

Ynet-News, August 02, 2024 – Friday

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Khamenei orders Iran-led attack by militias in Syria that would make Israelis weep

8.02. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday

IDF eliminated Islamic Jihad commander & 30 terrorists in Gaza

8.01. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in August 01 spot – Thursday

Turkey vetoes all NATO-Israel affairs since October; Israel urges alliance expel Turkey

8.01. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

US redirected at least 12 warships from Red Sea to Persian Gulf and East Mediterranean

8.01. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

Israel on edge preparing for possible Hezbollah-Iran strike; waiting is a tactical victory

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Has Netanyahu chosen the next US ambassador? Ophir Falk or Ron Dermer

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Elite unit wraps up in Khan Younis with potential intelligence on Sinwar

7.30. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in July 30 spot – Tuesday

UK & Scottish call for US tanker of jet fuel to Israel; barred from docking in Gibraltar

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Defense exports embargo delays shipments of raw materials and parts to Israel

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US seeks to soften Israel response to Hezbollah, to stave off full-blown war

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Police raided IDF facility interrogating Hamas; arrest soldiers suspected of abuse

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IDF waits for right opportunity to retaliate against Hezbollah in Lebanon

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Bibi told Trump, the Jews vote for Dems out of habit; they live in a true Democracy

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Dutch: Turkey should be kicked out of NATO after threatening Israel with war

7.28. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in July 28 spot – Sunday  
Turkey President Erdogan suggests potential military action against Israel

7.28. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday  
Iran warns Israel against escalation to drag Lebanon into full-scale war

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
Iranian Falaq-1 missile used by Hezbollah killed 12 children in Golan Heights

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
Hezbollah rocket barrage over 100 rockets fired for an hour to Galilee & Golan Heights

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in July 27 spot – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
Hezbollah rocket kills 11 children, injures over 20 in Golan Heights Druze town

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
Trump calls Harris' meeting with Netanyahu 'terrible and insulting'

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
IDF strike command complex in Gaza school, PA report 30 dead 100 injured

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
IDF advances in Khan Younis, opening new front in Gaza ground operations

7.27. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday Q3 9:54pm  
IDF intercepted Hezbollah drone targeting Israeli offshore natural gas rig west of Haifa

8.02. 24 – Fr-  
Khamenei orders Iran-led attack by militias in Syria that would make Israelis weep

8.02. 24 – Fr-  
Hezbollah evacuates headquarters, equipment from Dahieh, report says  
The Lebanese terror group instructed residents living in buildings housing senior officials to vacate; report also says pro-Iranian militias in Syria have raised their alert level to the highest degree

Lior Ben Ari, Itamar Eichner|08:50

Hezbollah has started evacuating headquarters and military equipment from the Dahieh district in Beirut amid fears of escalating war with Israel, Saudi channel Al-Hadath reported on Friday.

The report, which has yet to be confirmed by other sources, cited individuals stating that Hezbollah also advised residents living in buildings housing senior organization officials, as well as those in nearby buildings, to relocate to "safer places."

Simultaneously, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based opposition group, reported that pro-Iranian militias in the Deir ez-Zor region of eastern Syria, bordering Iraq, brought in two truckloads of weapons from Iraq early this morning. The shipment, escorted by two vehicles from the "Hezbollah Brigades in Iraq" (a pro-Iranian militia), arrived a day after the militias raised their alert level to maximum.

International efforts to prevent an escalation continue, with UN envoy to the Middle East Tor Wennesland stating on Friday that he has had "critical discussions" in recent days with regional actors, including Lebanon, Egypt, and Qatar, to reduce tensions.

"I emphasized the urgency of addressing the rising risk of serious escalation, which poses a significant threat to regional stability," Wennesland said. "We reviewed ongoing mediation efforts and explored ways to prevent the conflict from spilling over. It is crucial that we act decisively and cooperatively to address immediate threats and lay the foundation for sustainable peace. I will continue my active engagement with all relevant parties to support peace and stability in the region."

