

Ynet-News, June 21, 2024 – Friday

Feast of Weeks, Omer Fiftieth day **Monday** June 17, last day **Sunday** June 23

FoW - Exodus 34, Leviticus 23, Deuteronomy 16

7.01. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in June 29 spot – Saturday
Israel plans Hamas-free bubbles in Gaza neighborhoods to oversee aid delivery

7.01. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
Iran increasing Quds Force to smuggle weapons across Jordan border

7.01. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in July 01 spot – Monday
High Court petition released 55 prisoners chosen by security; PM ordered inquiry

6.30. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in June 30 spot – Sunday
Hamas recruits new terrorists: inside Gaza within 40 minutes of IDF withdraw

6.27. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in June 27 spot – Thursday
Netanyahu to sanction government ministers unauthorized to miss cabinet meetings

6.27. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
40 rockets fired into Upper Galilee from Lebanon, one home takes direct hit

6.23. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in June 23 spot – Sunday Day 7 FoW - last day
Netanyahu sends Gallant to meet Biden Advisors over US weapon shipment delays

6.23. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Day 7 FoW - last day
IDF push tanks in Rafah near coastal area, moving civilian camp to Khan Younis

6.23. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Day 7 FoW - last day
Tel Aviv Sheraton bans evacuees with homes under attack from guest dining room

6.22. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Day 6 FoW
India's close relation with Israel supports drones & tons of munitions, yet tied to Iran

6.22. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Day 6 FoW
Hezbollah missiles hits two homes in north, IDF moving resources north from Gaza

6.22. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in June 22 spot – Saturday Day 6 FoW
Houthis 60th attack on shipping as US carrier Eisenhower may be replaced by Roosevelt

7.01. 24 – Mo

Israel plans Hamas-free bubbles in Gaza neighborhoods to oversee aid delivery

7.01. 24 – Mo

Israel plans Hamas-free 'zones' in post-war Gaza, report

Pilot program to begin in northern Gaza Strip where vetted local Palestinians are expected to oversee aid delivery before assuming other civil governing roles; after previous attempts to enlist Gazans ended in murder former officials express doubt
Ynetnews|12:38

Israel plans to launch a post-war control model in Gaza, aiming to create “Hamas-free bubbles,” a proposal met with skepticism by those briefed on the matter, the Financial Times reported on Monday. According to six sources who spoke to the publication, the pilot for these “humanitarian enclaves” will soon start in northern Gaza neighborhoods like Atatra, Beit Hanoun, and Beit Lahiya.

Although the IDF is ready to begin the pilot, there is significant skepticism about its success due to Hamas's strong support in Gaza and lukewarm backing from Arab countries. One source called the project “fantasy.”

The plan involves Israel delivering aid through the Erez crossing to vetted local Palestinians, who would then distribute it to residents. Gradually, these locals would take on civil governance responsibilities in the area, with the IDF overseeing security initially.

If successful, Israel intends to expand the “bubbles” southward, aiming to replace Hamas governance nearly 20 years after their takeover of Gaza. A source indicated this plan could also pressure Hamas in the stalled hostage negotiations.

This initiative follows months of international pressure on the Netanyahu government to outline a post-war plan. However, two other briefed sources noted it is merely a continuation of previous Israeli efforts that Hamas quickly thwarted. “We tried this in three different areas in northern and central Gaza, including with local tribes. All were beaten or killed by Hamas,” said a former senior Israeli official involved in the planning. Another source said that Israel's attempts to find local Palestinians willing to govern Gaza instead of Hamas have been ongoing since November, with no significant success. “This plan is the last attempt. Israel hopes someone—Arab countries or the international community—will pay for it, and locals in Gaza will execute it. But no one is buying it,” he said.

Last weekend, David Ignatius of the Washington Post reported on Gallant's transition plan, presented to American counterparts during his Washington visit. “This plan will proceed if Hamas continues to reject the ceasefire and hostage deal,” Gallant said.

The plan envisions U.S.-led oversight of the transition, with a potential international force including Egypt, Jordan, the UAE, and Morocco managing security. U.S. forces would provide command, control, and logistics from outside Gaza, possibly from Egypt.

