Newsletter Wednesday November 28, 2018
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Israel, US promoting UN resolution condemning Hamas terrorism

Unprecedented resolution excoriates Hamas for its rocket fire on Israel, incitement to violence and use of civilian resources for military purposes • U.S. lobbying EU allies to support move • General Assembly vote on measure expected on Friday or Monday.

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley and Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon | Photo: Reuters

The United States and Israel are promoting an unprecedented U.N. resolution condemning Hamas, the terrorist group that controls the Gaza Strip, Channel 12 reported Tuesday.

The resolution, a joint move by Israeli Ambassador to the U.N. Danny Danon and outgoing U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley, excoriates Hamas' terrorist activities, its rocket fire on Israel, its incitement to violence, and its use of civilian resources for military purposes, predominately its sprawling grid of terror tunnels.

The General Assembly is expected to vote on the resolution on Friday or possibly Monday.

If adopted, this would be the first time the General Assembly condemns Hamas, which usurped control of Gaza from the Western-backed government of Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in a military coup in 2007.

French news agency AFP said the U.S. was lobbying its European allies to back the proposal.

"The U.S. is negotiating the language with the EU. For us, it's very symbolic to have this resolution presented with the support of the EU," Danon said Tuesday.

The draft resolution "condemns Hamas for repeatedly firing rockets into Israel and for inciting violence" and "demands that Hamas and other militant actors cease all provocative actions and violent activity," including the arson campaign, and calls for the cessation of all forms of violence against medical and humanitarian personnel, stressing the importance of respecting the neutrality of U.N. personnel deployed in the coastal enclave.

It also states that the General Assembly "reaffirms its support for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace between Israelis and Palestinians, based on international law."

In June, Haley sought to amend an Arab-backed resolution condemning Israel for the violence in Gaza, but failed to win the required two-thirds of the votes in the assembly.

"We are on the brink of a historic move, built via the full cooperation of the United States and Israel," Danon said. "Instead of stammering and standing on the sidelines, the U.N. must take a clear and firm stand against Hamas and the terror emanating from the Gaza Strip."

"The world must understand that there is no such thing as 'two sides to the conflict' – there's a terrorist organization that targets civilians and a state that protects its citizens.

"Ambassador Haley and I are working together to mobilize the world's ambassadors to support this common and important goal."

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US staying in the Middle East 'for Israel,' Trump says

With oil becoming less of a factor, Israel is one of the main reasons U.S. troops are still in Middle East, President Donald Trump tells Washington Post • Since taking office, Trump has repeatedly said he would like to pull U.S. forces out of the region.

Israel Hayom Staff

U.S. President Donald Trump | Photo: AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Wednesday that the American presence in the Middle East should be reduced, adding that Israel is one of the main reasons U.S. troops remain in the region.

In an interview with the Washington Post, Trump floated the idea of removing U.S. troops from the Middle East, citing the lower price of oil as a reason to withdraw.

"Now, are we going to stay in that part of the world? One reason to is Israel," Trump said. "Oil is becoming less and less of a reason because we're producing more oil now than we've ever produced. So, you know, all of a sudden it gets to a point where you don't have to stay there."

Since being elected in 2016, Trump has stated several times that he would like to pull U.S. troops out of Syria, saying he would do so only after the Islamic State group was defeated. More recently, he said he would remove U.S. troops from Syria on condition that Iran withdraws its forces from the war-torn country.

Commenting on the murder last month of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Trump questioned the CIA's assessment that Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman ordered the assassination, and defended his decision to maintain close ties with the oil-rich Persian Gulf kingdom.

While intelligence assessments are rarely ironclad, the CIA based its overall conclusions on Mohammed's role on several pieces of compelling evidence, including intercepted communications and surveillance from inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, where Khashoggi was killed, as well as its analysis of the prince's control over the Saudi government, the Washington Post said.

"Maybe he did and maybe he didn't, but he denies it. And people around him deny it. And the CIA did not say affirmatively he did it either, by the way. I'm not saying that they're saying he didn't do it, but they didn't say it affirmatively," Trump said.

Trump said he may meet with the crown prince on the sidelines of the G-20 summit, though according to the Washington Post, no formal meeting has been scheduled.

Trump also said he might cancel his scheduled meeting with Russian President Vladi-mir Putin at the G-20 summit in Argentina later this week over Russia's maritime clash with Ukraine.