These reports come amid heightened tensions in the Middle East following threats from Iran and Hezbollah to retaliate for recent assassinations in Tehran and Beirut. Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei declared that Israel had brought upon itself the "severest punishment" for allegedly killing a senior official hosted in Iran and, according to The New York Times, has ordered a direct attack on Israel. Nasrallah also threatened a response that would make Israelis "weep" over the recent killings, though the nature of the retaliation remains unclear.

Despite Jerusalem's assumption that the Iran-led attack will be large and coordinated with its Middle Eastern proxies, AFP reported this morning that another scenario considered by the Iranian "axis of resistance" is separate attacks.

A source close to Hezbollah told the French news agency that during a summit in Tehran yesterday between Iranian representatives and their proxies, "the next steps" were discussed. "Two scenarios were considered: a simultaneous attack by Iran and its allies, or separate responses from each side," said the source, who was briefed on the meeting. Meanwhile, a security official told the Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese newspaper Al-Akhbar that the response to Haniyeh's assassination would not come solely from Iran but would be a joint effort with all members of the axis.

"We are currently consulting and coordinating with our allies in the axis," the official said. Nasrallah, in his speech yesterday, also mentioned two possible forms of retaliation – a coordinated response with Iran or separate responses from axis members. "Because they have chosen to fight with everyone, they do not know where the response will come from," Nasrallah said. "The response will come, whether it is widespread or

simultaneous," he added, emphasizing that Hezbollah and the axis members are preparing "a real response, not a show of reaction."

8.02. 24 – Fr-

IDF eliminated Islamic Jihad commander & 30 terrorists in Gaza

8.02. 24 – Fr-

IDF eliminates Islamic Jihad commander, terrorists in Gaza

Military targets Mohammed al-Jabari who seconded the terror group's weapons manufacturing; an additional 30 terrorists killed throughout the Strip

Yoav Zitun|07:05

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit reported on Friday it had eliminated Islamic Jihad commander Mohammed al-Jabari, the terror group's deputy head of weapons manufacturing. "During a targeted, intelligence-based operation, the IDF eliminated the terrorist.

"Al-Jabari was responsible for financing weapons manufacturing infrastructure for the Islamic Jihad in northern Gaza, the distribution of salaries and funds, and was part of attempts to restore the Islamic Jihad's rocket manufacturing capabilities and infrastructure," the military said.

"Prior to the strike, numerous steps were taken to mitigate the risk of harming civilians, including the use of precise munitions, surveillance, and additional intelligence," it added.

"Moreover, troops are continuing precise, intelligence-based operational activities in the area of Rafah. Over the past day, IDF troops eliminated approximately 30 terrorists during close-quarters encounters and in aerial strikes."

The military added forces "began operational activities in central Gaza under the command of the 252nd Division. The troops identified a terrorist cell exiting a terror tunnel in order to attack IDF forces. Shortly following the identification, the IAF eliminated the terrorists. In addition, the IAF struck a structure in which numerous explosive devices and weapons were stored."

8.01. 24 – Th

Turkey vetoes all NATO-Israel affairs since October; Israel urges alliance expel Turkey

8.01. 24 – Th

Turkey blocks NATO-Israel cooperation over Gaza war

Ankara has vetoed all NATO engagement with Israel since October, including joint meetings and exercises; Erdogan tells NATO summit it is not possible to continue the alliance's partnership with the Israeli administration  
Reuters|11:37

Turkey has blocked cooperation between NATO and Israel since October because of the war in Gaza and said the alliance should not engage with Israel as a partner until there is an end to the conflict, sources familiar with the process said.

Israel carries the status of NATO partner and has fostered close relations with the military alliance and some of its members, notably its biggest ally, the United States.

Since then, Ankara has been fiercely critical of Israel's operation in Gaza, which it says amounts to a genocide, and has halted all bilateral trade. It also has slammed many Western allies for their support of Israel.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the sources said Turkey has vetoed all NATO engagement with Israel since October, including joint meetings and exercises, viewing Israel's "massacre" of Palestinians in Gaza as a violation of NATO's founding principles.