Gradually, a Palestinian force would take over local security responsibilities. American officials support the core of Gallant's plan but noted that moderate Arab states would not back it unless the Palestinian Authority is directly involved. They also cautioned that these states desire a "political horizon" towards a Palestinian state, which Gallant and most Israelis do not support.

The transition plan will be implemented in phases, starting in northern Gaza and expanding south as conditions permit. Gallant's vision includes expanding the security "bubbles" to eventually cover 24 governance zones in Gaza. Biden administration officials have supported the idea but remain skeptical about the rapid expansion of these "ink spots" on the map.

7.01.24 – Mo

Iran increasing Quds Force to smuggle weapons across Jordan border

7.01.24 – Mo

Biggest catch of guns smuggled from Jordan

Security forces say 75 handguns and dozens of gun parts found in bags left behind by suspected smugglers, constitute largest catch since war began

Elisha Ben Kimon|Updated:10:08

The IDF on Monday, said it had thwarted an attempt to smuggle weapons across the border from Jordan in what it described as the largest ever catch of smuggled weapons since the start of the war. Military lookouts observed three suspects crossing the border and dispatched troops to the scene. The suspected smugglers escaped capture but left behind three bags containing 75 handguns and dozens of weapons parts.

Israeli security agencies have been concerned that Iran was increasing its efforts to smuggle weapons into the West Bank to be used by terrorists in their attacks on Israelis. Last March, the Shin Bet and IDF said they had uncovered a plot by Iran to smuggle weapons including rockets, cluster explosives, landmines, 13 anti-tank missiles and 25 grenades. They also found 50 handguns, 33 M4 rifles, and RPGs, in the smuggling efforts directed by the IRGC Quds Force.

7.01.24 – Mo

High Court petition released 55 prisoners chosen by security; PM ordered inquiry

7.01.24 – Mo

Israel releases director of Shifa Hospital, returns him to Gaza

Israel releases Shifa Hospital director Muhammed Abu Salmiya back to Gaza along with 54 other prisoners; He was arrested over his involvement in sheltering Hamas terrorists and holding hostages in the hospital; Salmiya claims prisoners' conditions 'tragic'

Einav Halabi, Moran Azulay|03:28

Government ministers and the parents of Israeli hostages were outraged to learn Monday that 54 prisoners and the director of Shifa Hospital, Muhammed Abu Salmiya, who assisted Hamas terrorists and kept Israeli hostages inside the hospital, were released from Israeli custody. Abu Salmiya claimed in public statements that Gazan prisoners are treated harshly in Israel and called for the release of all Palestinian prisoners. Israel has not responded.

Abu Salmiya has been in Israeli custody since November when he was arrested after he was accused of "conducting extensive terrorist activities for the Hamas organization in the hospital under his management."

Upon his release, Abu Salmiya claimed that detainees in Israel suffer harsh conditions including hunger and thirst. "The enemy is committing crimes against medical staff. Hundreds of doctors, nurses and technicians are imprisoned," he added. In another video posted after he was released, Abu Salmiya encouraged "resistance" and called for the release of all prisoners from Israeli prisons, calling on human rights organizations worldwide to visit the prisoners and see their "tragic" conditions. "Prisoners have lost weight, at least 25 kilograms. Everyone is suffering," he said. He promised to return to work and rebuild Shifa Hospital.

Israel has not yet officially responded to Abu Salmiya's release. But government ministers demanded answers.

"Yoav Gallant, can we get an explanation as to why this man whose hospital was a shelter for terrorists and where our hostages were killed was released?" asked Diaspora Affairs Minister Amichai Chikli. "What?! It is inconceivable to make such a move without government approval! If you requested our consent on a hostage deal, it is beyond imagination to release terrorists without getting something back. I demand to stop this and convene the government," said Minister of National Missions Orit Stork. "Seriously asking, on whose authority?"