Asked whether he thought Putin was within his rights to capture three Ukrainian ships and their crews in the Black Sea on Sunday, Trump said he was awaiting a "full report" from his national security team.

"That will be very determinative," Trump said. "Maybe I won't have the meeting. Maybe I won't even have the meeting."

Asked whether Russia's aggression is a cause for concern for the American people, Trump told the Post, "I don't like that aggression. I don't want that aggression at all. Absolutely. And by the way, Europe shouldn't like that aggression. And Germany shouldn't like that aggression."

He also dismissed a federal report released last week saying global warming was wreaking havoc on the United States.

"I don't see" climate change as man-made, he said, adding, "One of the problems that a lot of people like myself, we have very high levels of intelligence but we're not necessarily such believers. You look at our air and our water, and it's right now at a record clean."

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Step 1: The Initial Intention
Picture of The Initial Intention
I could see that my electricity bill was increasing year after year, just because the modern day appliances cant be turned off any more and before I noticed I had many appliances in the house which are on standby day in day out. This all not only harm the environment but also my bank account as I am using electricity for nothing. Not to solve this problem (as this is how appliances are made and I cant change this) I started to look into renewable energy to compensate my unneeded losses and to take some pain away from my bank account. Wind energy was no option due to the area Im living in, hydro electricity is no option as I live in a flat country with next to no rivers so solar power was the best solution. Than the price of solar systems appear to be horrendous, far too much that the system ever would produce in its estimated 20 year lifespan. So I tried to get governmental grants for this project but grants for those kinds of systems where limited and did I miss out. But I still wanted a solar system but I didnt wanted to pay the high price, so I decided to build the panels myself. Yes you see this right, I wanted to build my own solar system and I can tell you now its possible and well with materials bought local in DIY shops and easy to obtain parts from the Internet. No Im not a technical wonder and I dont have lots of experience working with electricity, I just looked around and taught myself how solar panels are made, how other might have done it and made out of this a workable plan of how I could do it.

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Step 2: Start of the Challenge
Picture of Start of the Challenge
After I did my homework I found out that there was a solar cell manufacturer just a few hours away from my house who could supply me with the needed cells (otherwise I could buy those online as theyre easy to obtain from other sites). With information I collected from various sources I made a wiring diagram and did I got ordinary glass from a local supplier. Tools I needed came from my local DIY store and I was ready to start. See the needed materials list below witch not only states all the needed materials but also the price I paid for it and the shop I bought them from. The material list is for one panel only and the list of the total system is for 2 panels, one inverter and production meter.

Installation material like wire, junction boxes, screws and holding brackets I didnt had to buy as those I still had in the shed or made my self.

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Step 3: Building Process
Picture of Building Process
I soldered the solar cells according to the wiring diagram in series as this added the voltage of each cell together to achieve the desired (and highest) output. I made a 28 cell panel (4 strings of 7 cells) as this is fitting the best in my garden and would give me 28x0.5V=14V (theoretically). The amperage I didnt know yet as I bought B quality cells to play around with (this saved me some expenses to mess around with).

When I finished soldering the cells, the cells where up side down (as I soldered the backside of the cells last) so could place on the back of each cell a little bid silicone and glued the cells on a 4mm glass sheet (this sheet will eventually become the back of the panel).
Now I left it all to dray and the silicone to vapor out (its really important to let the silicone vapor out real good as the vapors react with the solder on the cells).

Next I turned the glass sheet over and placed small tile crosses (they use to place tiles on a wall or on the ground to keep a standard distance between the tiles) in between the cells so that at a later stage of the building process the 2 plates of glass will form a stiffer construction. When they are in place I did put silicone sealant all around the edge of the glass plate at a distance of about 3 cm from the edge (which I left empty for filling at a later stage).

Then I placed the other plate of glass on top of it so the cells are now sandwiched between 2 glass sheets of 4mm thick (yes I just made double glassing with solar cell imbedded, how easy can a plan be).

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Step 4: Vaporing Out of the Panel
Picture of Vaporing Out of the Panel
And left it all to dry for a minimum of 24 hours, the longer the better due to the sealant vapors. Then there is still an open space between the 2 glass plates on the outer edge and I filled this with more sealant. Now I have 2 sealant seals, so if one sealant line leaks than there is the 2nd line as a backup. I leave this to dry for another 3 days. When the sealant has dried fully, I took some aluminum profile (aluminum angle bar) to make a frame to protect the glass and to make the panel stronger.