The sources said Turkey would maintain this block and not allow Israel to continue or advance its interaction with NATO until there was an end to the conflict, as it believes Israel's actions in Gaza violate international law and universal human rights.

After a NATO summit in Washington in July, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said it was not possible for NATO to continue its partnership with the Israeli administration.

Earlier this week, Israel's foreign minister urged the alliance to expel Turkey after Erdogan appeared to threaten to enter Israel, as it had Libya and Nagorno-Karabakh in the past.

8.01. 24 – Th

US redirected at least 12 warships from Red Sea to Persian Gulf and East Mediterranean

8.01. 24 – Th

US deploys at least 12 warships to Middle East amid soaring tensions, report says  
Pentagon official tells Washington Post destroyers positioned in Persian Gulf and Eastern Mediterranean following high-profile assassinations of Hamas, Hezbollah leaders;

Blinken urges 'all parties' to cease escalating actions

News agencies|03:19

The U.S. has deployed at least 12 warships to the Middle East, including the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, amphibious assault teams and over 4,000 Marines and sailors, in response to escalating tensions in the region following the assassinations of

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and Hezbollah military chief Fuad Shukr, the Washington Post reported on Thursday, citing a Pentagon official.

According to the report, **destroyers** have been **positioned in both the Persian Gulf and the Eastern Mediterranean**. The U.S. has **redirected** its warships **from the Red Sea**, where it combats Houthi missile and drone attacks in Yemen to protect commercial ships and support Israel.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State Antony **Blinken urged** "all parties" to **cease escalating** actions, a message interpreted as directed toward Israel following the killings of Shukr and Haniyeh. When asked if the U.S. had given Israel a "blank check" for operations in the Middle East, Blinken responded, "The **current trajectory is more conflict, more violence, more suffering and more insecurity**. It is vital to **break this cycle, beginning with a cease-fire in Gaza.**"

Speaking to reporters in Mongolia, Blinken emphasized that reaching a cease-fire requires parties to stop taking actions that escalate tensions and to find reasons to agree rather than delay or reject an agreement. His comments follow Prime Minister **Netanyahu's** decision to **add two clauses to a cease-fire proposal**, which he later denied. Israel eventually presented an ambiguous stance regarding the vetting of gunmen returning to northern Gaza. Netanyahu accused **Hamas** of **adding 29 new clauses** to the agreement.

Over the past day, **Blinken** has conducted phone conversations with leaders across the Middle East, **attempting to salvage cease-fire efforts** and curb expected retaliations from Iran and Hezbollah to the assassinations.

According to Israeli sources, **Jerusalem** has communicated a stern **warning to Hezbollah** through Western and regional intermediaries following the recent assassination that any massive attack on Israeli civilians will lead to war, and **Israel intends to target fighters rather than combat-supporting infrastructure**. Israel urged Hezbollah to adopt a similar focus.

Fuad Shukr, who was killed on Tuesday in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut's Dahiye district, is scheduled to be buried on Thursday after a funeral in the Hezbollah stronghold. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah is expected to deliver a speech at the ceremony around 2 p.m. UTC, likely from a secure location.

Meanwhile, a **funeral for Hamas leader** Ismail Haniyeh, who was killed in a strike attributed to Israel in Tehran, took place in the Iranian capital on Thursday morning. The service was **attended by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei** and senior Iranian officials. Haniyeh's body is expected to be **transferred to Doha, Qatar, for burial on Friday**.

**8.01. 24** – Th

**Israel on edge preparing for possible Hezbollah-Iran strike; waiting is a tactical victory**

**8.01. 24** – Th

Israel on edge, preparing for possible combined Hezbollah-Iran strike

After high-profile assassinations, IDF preparing for potential retaliation, but Home Front Command guidelines remain unchanged; security officials believe Hezbollah and IRGC may hold off response to prepare thoroughly and heighten public anxiety in Israel  
Yoav Zitun|Yesterday | 23:34

Following a situation assessment on Wednesday, the IDF announced plans to bolster defense systems and enhance preparedness in response to potential retaliation from Iran or Hezbollah in the wake of recent high-profile assassinations in Beirut and Tehran.