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir added: "It's time to fire the Shin Bet director. He does whatever he wants, and Gallant is with him all the way. He doesn't give a damn about the government. He makes his independent policy, does what he wants, and has become the terrorists' welfare officer. They're suffering, they're not doing well, but is he supposed to take care of their conditions?"

Communications Minister Shlomo Karhi wrote: "Israel needs a new security leadership. A leadership that is committed to the spirit and courage of the soldiers as much as the prime minister, and preferably sooner than later."

Abu Salmiya was arrested in November following evidence that even after the massacre committed by Hamas terrorists on October 7, the organization used the hospital as a shelter for its terrorists and also transferred Israeli hostages there. The IDF also recalled that a pathological report confirmed that the murder of Corporal Noa Marciano was carried out on hospital grounds.

Upon hearing that Abu Salmiya was released, Noa Marciano's father, Avi Marciano said: "Noa was neglected before October 7 when they didn't listen to her. She was abandoned

on October 7 when they did not come to save her. She was also abandoned later when not enough was done to bring her home alive. And now, seven months after we buried her, the State of Israel decides to release those who are directly or indirectly responsible for her murder. Sorry, my girl, that even now you continue to be forsaken. I am willing to accept the release of those who have a part in my daughter's murder as part of a hostage deal. not like this.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office responded to the release Shifa Hospital Director Muhammad Abu Salmiya, stating that "the decision to release the prisoners follows discussions at the High Court in a petition against their detention in the Sde Teiman detention facility. The identity of the released prisoners is determined independently by the security officials according to their professional considerations. The prime minister has ordered an immediate inquiry into the issue." Since Abu Salmiya's arrest seven months ago, the IDF operated again in Shifa Hospital in March, where 200 terrorists were killed and about 500 terrorists were arrested, including dozens of commanders and senior officials in various terrorist organizations. The IDF estimated after the operation in March that the likelihood that Hamas would use the hospital again as a terrorism hub or as an operational command center were slim. In April, the IDF seized materials related to hostages in the hospital with new horrific videos from October 7, recorded by the terrorists as they documented their own actions. After the withdrawal of the IDF from the hospital, footage of civilians returning to the hospital, discovering burnt buildings and extensive destruction, went viral. The Hamas-controlled Health Ministry said that dozens of bodies were identified on-site. "The army withdrew from Shifa after burning buildings in the compound and rendering them completely useless. The damage to the compound is very significant," claimed the terrorist organization.

In January, the U.S. adopted the IDF's position that Shifa Hospital was a military command center and a place for holding hostages by terrorist organizations in Gaza. Intelligence documents showed that the terrorists left Shifa days before the IDF launched its extensive operation in November. While leaving the place, the terrorists destroyed documents and electronic equipment, tampering with evidence.

6.30. 24 – Su

Hamas recruits new terrorists: inside Gaza within 40 minutes of IDF withdraw

6.30. 24 – Su

Hamas recruiting hundreds of new terrorists: inside IDF's operation in Gaza City's Shijaiyah neighborhood

Troops working to combat the terror group's resurgence in the area have discovered the terrorists use schools, clinics to hide weapons; IDF eliminated dozens of terrorists in face-to-face battles

Yoav Zitun|Yesterday | 07:40

IDF forces have in recent days been leading raids and operations in Gaza City's Shijaiyah neighborhood. The troops discovered Hamas had entrenched itself deep within the neighborhood located close to Israel's kibbutzes Nahal Oz and Kfar Aza in both civilian and military aspects.

As part of operational searches of civilian structures converted into terrorist infrastructure in the large neighborhood, the soldiers raided a United Nations school that the terrorists of Hamas' Shejaiya Battalion were using as a hideout and a warehouse. The troops discovered dozens of weapons, grenades and valuable intelligence documents.

Forces also found an active terrorist command center inside a medical clinic in the neighborhood, equipped with communication devices, documents and observation points. "This is further evidence of Hamas embedding itself in civilian structures for terror purposes," the IDF said in a statement.

During the raid on the large neighborhood, it became clear Hamas forces were deployed in clinic and school complexes in Shijaiyah while setting up dozens of combat positions in places where IDF troops had maneuvered six months ago.

