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What the Trump-Kim summit could mean for Israel and Iran

With North Korea possibly coming to terms with Washington, former air force chief says Jerusalem hopes to push Tehran's nuclear threat to top of agenda

By [Ron Kampeas](#) / June 13, 2018

WASHINGTON (JTA) — **Amos Yadlin** likes talking about the Begin doctrine, which calls for removing existential threats to Israel before they are manifest — maybe because he lived it twice.

As an Israeli Air Force pilot, Yadlin flew one of the planes that took out Iraq's nuclear reactor in 1981, when Menachem Begin was prime minister. As director of military intelligence in 2007, Yadlin oversaw the operation that eliminated another nuclear reactor, this one in Syria.

Watching US President Donald Trump sign a statement on Tuesday with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un pledging to achieve “complete denuclearization,” Yadlin again found himself in Begin doctrine mode. Now the head of Tel Aviv University's **Institute for National Security Studies**, an influential think tank, Yadlin suggests that the Trump-Kim summit means America can refocus its attention on another major world nuclear threat. It's the one that matters most to Israel: Iran.

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For full interview, see:

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