Despite these steps, the Home Front Command has not issued updated public guidelines or imposed restrictions, allowing normal civilian activities to continue, including at the borders, Ben Gurion Airport and central Israel.

The IDF is preparing for a range of responses from Hezbollah and the Iranian Revolutionary Guards following the killings of Hamas political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh and top Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr. Recent days have seen intense coordination with American counterparts and U.S.-led coalition forces in the Middle East as part of the readiness measures.

Some force relocations occurred earlier this week, but the lack of public restrictions suggests that the IDF anticipates that any targets in Israel will be primarily military. There should be enough time to advise the public to stay near shelters or avoid large gatherings if necessary.

The New York Times reported that Iran does not intend to target civilian sites, aiming instead at military objectives. Iranian officials indicated that Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei ordered a direct response to Haniyeh's assassination, but the nature of the retaliation remains undecided. Iranian military commanders are contemplating a missile and drone attack on military sites near Tel Aviv or Haifa, similar to the April strikes. The IDF acknowledges the possibility that Hezbollah and Iran may delay their retaliation to maximize operational readiness and heighten public tension in Israel. Hezbollah has previously exploited prolonged periods of high tension along the northern border to apply psychological pressure.

Such a waiting period would itself be a tactical victory for Hezbollah and Iran, mirroring the prelude to the April 14 Iranian attack, which saw Israel successfully intercept a barrage of missiles and drones in retaliation for the assassination of Iranian General Mohammed Reza Zahedi in Damascus two weeks earlier.

The Israeli media and political leadership's handling of public sentiment in the run-up to a potential escalation will also be significant. Iranian officials reportedly held their own situation assessments to plan a response to Haniyeh's assassination on Iranian soil, in place of Hamas, which has been unable to respond effectively to Israel's sustained ground operations in Gaza over the past eight months.

Iran and Hezbollah's response could involve coordinated and combined attacks, with the Revolutionary Guards promising a "special action" that may require time to plan, potentially taking weeks to execute. Their options include cyberattacks to disrupt Israeli

daily life, targeting banking, transportation and critical infrastructure or simultaneous assassination attempts on Israeli officials abroad.

The response could differ from previous rounds with Hamas, focusing instead on a significant, concentrated strike on a major military target in northern Israel, such as a naval or air force base, coupled with a limited rocket barrage aimed at causing panic rather than extensive damage.

Hezbollah's recent reconnaissance of Israeli air defenses will likely inform their approach, possibly combining drone swarms and rockets targeting critical military installations, intended to both inflict damage and create a strong visual impact.

7.31. 24 – We

Has Netanyahu chosen the next US ambassador? Ophir Falk or Ron Dermer

7.31. 24 – We

Has Netanyahu chosen the next US ambassador? Some are unconvinced

As Mike Herzog prepares to step down as envoy to Washington, Likud member Ophir Falk emerges as top candidate to replace him amid political maneuvering and strategic considerations influenced by upcoming US polls and Netanyahu's inner circle  
Itamar Eichner | 12:09

Mike Herzog, Israel's ambassador to Washington, is expected to conclude his tenure by the end of the year. According to sources close to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Likud member Ophir Falk, 56, is the leading candidate to succeed Herzog. Falk currently serves as Netanyahu's political advisor and envoy for hostage negotiations.

Falk, a lawyer with a PhD in international relations specializing in counter-terrorism, was born in Israel and lived in Canada from ages 4 to 18. He has become a close confidant of Netanyahu in recent years, helping him write his autobiography and producing a film, The Trial, which aimed to discredit the bribery charges against Netanyahu. The film was released just days before the elections.