"We arrived there on Thursday and had surrounded the displaced persons complex where Hamas was operating within 40 minutes, extracting valuable intelligence from the area," an IDF source said. "We had many clashes with the enemy over the weekend, targeting 30 anti-tank squads in the neighborhood and eliminating 40 terrorists. We're targeting tunnels that allowed Hamas to rehabilitate in Shejaiyah."

The IDF found Hamas has managed to rehabilitate itself not only militarily in the area, but also financially. The terrorist organization has managed to resume paying salaries to its operatives and recruited hundreds of new terrorists, some of whom are now confronting IDF forces during their current operation in the neighborhood.

6.27. 24 – Th

Netanyahu to sanction government ministers unauthorized to miss cabinet meetings

6.27. 24 – Th

Netanyahu to sanction government ministers who miss cabinet meetings

Government ministers who miss a cabinet meeting more than once a quarter without permission will be grounded and prevented from traveling abroad the following quarter, prime minister announces

Itamar Eichner | 07:15

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is fed up. Following the many absences of government ministers from the cabinet meeting on Sunday and last week, Netanyahu decided to sanction ministers who do not receive permission to be absent from the weekly meeting. The list of the missing included, among others, Yoav Gallant, Miri Regev, Moshe Arbel, Itamar Ben-Gvir and Mai Golan.

"If I can come, you can too," Netanyahu shouted at the meeting. "It is unacceptable to me that ministers are absent from government meetings. If a minister cannot come to a government meeting, he should inform the government secretary."

The prime minister instructed Cabinet Secretary Yossi Fuchs to issue a procedure according to which ministers who cannot attend the cabinet meeting will have to request permission ahead of time.

According to the new procedure, a minister who is absent more than once per quarter without approval from the government secretary will not receive permission to fly in the following quarter. Netanyahu expressed his displeasure at the absence of ministers at all of the government's recent meetings.

Netanyahu himself has canceled government meetings several times in the past for various reasons. The move appears to be some kind of leadership exercise, to show that Netanyahu controls his government, amid reports that some of the ministers do as they please. During war-time emergency government, ministers of the National Unity party led by Benny Gantz frequently were absent from government meetings.

6.27.24 – Th

40 rockets fired into Upper Galilee from Lebanon, one home takes direct hit

6.27.24 – Th

40 rockets fired into northern Israel from Lebanon

Multiple interceptions sighted over Upper Galilee; home in Merom HaGalil Regional Council takes direct hit; reports of power outages in Safed

Yair Kraus, Itamar Eichner | 06.27.24 | 12:29

Approximately 40 rockets were launched from Lebanon into northern Israel on Thursday evening, targeting communities in the Upper Galilee region. The Iron Dome missile defense system intercepted about half of the rockets.

The Merom HaGalil Regional Council reported that a house in one of its communities was damaged in the barrage, though no injuries were reported. Northern District Fire and Rescue teams are en route to two impact sites in open areas near Safed and the Birya Forest.

Incoming air raid sirens sounded in multiple northern Israeli communities, including Alma, Amuka, Avivim, Birya, Dalton, Hatzor HaGlilit, Kadita, Kerem Ben Zimra, Ramat Dalton Industrial Park, Rehaniya, Rosh Pina and Safed.

The Magen David Adom (MDA) ambulance service said that teams were dispatched to inspect reported impact sites and to provide treatment to a person suffering from shock. A woman was injured while making her way to a shelter.

Residents of Safed reported multiple interceptions following the alarms triggered in the Upper Galilee and power outages in some parts of the city. Meanwhile, the Security Cabinet convened Thursday evening after several postponements in recent days.

6.23. 24 – Su

Netanyahu sends Gallant to meet Biden Advisors over US weapon shipment delays

6.23. 24 – Su

Netanyahu doubles down on US withholding military aid

Prime minister says Biden administration provides a trickle of aid and delays munitions over four months despite private and public calls to increase them; says willing to suffer criticism in defense of Israel

Itamar Eichner|07:00

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said again on Sunday that weapon shipments from the U.S. have been held back despite U.S. claims his accusations were incorrect.