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Step 5: Junction Box at the Back
Picture of Junction Box at the Back
At the back of the panel I made a junction box with a terminal block. At one site of the block the + and from the panel is going in and at the out side will go the wire going to the inverter. In the junction box is also an diode in between the + from the panel to the +

going to the inverter, this will prevent electric current to flow to the panel when the panel is not producing any electricity (like at night).

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Step 6: The Inverter

Picture of The Inverter

I contacted the local solar panel shop for a suitable inverter as this one needs to be small (remember that I only make a small amount of electricity with this panel). In the shop was a small inverter laying around which could not be sold, and I could have this for free as it would otherwise be in the shop for a few more year. The inverter is an OK-4 one, starting at 24V to 50V and a max of 100W. So this learned me that just one panel would not be enough as this would give me only 14V, so I needed a 2nd one and also hooked up in series so I would get 28V which is enough to get the inverter going. The 14V appeared to be enough but you could see that this was not a strong current so guess what, I made a 3rd panel and now the production is nice and steady. I know that this inverter can go to a max of 100W and my 3 panels give more (135Wp) but this maximum my panels give will be chocked back by the inverter. What ever the inverter gets more than he can handle is burned off as heat. Yes I know what youre thinking; Im wasting electricity right at the course. Thats true, but only at the middle of the day for a few hours when the sun is at its strongest and optimum angle to the panels and most of the day (actually most days) this is not the case. Now I start producing right a way when the sun comes up till its going down, just thanks to the fact that this inverter is able to work at a low voltage. I gain more by producing in total at the lower range (every day) than a few hours (at some days) at the top range.

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Step 7: Figure Facts

Picture of Figure Facts

As that the OK-4 inverter hasnt got a build-in display to see how much output it gives I needed a separate production meter.
A guess what, I was also not prepared to pay the full solar panel world price for this neither.
I went to a local DIY store and bought an ELRO M12 Power Calculator, which is actually mend for calculating the usage of electrical appliances but works also fine to calculate any solar production (this calculator is working both ways it can give and take electricity from the net).
And this calculator plugs straight into the mains power supply with no difficult wiring (thats what we need).

Factory figures gave me that each cell gives 0.5V x 6A = 3Wp, but this in the perfect circumstances. For a whole panel this would mean 28 cells x 3Wp = 84Wp.
But from previous gained knowledge I know that this is always given as an to optimistic figure and that around 20% less production will be achieved in real live.
In this case this would mean a true expected production figure of 67Wp.

My panels are certainly not facing the optimum way, but this is for now also not the meaning (as silly as it sounds).
The panels are placed at a 10 degree angle (instead 35) and not exactly facing South.
But where they are placed is a temporary installation with the reason that I want to see how theyre behaving in real weather with cold temperatures, lots of rain and a blasting sun.
A real setup will come in the near future.

Taking all of this in account the panels are producing 15V x 3A = 45Wp each.
Concluding that the voltage of the cells are used to the maximum.
The amperage can go higher, this can be done by changing the angle of the panels more into the sun, but is currently not possible due to their placing location.

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Step 8: In Production
Picture of In Production
If I see that voltage wise the maximum output has been reached, I can say that the panels are working fine and do the give so far an average of 500Wh per week. Now the critics among us will say that this is nothing, but given that the panels have the potential to produce more as if I only change the facing/angle, the panels are smaller than a standard panel plus it are only 3 panels they do fine. Plus my aim was to overcome the standby appliances in the house so you can say that I succeeded. Apart from the durability (this test is currently on going), I can say that a home made panel is working just as good as a panel bought in a shop.

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Step 9: Future Thoughts
Picture of Future Thoughts
My future plan is first testing the panels for their durability as so far I mainly focused on making the panels and do I not really know what they will do after being exposed to the weather for a long period of time.
After this its time to make a sun tracker and make more panels but than bigger ones.
Than the panels will give more output due to the size and will always be facing under the right angle to the sun for maximum output.
And it speaks for it self that all gained knowledge will be published on the site for everyone to access.

And for the critic, yes youre right this is not free electricity as I had to pay for the parts but when I reached the breakeven point the costs are paid back and then the system will give me free energy by harvesting the sun.

To share my experiences Ive made a website where you can see for yourself how I did it, my production records to show how the system is behaving, and how you can do this yourself by means of text, photos and films.
See this all at my site on http://home.kpn.nl/maas5455/

Why wait till tomorrow if you can start saving money today?