Falk has written articles for the Jerusalem Post, supporting Netanyahu's positions, criticizing the Bennett-Lapid government and attacking the prosecution in Netanyahu's trial. He previously lived in the United States for about five years as a research fellow at Georgetown University's Institute for Security Studies and at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya's Institute for Counter-Terrorism.

Upon Netanyahu's return to the Prime Minister's Office, he appointed Falk as his political advisor and later as his envoy for hostage negotiations. Falk has participated in several negotiation delegations led by Mossad Director David Barnea, acting as Netanyahu's point of contact.

In March, Falk published an article in the Wall Street Journal criticizing the Biden administration's pressure on Israel: "Asking Israel to stop the war now is like telling the Allies to stop halfway to Berlin in World War II," he wrote. "Increasing international



pressure to end the war will not weaken Israel's determination to destroy Hamas, free the hostages and ensure Gaza never threatens Israel again."

Sources close to Netanyahu believe he is waiting for the U.S. election results before finalizing the ambassador appointment, considering whether Donald Trump or Kamala Harris will win. Netanyahu is said to prefer appointing someone born and raised in the U.S. to better relate to Americans.

Political insiders suggest Netanyahu would like Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer to return as ambassador to Washington. However, sources indicate Dermer is not interested in returning. Some argue that if Netanyahu pressures him, Dermer might accept, especially with the normalization deal with Saudi Arabia on the horizon. If Dermer declines, Falk remains the leading candidate for what is arguably Israel's most important diplomatic post. Falk declined to comment, and Netanyahu's office denied the details.

7.31. 24 – We

Global Media suggests IDF humiliated Iranian leadership, showing ability to target them

7.31. 24 – We

'Humiliation for entire Iranian leadership': global media reacts to Haniyeh assassination  
News outlets worldwide closely monitor aftermath of targeted killing in Tehran, describing it as 'major escalation that deepens fears of an all-out war' and 'powerful demonstration of Israel's reach' throughout the Middle East'

Ynet|Yesterday | 08:50

The dramatic assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran overnight Wednesday has sparked global headlines, raising concerns about the potential for an all-out war engulfing the Middle East.

International media emphasized the significant humiliation to Iranian leadership after Haniyeh was killed on Iranian soil during an official visit. This development casts doubt on the ongoing cease-fire negotiations in Gaza, where Haniyeh was seen as a critical and relatively moderate figure.

"Wiped out," was the main headline on the Fox News website, featuring Haniyeh's photo. Middle East commentator Lisa Daftri told the network that Haniyeh's assassination in Tehran, shortly after attending the inauguration ceremony of Iran's new President Masoud Pezeshkian, "sends a clear message that Israel does not differentiate between Iran and its proxies, Hamas and Hezbollah." Former U.S. intelligence officer Matt Shoemaker echoed this sentiment, saying that Israel's actions indicate it "isn't messing around."

The New York Times highlighted the security breach, noting, "Iran's failure to protect the leader of an ally in its capital city is a serious lapse." Haniyeh had met with Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei shortly before his death, raising questions about the security of senior Iranian officials and Israel's ability to target them.

CNN described Haniyeh's assassination as "a dramatic blow to Hamas," eliminating a key figure who headed the group's political operations while abroad. The BBC quoted former British National Security Advisor Lord Peter Ricketts, who called the assassination "a powerful demonstration of Israel's reach throughout the Middle East."

Amid these developments, the primary question in global media remains whether the Middle East is on the brink of conflagration. "Hamas political leader killed in Iran, as fears of wider war grow," read CNN's headline. The network explained that Haniyeh's death, following the assassination of Hezbollah's top military commander in Lebanon, marks "a major escalation that deepens fears of an all-out war."

The BBC's Beirut correspondent warned that Haniyeh's assassination is a "significant and dangerous development," potentially undermining cease-fire efforts. Conversely, the BBC's Jerusalem correspondent suggested that the assassination might expedite the end of the war, allowing Israel to claim a major blow to Hamas leadership and de-escalate in Gaza.