"There was a dramatic drop in the supply of munitions coming from the United States to Israel over the past four months. We reached out to our American friends for weeks, requesting to expedite the shipments," Netanyahu said to cameras, at the start of the weekly cabinet meeting.

"We did this repeatedly, at the highest levels and I want to make things clear — we did this behind closed doors. We received various explanations, but the basic situation has not changed. Certain shipments trickled in, but the bulk of the munitions was left behind," he said.

"After months during which the situation was static, I decided to make it public," Netanyahu said. "I did this based on years of experience and knowing this step was essential to release the bottleneck. I anticipated it would involve personal attacks against me both from within and without," Netanyahu said. "I'm willing to endure personal attacks for the sake of Israel's security," he added.

Netanyahu spoke while Defense Minister Yoav Gallant was traveling to Washington for meetings with his counterpart Lloyd Austin, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and others.

American news outlet Politico also reported that White House officials were concerned that Netanyahu would criticize U.S. President Joe Biden when he speaks to a joint session of Congress next month after being extended a bi-partisan invitation. "[Netanyahu's] video this week was not helpful at all. And he could make it far worse up there in front of Congress," the officials told Politico. "No one knows what he's going to say."

Three American sources told the news site that the White House has yet to send Netanyahu an official invitation to the White House to meet with Biden during his planned visit. They said such an invitation would likely be forthcoming and noted that it

would be a "major slap in the face" if Netanyahu did not meet the president. Some Democratic lawmakers, including Elizabeth Warren, have announced they won't attend the speech.

6.23. 24 – Su

IDF push tanks in Rafah near coastal area, moving civilian camp to Khan Younis

6.23. 24 – Su

IDF pushes on in Rafah, tanks reported near humanitarian zone

Unverified reports said the tanks were nearing the Mawasi camp for displaced Gaza civilians; IDF says forces locate Hamas tunnel shafts, underground infrastructure Yoav Zitun, Reuters|06:39

The IDF said on Sunday that its troops were continuing intelligence-based, targeted operations in the Rafah area and that weaponry, tunnel shafts and underground terrorist infrastructure was found. Meanwhile, Palestinians told Reuters that IDF tanks advanced to the edge of the Mawasi displaced persons' camp in the northwest of the southernmost city in the Strip amid fierce fighting with Hamas. Images of two Israeli tanks stationed on a hilltop overlooking the coastal area went viral on social media, but Reuters could not independently verify them. "The fighting with the resistance has been intense. The occupation forces are overlooking the Mawasi area now, which forced families there to head for Khan Younis," said one resident, who asked not to be named, on a chat app. Residents said Israeli tanks had pushed deeper into western and northern Rafah in recent days, blowing up dozens of houses. Hamas and the Islamic Jihad terror groups said their fighters had attacked Israeli forces in Rafah with anti-tank rockets and mortar bombs and pre-planted explosive devices. IDF strikes on Hamas targets in Rafah

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6.23. 24 – Su

Tel Aviv Sheraton bans evacuees with homes under attack from guest dining room

6.23. 24 – Su

Hotel bans evacuees from guest dining room, sparking outrage

Sheraton Grand management tells a Kiryat Shmona city official that he cannot meet with his residents on hotel grounds and must leave the premises; A city resident evacuated from his home says a paying guest called his daughter a parasite
Yair Kraus|05:10

The Sheraton Grand Hotel in Tel Aviv has barred access for evacuated residents of the north from use of the hotel's dining room and has referred them to an alternate area away from paying guests where different food would be provided for them. The move sparked outrage among the families who were forced out of their homes on October 7 and have been residing with their children in hotel rooms while their homes were under repeated attack from Hezbollah in Lebanon.

Kiryat Shmona city officials met with the hotel management to try and persuade them to reverse their decision but to no avail. Now the municipality was threatening to see the help of the courts. Officials from the Tourism Ministry said they would intervene. "Look at what they are doing to us," Shimon Buskila, a resident of the northernmost city said. "They do not want us here." He said that the hotel's attitude toward the evacuees changed earlier this month when the quality of the food provided to the group deteriorated. Other services were also cut or reduced. "Not only were we forced out of our homes, but now, the place we were evacuated to for our safety, also wants to oust us. Where is the government?"