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PVC Class
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We have a be nice policy.
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49 Discussions
None
jk0393 5 months ago
ReplyUpvote

In your paragraph in step 1, it says "This all not only harm the environment but also my bank account as I am using electricity for nothing." I would fix the 'This all not' part to 'This will not'. Just a pointer.

None
HaremCinema 8 months ago
ReplyUpvote
FYI very first LINK you are directing us to fails.

None
izzyawesomeQuestion 10 months ago on Step 9
AnswerUpvote
how much did it cost in all again?

None
AhmadS223 1 year ago
ReplyUpvote
hi my country have many sunny days in year while unfortuntly most electrical energy in my country come from fossil fuels that those are harmful to nature. since I am a friend of nature; i like improve my konwledg about solar plans and how it work and created i like to spreard this clean energy in my country please guide me.thanks (Iran/Khuzestan)

None
creektilghmank45 1 year ago
ReplyUpvote
I can make it myself. Just got instructions from InpliX website and I'm ready for do it :D

None
Vinyasi 2 years ago
ReplyUpvote
Running solar panels without any sunlight is easy with the help of radium chloride. Paint both sides of a sheet of paper with radium chloride, sandwich both sides with a pair of solar panels facing inwards, and hook them up to your electrical system.

4 replies
None
KevinH337 1 year ago
ReplyUpvote
I tried building a solar panel 10 years ago, I could not get the the thin connecting strips to stay attached with soldering them on. I still have cells left; just cant figure out how to connect them together.

1 reply
None
RichardLee3 1 year ago
ReplyUpvote

I used to have big problem finding effective ways to build my solar panels and maximizing my solar power.But I am getting better result now, after I stumbled upon this excellent guide I found HERE. It was a godsend. It gave me great Solar Panel tips and showed me what I was doing wrong before.

None
St8kout. 1 year ago
ReplyUpvote
For those new to solar:

-Your battery bank is the very heart of an off-grid system. All the panels do are recharge the batteries.

-You need a charge controller between your battery bank and the panels. If you buy a PWM controller, you MUST match the panel voltage to your battery bank voltage. If you want to pay more you can get an MPPT controller and mix/match voltages.

-You need TRUE deep cycle batteries, NOT Marine batteries, which are a compromise and a waste of money as they will not last. Golf Cart batteries have long been the best bang for the buck.

-For an Inverter, don't waste your money on MSW (modified sine wave) as you will encounter all kinds of problems down the line. Some TV's will have shorter lifespans, motors run hotter, digital clocks and timers won't work right, fans will make funny noises and run hotter, things like that. Bite the bullet and get a good pure sign wave inverter.

-Don't try to use AC switches and circuit breakers with DC current. Arcing is a real problem with DC and you need switches and breakers designed for DC. Not kidding! (As AC cycles it reaches a 0 voltage point. With DC, it stays 'ON' and will arc when trying to switch it off. With high enough DC power, it may never turn off and just keep arcing until something burns/melts.)

None
Tracy47 2 years ago
ReplyUpvote
I encourage everyone to get 1-3 panels, a great charge controller and two golf cart batteries. Enjoy running any one item you choose off the sun.

None
wobbler 2 years ago
ReplyUpvote
Although I'm all for self build, this doesn't seem to be economically viable. Your self assembled panels cost 211 euros (£160) for an 87W array, but fully finished encapsulated 100W panels cost from about 105 euros (£80) and you can get 2x100W panels for the same price as this diy version panel or a 100W panel with controller box for the same price. (all quickly sourced from Amazon).

2 replies
None
tp.pa.12 3 years ago on Step 3
ReplyUpvote
One note about the glass one uses, you have to make sure that it is just plain clear glass, most window glass is low E made to block allot of the ultra violet rays, etc., the panels need to produce power. A NON yellowing acrylic sheet would also be better, because it is not low E, and it will take things like Hail better without shattering.

But as far as your build goes, great job at saving money twice!!

None
brian.byrne.5876 3 years ago on Introduction
ReplyUpvote
You may have made a vital mistake in your construction . You have sandwiched the cells between two sheets of glass but you made no reference to creating a vacuum. The air left behind between the glass will heat up during the day and turn into moisture when the panel cools down this will damage the panel in the end. The encapsulating with using EVA film costs less and you can suck all the air out with a hoover.

https://www.instructables.com/id/Home-Made-Solar-Panel/