Global newspapers published profiles of Haniyeh, often portraying him as a pragmatic diplomat. The Guardian described him as "a moderate within Hamas," essential to cease-fire negotiations. Meanwhile, Italy's Corriere della Sera acknowledged Haniyeh's history of terrorist activity, recalling his celebration of the October 7 attacks that killed 1,200 Israelis.

Italian commentator Federico Rampini wrote that the assassination could signify an unstoppable escalation toward "total war" in the Middle East, calling it a "humiliation for the entire Iranian leadership." However, Rampini also speculated that the assassinations in Beirut and Tehran might be strategic moves by Israel to declare victory and withdraw from Gaza.

The world watches closely, clinging to any hope for peace amid the rising tensions. Only time will reveal the true impact of these events.

7.31. 24 – We

Elite unit wraps up in Khan Younis with potential intelligence on Sinwar

7.31. 24 – We

Elite counter-terrorism unit wraps up operations in Khan Younis after coming close to capturing Sinwar

Over 8 days, the 98th Division destroyed 100 km of Hamas tunnels, damaged 75% of Hamas' capabilities and rescued the bodies of 5 hostages; it also came close to capturing Yahya Sinwar, who is walking around in flip flops and unarmed in the tunnels

Yoav Zitun | 17:01

The 98th Division, the elite counter-terrorism unit, has left Khan Younis only eight days after raiding the largest city in the Gaza Strip, during which it located and rescued the

bodies of hostages Sergeant Major (Res.) Ravid Aryeh Katz, Maya Goren, Oren Goldin, Staff Sgt. Tomer Yaakov Ahimas and Sgt. Kiril Brodski from a tunnel. Watch the footage of the IDF taking down a terrorist in a tunnel:

On Saturday, the soldiers began advancing toward a Hamas battalion located in an area that the IDF had yet to operate in, between Khan Younis and Rafah. The IDF had expected the division would have to stay in the area for several more weeks with additional divisions that were supposed to join the operation.

In April, the IDF withdrew from Khan Younis after severely damaging the local Hamas battalions. According to the 98th Division, it has completed its objective: defeating the Khan Younis Brigade in Hamas by destroying 75% of its capabilities. In total, the forces located and destroyed about 100 km of tunnels in the city, as well as in raids carried out in Jabaliya and Shijaiyah.

"We discovered a vast network of tunnels, you could enter a tunnel near the Erez Crossing in the north of the Gaza Strip and exit in Rafah in the south," the army said. According to sources, "At the beginning of the ground incursion, an Israeli hostage happened to encounter Sinwar, who passed through some tunnel underground while she was being transferred there, and then he continued to his living quarters."

The division was very close during the operations in Khan Younis to capturing the Hamas leader, who was walking around in flip-flops and unarmed. Hamas often uses hidden doors with double hinges that are easily destroyed, which makes it difficult to pass in the underground chases that the IDF conducted against senior members of the terrorist group.

Hamas was unprepared to fight in the tunnels, since it planned to just use them for three purposes: survival, resting and movement. The IDF does not rule out that Sinwar may have emerged for air after 10 months of fighting. Some of the Hamas terrorists were unable to cope with the prolonged stay underground in the extreme heat due to the IDF damaging the tunnel's energy infrastructure. At least three terrorists left the living quarters, piled up their weapons and waited for the soldiers to arrest them.

"The enemy is also changing and eager to operate in the tunnels with small cells, so we established a special operations team in the 98th Division that brings together all possible intelligence sources, including the Shin Bet, to try and fool Hamas in the tunnels. We also trap the terrorists in the tunnels and then eliminate them," according to the IDF.

"As the months pass, we extract a lot of important information during interrogation from the subjects we arrest and over time also know how to ask the right questions," the IDF noted,

Along with locating some of the hostages, the division, under the command of Brigadier General Dan Goldfuss, destroyed 15 Hamas command and control complexes in Khan Younis. In total, 182 soldiers in the division have been killed, and 3,000 soldiers were injured.