Over 20,000 people remained in hotels across the country, while others chose to use government funding to rent alternative lodging. Many had complained of lack of space and privacy, lasting nearly nine months, with no end in sight. But as others have returned to their routine including vacationing in hotels, the presence of the evacuees was considered by the hotel as a hinderance. "I beg the Israeli public not to come to the hotels on their vacations. This is not the time for a fun holiday," Buskila said. because you want to have a good time, we are being pushed aside. He said his daughter was by the hotel pool with her children when a guest told her she did not think it was appropriate for the evacuees to use the same dining room. "You are parasites," he said her daughter was told. "It is time for you to bugger off and find apartments to rent." Pe'er Pardo, an official from the Kiryat Shmona Municipality was told he would not be able to leave residents of the city on Sheraton Grand hotel grounds, on Sunday and that he must leave the premises. In a letter to the management he wrote that the discrimination against the evacuees was equal to gender discrimination which he was sure, was unacceptable by the company. "The hotel receives payment for each Kiryat Shmona resident staying in it," he wrote. "Your decision is offensive to the families who have been suffering." The hotel management declined to comment on the report.

6.22. 24 – Sa

India's close relation with Israel supports drones & tons of munitions, yet tied to Iran

6.22. 24 – Sa

Support and drones supplies: India's close relations with Israel
India stands firm in its support of Israel amid the war in Gaza and supplies it with advanced drones made in the country despite growing pro-Palestinians calls from its Muslim demographic
Itamar Eichner|14:17

Back in May, Spanish authorities prevented the Marianne Danica cargo from docking at the port of Cartagena on its way to Israel. The ship, originating from the city of Madras in India, was carrying 27 tons of munitions destined for the IDF, against the backdrop of the war with Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah on the Lebanon border. The incident highlights the fact that India has been providing significant military assistance to Israel since October 7.

In February, Indian media reported for the first time that India was supplying Israel with advanced Hermes 900 drones manufactured in the city of Hyderabad. The report said the factory, established by Israel to supply these drones to the Indian military, converted 20 of them specifically for the IDF due to the shortage created during the war.

The factory, a joint venture between the Israeli defense company Elbit Systems and the Indian billionaire Gautam Adani's consortium is the first in the world to produce these drones outside of Israel.

This dramatic decision was likely approved by the highest officials in India, likely due to Israel being one of its main arms suppliers to the country. The move joins other reports indicating India has supplied Israel with artillery shells and weapons since the start of the war. The strategic partnership between the countries has proven highly beneficial for Israel.

"The Indians always remind us that Israel was there for them during the Kargil War," says Daniel Carmon, former Israeli ambassador to India, referring to India's military conflict with Pakistan in the summer of 1999. "Israel was one of the few countries that stood by them and provided them with weapons. The Indians don't forget this and might now be returning the favor."

The war in Gaza put the relationship between Israel and India to a tough test, one that many allies failed to pass. During the first hours of October 7, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted his support for Israel and unequivocally condemned terrorism. Once he set the tone, his country showed unconditional support for Israel in the first few months.

This unequivocal stance slightly shifted as India entered campaigns for the country's election held at the beginning of the month, partly because nearly 15% of its citizens are Muslim. The government's public policy didn't revoke support from Israel, but two elements were added to official statements.

The first is support for a two-state solution in line with India's consistent position over the years (India has recognized a Palestinian state since the Cold War). The second is calls for increasing humanitarian aid to Gaza, including sending its own supplies. Indian government officials refrained from saying anything negative about Israel in the last eight months, while the opposition harshly attacked it. Protests took place across India, particularly in the state of Kerala, where governor Pinarayi Vijayan, leader of the Communist Party, took a hardline stance against Israel and even participated in a protest in Delhi. Senior Hamas official Khaled Mashal even participated in one of the protests. Behind the scenes, India blocked or mitigated decisions against Israel in international forums such as the Non-Aligned Movement and BRICS (which includes Russia, China, Brazil, and South Africa, all hostile toward Israel).

