West Bank Palestinians recently [received free hearing aids](#) through a novel joint program between Israel's Sheba Medical Center and an American foundation.

A new citrus-based supplement being developed by Israeli and American researchers could [cancel the effects of cholesterol and sugar](#) in the body.

A new Israeli-developed tool enables the disabled to [send emails by thought alone](#), and could revolutionize the world of mind-controlled computing.

Israeli diagnostic company Novamed has developed a [new home diagnostics product](#), SensAheart, that can detect a heart attack from the moment symptoms start to appear.

Israel is the only country that permanently opens its arms to [children sick from radiation](#) caused by the Ukrainian nuclear disaster 25 years ago.