"The division is well prepared. The soldiers who left Gaza and the commanders feel capable of carrying out any mission. Returning the hostages from Gaza will deprive

Hamas of leverage, and today we have achieved freedom of action to operate on the ground anywhere in the Strip," according to the IDF.

7.30. 24 – Tu

UK & Scottish call for US tanker of jet fuel to Israel; barred from docking in Gibraltar

7.30. 24 – Tu

UK lawmakers call for tanker carrying fuel for Israel to be blocked in Gibraltar  
In a letter to the foreign secretary members of the Scottish National Party, Greens and Labour, say jet fuel will be used by the Israeli air force to attack Gazans and Gibraltar should not be complicit in international war crimes  
Itamar Eichner|05:26

British members of Parliament demanded that an oil tanker flying the American flag, heading to Israel with 300,000 barrels of fuel oil, be barred from docking in Gibraltar, in a letter they sent to Britain's Foreign Secretary David Lammy.

According to a report in the UK's Guardian Newspaper, the tanker was due to arrive at port on the British-administered island later on Tuesday. Gibraltar's government said it did not receive a request to dock.

The parliamentarians, including members of the Scottish National Party, Labour and the Green Party, said the government must prevent the use of Gibraltar as a sanctuary to supply military petrol for Israel's war on Gaza. "The fuel would be used for Israeli Air Force F-16 and F-35 fighter jets, that drop bombs on Gaza residents," they said in their letter.

They also said Gibraltar must not be allowed to be complicit in Israel's violation of international law. "Tens of thousands of Palestinians have been killed in Israel's attacks," the parliamentarians wrote.

In a separate report, the UK's Times said on Tuesday that the government in London is expected to delay a decision to suspend arms sales to Israel, after pressure from the British Jewish community. A decision to withhold export licenses for sales of weapons and material used in the production of armaments was believed by officials in Jerusalem, to be imminent.

According to the Times, Lammy decided to hold off on his decision for a number of weeks and limit the restrictions on the supply of specific materials that could be connected to allegations of war crimes, committed by Israel.

7.29. 24 – Mo

Defense exports embargo delays shipments of raw materials and parts to Israel

7.29. 24 – Mo

'Silent' arms embargo against Israel harms security, slows weapons production  
Jerusalem fears the imminent British announcement that it will halt defense exports is just the first sign of a broader trend, and will further affect the development of IDF combat systems during the ongoing war; Israel must explore alternative solutions  
Yoav Zitun, Itamar Eichner|16:00

The possibility that Britain may soon announce a halt to defense export licenses to Israel, as revealed by Ynet and not ruled out in London, is part of the silent and unofficial arms embargo by Western countries in recent months. This includes delays in shipments of raw materials and parts to Israel's defense industries, ultimately used to produce weapons for the IDF.

These silent sanctions come from major manufacturers in countries such as France, leading Israel's defense ministry to seek alternatives in Eastern Europe, South America and Asia. For example, a French manufacturer delayed for months a shipment of raw material for a major operational project for the IDF, which is produced by an Israeli defense industry. The multi-billion-dollar project continues, but at a slower pace which has pushed back its completion date.

Partial slowdowns are also being felt in the development of other combat systems for the IDF. Even the Merkava tank and the Namer APC, produced by a joint directorate of the IDF and the Defense Ministry, rely on 200 different suppliers, some dependent on foreign manufacturers. Consequently, top officials in the Defense Ministry are making frantic efforts to find alternatives, including in countries such as India and Serbia.

On Monday morning, as Israel anticipated the British decision was imminent, officials in Jerusalem noted that Britain is a significant player in defense exports. There is concern that this could be the first step, with other countries possibly following suit in a "domino effect."

Britain been examining the issue of arms export licenses for some time. However, with the recent change in government, Israel believes the decision is close, linked to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling calling on countries not to assist Israel.