However, as the war dragged on and anti-Israel sentiment grew, India realized it was paying a heavy diplomatic price. It did not block the latest decision against Israel in the Non-Aligned Movement because it could not find another country to join it as required. At this point, the Indians announced: Enough, we have our own interests too. Israel did not protest, understanding the sensitive situation.

Generally, India abstains in UN votes against Israel. It also blocks decisions against Israel in international forums such as the Non-Aligned Movement and BRICS (which includes Russia, China, Brazil, and South Africa, all hostile towards Israel). However, as the war dragged on and anti-Israel sentiment grew, India realized it was paying a heavy diplomatic price, and began aligning itself with the rest of the West.

Public sentiment toward Israel in India is also not unequivocal. Social media is filled with expressions of support for both sides, and pro-Israel rallies have been held occasionally. The media is heavily critical of the war, partly because there are no Indian correspondents in Israel, and news outlets rely on foreign agencies, but supportive articles about Israel are also published.

India is a country afflicted by terrorism, and this shapes its perspective on events in Israel. Even if no one declares it publicly, supporters of the Indian government are praying for Israel's success because the fight against terrorism is a common foundation for their relationship.

However, it's important to remember another point: India still maintains close relations with Iran. A recent agreement the two countries signed allows India to upgrade the port of Chabahar in Iran, allowing goods to be transported to Afghanistan and Central Asia, bypassing its rival Pakistan.

In March, India's National Security Advisor Ajit Doval visited Israel and discussed regional developments with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. This was the only visit made by a senior Indian official to Israel since the outbreak of the war, despite Israel's desire to host a larger solidarity visit.

6.22. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah missiles hits two homes in north, IDF moving resources north from Gaza

6.22. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah hits at least two homes with anti-tank missiles in northern Israel
Iran-backed terror group says attack against Metula comes as retaliation for IDF strikes in southern Lebanon; Lebanese media report artillery shelling in southern part of the country

Lior Ben Ari|12:02

Hezbollah on Saturday took responsibility for firing anti-tank missiles toward Metula located in northern Israel, hitting at least two homes, and setting fires in the area. According to the terror group the missiles were targeting “homes used by [IDF] soldiers in retaliation for yesterday’s attack in Khiam.”

Shortly after the Iran-backed terror group’s statement, Hezbollah-owned Lebanese news outlet Al-Manar reported artillery shellings were felt in villages in the southern part of the country.

Tensions on the northern border have reached a boiling point between Israel and Hezbollah amid reports that Israel was planning to move resources from the fighting in Gaza to the north in preparation for a possible war with the terror group. In an unusual move, Hezbollah’s Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah also threatened Cyprus for the first time last week for allegedly allowing Israel to use its airports and bases for military exercises.

"The Cypriot government must be warned that opening Cypriot airports and bases for the Israeli enemy to target Lebanon means that the Cypriot government has become part of the war and the resistance (Hezbollah) will deal with it as part of the war," Nasrallah said. Cyprus and Israel were surprised by the threat, especially since it was directed against a European Union (EU) member state. The EU quickly backed Nicosia, clarifying that a threat against it is a threat against the entire union.

6.22. 24 – Sa

Houthi 60th attack on shipping as US carrier Eisenhower may be replaced by Roosevelt

6.22. 24 – Sa

Houthi attack commercial ship as US carrier heads home
The merchant vessel reported an explosion in its vicinity 126 nautical miles east of Yemen's port city of Aden, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) says

Associated Press|02:45

A commercial ship traveling through the Gulf of Aden saw explosions near the vessel, authorities said Saturday, likely the latest attack by Yemen’s Houthi rebels attempting to target the shipping lane.

The apparent fire by the Houthis comes after the sinking this week of the ship Tutor, which marked what appears to be a new escalation by the Iranian-backed Houthis in their campaign of attacks on ships in the vital maritime corridor over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip.

