From: Secure Community Network
To: Michael deMoncada
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13 November 2023

NYC Jewish Sites Hit With Bomb Threats, Inert Grenade, As Gaza War Sparks Surge In Antisemitism

Source: New York Daily News

(New York) Reported bombs at separate Jewish sites caused alarm on Saturday and prompted an NYPD response as antisemitic incidents sparked by the war in Gaza continue to rise, police said. First, police were called to Holocaust Memorial Park in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, just before 10 a.m. when someone walking through the park found a grenade among the markers dedicated to Jews killed during the Nazi regime. The NYPD Bomb Squad was called and ultimately cleared the scene after the grenade was found to be inert, an NYPD spokesman said. No one was injured and no arrests were made. Less than an hour later, someone texted 911, claiming that he had left two backpacks filled with pipe bombs inside Central Synagogue in Midtown. Cops responded to the scene, but

found nothing, cops said. The synagogue wasn't evacuated. The two incidents came as hate crimes against Jews in the city have nearly tripled during the month-long war in Israel. Since Oct. 7, the NYPD has investigated 82 antisemitic incidents, 31 more than the previous year. That's a jump of 164%, cops said. Throughout October, 69 antisemitic incidents were reported in the city, compared to 22 in October 2022 — a 214% increase, officials said.

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OSU Adds Security After Students Assaulted In Apparent Antisemitic Attack; School's Hillel Center Vandalized

Source: ABC 5 Cleveland

(Ohio) On Thursday, two students were assaulted near The Ohio State University's campus in an apparent antisemitic attack, and the school's Hillel center was vandalized, according to OSU President Peter Mohler. The two students were allegedly assaulted Thursday night. They told police they had just left a bar on High Street when they were assaulted by two men following a verbal altercation, WSYX reports. A specific description of the men was not included in the report. According to a public safety notice from Ohio State, "the suspects yelled a derogatory term and assaulted two students while asking if they were Jewish." The notice also said "the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim," which made the assault a hate crime. In addition to the assaults, the Hillel was vandalized Thursday night, Mohler said. According to WSYX, two women allegedly vandalized Israeli flags in the lobby of the Hillel center, and made several threats. Columbus Police is assisting in the investigations, and it is unknown at this time whether or not students were responsible for these incidents, Mohler said. OSU has issued a public safety notice following these events. Mohler said they are also increasing the security presence on and off campus.

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[Update] Montreal Jewish School Hit By Gunfire Overnight For 2nd Time This Week

Source: CBC

(Quebec) Montreal police are investigating after gunshots were fired at a Jewish school in the city's west end for the second time this week. Police say they received several calls about gunshots near Yeshiva Gedola of Montreal, located on Deacon Road in the Côte-des-Neiges neighbourhood, at around 5 a.m. Sunday. When officers arrived, they say they found bullet impact marks on the building and shell casings on the ground nearby. No one was injured. Service de police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM) spokesperson Véronique Dubuc says witnesses reported seeing a vehicle fleeing the scene at the time of the gunfire. Both Yeshiva Gedola and Talmud Torah Elementary School, another Jewish school in Côte-des-Neiges, were struck by gunfire overnight Wednesday.

Police said both schools were empty at the time of the shooting and nobody was injured. According to Radio-Canada, school officials from Yeshiva Gedola are expected to hold a news conference later Sunday morning in connection with this week's events. On Monday, a West Island synagogue and Jewish community centre were targeted by Molotov cocktails.

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Antisemitic Messages, Gasoline Found In Clinical Area At General Campus, Ottawa Hospital Says

Source: CTV News

(Ontario) Ottawa police are investigating after the Ottawa Hospital said gasoline and unspecified antisemitic messages were discovered inside a clinical area at the General Campus this week. The Ottawa Hospital says they were found in one of the clinical areas of the hospital on Smyth Road Thursday night. "A police investigation is underway, and they have indicated there is no risk to the safety of anyone in the hospital," an Ottawa Hospital spokesperson said in a statement. The Ottawa Hospital says it has enhanced security measures at all campuses, and it is working with staff to "ensure they have all the support they need." "At this time, there is no evidence to indicate that this is a hate-motivated incident. Messaging left at the scene was not hate-related and spoke to the ongoing conflict in Gaza," police said in a statement to CTV News Ottawa at 3:30 p.m. on Friday.

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