

## *It's not rocket science*

It all began a few days ago, when el-Nasire asked the Facebook group where he could get the Red Alert information; simultaneously, Cardillo posed the same question. Another member of the group responded by posting a link to the Home Front Command (Pikud HaOref) site.

“That’s when we started building our site,” el-Nasire, a computer programmer at the Amsterdam Web Agency, told ISRAEL21c via Skype from Holland. “And we did it by receiving the area codes of the places where sirens go off, and then calculating the latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates, and how much time it takes a rocket to arrive at its destination.”

El-Nasire said that it was “actually quite simple; just a matter of math.” He then quipped: “It’s not rocket science ... so to speak.”

Cardillo, who works for plugNup (a Belgian-Israeli high-tech startup) told ISRAEL21c that in spite of the relative accuracy of the trajectories on the map, “We do not show the exact location of rocket-landings, for security reasons.”

After all, he pointed out, “The purpose of the endeavor is to help Israel.”

El-Nasire agreed, admitting that it was unusual for someone of his background, both Muslim and European, to be embarking on a campaign to help the Jewish state’s public diplomacy efforts by showing the world that it is Israel under attack by Hamas and not the other way around.

“If you had told me when I was 10 years old that I would end up with Jewish and Israeli friends, visit Israel and undertake this project, I wouldn’t have believed you; I would have laughed at you; or I would have gotten really angry,” he said. “Because before I got to know Jews and Israelis, I only knew about them what I saw on TV; and it wasn’t pretty. It is easy to hate people, when all you see is the demonization.”



**Farid el-Nasire** says building the site “*wasn’t rocket science.*”

*“Because before I got to know Jews and Israelis, I only knew about them what I saw on TV; and it wasn’t pretty. It is easy to hate people, when all you see is the demonization.”*

His perception changed when he began to meet Israeli tourists in Holland.

“I came to realize that if you don’t throw rocks at them, Israelis are pretty nice people,” he laughed. “But even if I hadn’t gotten to know them, all I would have had to do is watch how Hamas behaves – launching rockets and breaching ceasefires – and then I would have understood.”

Someone else who understood the significance of Israel Under Attack as soon as he was approached was Mason Crollie, a British non-Jew, from whom Cardillo and el-Nasire wanted to purchase a server for their program. But Crollie was so thrilled with their innovation and its aim of helping Israel during wartime that he offered his services free of charge.

Meanwhile, the authors of Israel Under Attack are continuing to work together through sleepless nights to develop an app out of their map.

For more information, see <http://israelunderattack.tk/>



Teenager **Samuel Cardillo** recently moved to Israel from Belgium.

## EEN MINYAN APP

Door A.Z.

APPLE MAAKTE ALTIJD PUBLICITEIT DOOR TE BEWEREN DAT ER EEN APPLICATIE BESTAAT VOOR ALLES. TECHNOLOGIE IS ALOMTEGENWOORDIG EN HOE MEER JE VAN HAAR VLUCHT, HOE SNELLER HET JOU INHAALT.

De Minyan is een quorum van 10 Joodse mannen noodzakelijk voor een publiek gebed. Niet altijd, en zeker niet overal is het evident om een Minyan samen te roepen, voornamelijk als je niet weet waar en of er andere Joden in de buurt zijn. Minyan Now is een applicatie voor iPhone en Android die ervoor zorgt dat andere gebruikers van de app een bericht krijgen indien een persoon in de buurt een Minyan zoekt. De app werkt uitstekend in vliegvelden, treinstations, sportevenementen en andere plaatsen waar er waarschijnlijk Joodse



mensen kunnen zijn, maar geen officiële synagoge.

Het brengt de mensen samen voor een gebed.

De applicatie is verbonden met de gps van de smartphone en verwittigt iedereen op 10 minuten afstand.

Het bedrijf die de app heeft gecommmercialiseerd heeft deze ook ingebouwd in het gebedsboek - applicatie die ze eerder hadden gelanceerd.

Technologie wordt dus meer en meer een hulpmiddel en geen obstakel voor de religie.