The captain of the ship targeted late Friday saw “explosions in the vicinity of the vessel,” the British military’s United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations Center said. “The crew are reported safe and the vessel is proceeding to its next port of call,” the UKMTO said, without elaborating on whether the ship sustained any damage. The Houthis, who have held Yemen’s capital, Sanaa, since 2014, did not immediately claim the attack. However, it can take the rebels hours or even days to acknowledge their assaults.

The Houthis on Friday released footage of one of their drone boats, the “Tufan,” or “Flood,” which they said targeted the Tutor.

The Houthis have launched more than 60 attacks targeting specific vessels and fired off other missiles and drones in their campaign, killing a total of four sailors. They have seized one vessel and sunk two since November. A U.S.-led airstrike campaign has targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say.

In March, the Belize-flagged Rubymar carrying fertilizer became the first to sink in the Red Sea after taking on water for days following a rebel attack.

The Houthis have maintained that their attacks target ships linked to Israel, the United States or Britain. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the Israel-Hamas war.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Naval Institute’s news service reported, citing an anonymous official, that the Eisenhower would be returning home to Norfolk, Virginia, after an over eight-month deployment in combat that the Navy says is its most intense since World War II. The report said an aircraft carrier operating in the Pacific would be taking the Eisenhower’s place.

The closest American aircraft carrier known to be operating in Asia is the USS Theodore Roosevelt. The Roosevelt anchored Saturday in Busan, South Korea, amid Seoul’s ongoing tensions with North Korea.

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Ynet-News, June 21, 2024 – Friday

Feast of Weeks, Omer Fiftieth day **Monday** June 17, last day **Sunday** June 23

FoW - Exodus 34, Leviticus 23, Deuteronomy 16

6.21. 24 – Fr- - - News Placed in June 21 spot – Friday Day 5 FoW Full Moon
IDF close-combat secured east, south, & center, advancing north & west to capture Rafah

6.21. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday Day 5 FoW Full Moon
Armenia recognizes Palestine as a state, Israel summons Armenian envoy in protest

6.20. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday Day 4 FoW
Hezbollah drones create a complex battlefield in northern Israel

6.20. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in June 20 spot – Thursday Day 4 FoW
FM Israel Katz attacks UN General Guterres for distorting data to sway global opinion

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
Former hostage peace activist; Gaza doesn't want peace, they're paid to keep us

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
Hezbollah threatens Galilee & warns Cyprus allowing Israel in airports and bases

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
Biden stalls F-15 sale to Israel, agreed in October usually takes, at most, a week

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
US to abandon Gaza aid pier amid technical failures in high seas

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
Japanese disgusted by Brazilian managed Kyoto hotel barring Israeli guests

6.19. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
US envoy Amos Hochstein baffled by border hostilities; recommends Calm

6.19. 24 – We- - - News Placed in June 19 spot – Wednesday Day 3 FoW
UN wants Gaza run by armed forces of Egypt, Jordan, UAE, Saudi Arabia & Bahrain

6.18. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in June 18 spot – Tuesday Day 2 FoW
Hezbollah drone video of Haifa Port; IDF identified spy drone but did not intercept

6.18. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday Day 2 FoW
PM vs. US: Inconceivable withholding weapons to finish the job a lot faster

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW
US tout famine in Gaza; UN says not enough evidence; IDF pause 11-hrs daily

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW
IDF report September 19, 2-wks before Oct. 7, Hamas plan raid & mass kidnapping

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW
After 40 days of Rafah fighting, defeat of battalions will take a few more weeks

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW

Defense ministry blank check to industries for invention to stop Hezbollah UAVs

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW

US envoy Hochstein meets Israel leaders to defuse Hezbollah in Lebanon

6.17. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in June 17 spot – Monday Omer 50 ^ Day 1 FoW

IDF dismantling Hamas in Rafah & border crossing, not yet entered city core

6.16. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Omer 49

Israeli industry & citizens banned from French-Euro expo, by EU court & PA

6.16. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in June 16 spot – Sunday Omer 49

Israel will not end war before hostage release, as Hamas changes dozens of items