A British government spokesperson responded to Ynet's revelation, stating: "The review of Israel's compliance with international humanitarian law is ongoing." British Foreign Secretary David Lammy added: "Our commitment to international law is clear, and we are following the necessary processes. Upon taking office, I instructed officials to conduct a comprehensive review of Israel's compliance with international humanitarian law, and this process is now underway. I will update once the process is complete." The new Labour government recently announced it would resume funding for UNRWA and withdrew objections aimed at preventing the issuance of arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court (ICC) against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

In May, ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan sought arrest warrants for Netanyahu, Gallant and three Hamas leaders – Yahya Sinwar, Mohammed Deif and Ismail Haniyeh. The previous British government, led by Rishi Sunak and the Conservatives, had taken a step warmly welcomed by Israeli leadership by filing a reservation to the prosecutor's request to issue the arrest warrants for Netanyahu and Gallant.

Since the reservation was filed in June, the UK has seen a political upheaval – Sunak's Conservative government was defeated in elections, and the left-wing Labour Party returned to power. Recently, it was reported that, due to the change in government, a shift in policy toward Israel and the management of the war in Gaza is expected from London. Prime Minister Keir Starmer's spokesperson confirmed the withdrawal of reservations to the arrest warrants, adding that it is an independent decision of the court.

7.29. 24 – Mo

US seeks to soften Israel response to Hezbollah, to stave off full-blown war

7.29. 24 – Mo

US working to soften Israel's response to Hezbollah, stave off full-blown war

Washington urging Israel against targeting Beirut or key infrastructure such as airports and bridges when it retaliates for the terror group's missile attack that killed 12 Druze children and teens

Reuters|Updated:14:35

The United States is leading a diplomatic dash to deter Israel from striking Lebanon's capital Beirut or major civil infrastructure in response to a deadly rocket attack on the Golan Heights, five people with knowledge of the drive said.

Washington is racing to avert a full-blown war between Israel and the Iranian-backed Lebanese terror group Hezbollah after a missile attack on the Golan Heights killed 12 Druze children and teens playing on a soccer field over the weekend, according to the five people who include Lebanese and Iranian officials plus Middle Eastern and European diplomats.

Israel and the U.S. have blamed Hezbollah for the rocket strike, though the group has denied responsibility for the youths deaths after initially claiming responsibility for launching the missile.

The focus of the high-speed diplomacy has been to constrain Israel's response by urging it against targeting densely populated Beirut, the southern suburbs of the city that form Hezbollah's heartland, or key infrastructure like airports and bridges, said the sources who requested anonymity to discuss confidential details that haven't been previously reported.

Lebanon's deputy parliament speaker Elias Bou Saab, who said he had been in contact with U.S. mediator Amos Hochstein since Saturday's Golan attack, told Reuters that Israel could avert the threat of major escalation by sparing the capital and its environs.

"If they avoid civilians and they avoid Beirut and its suburbs, then their attack could be well calculated," he said.

Israeli officials have said that their country wants to hurt Hezbollah but not drag the region into all-out war. The two Middle Eastern and European diplomats said Israel hadn't made any commitment to avoiding strikes on Beirut, its suburbs or civil infrastructure.

The U.S. State Department said it wouldn't comment on the specifics of diplomatic conversations. "Our support for Israel's security is ironclad and unwavering against all Iran-backed threats, including Hezbollah," a spokesperson told Reuters.

White House spokesperson John Kirby told reporters that Israel had every right to respond to the Golan strike. "But nobody wants a broader war," he added. "As for conversations over the weekend, you bet we've had them and we had them at multiple levels. But I'm not going to detail the guts of those conversations."

The Prime Minister's Office didn't respond to a request for comment, while Hezbollah declined to comment.

The five people with knowledge of the diplomatic push over the past two days have either been involved in the conversations or briefed on them. They said the efforts aimed to achieve a calibrated approach similar to that which contained April's exchange of missile and drone attacks between Israel and Iran, sparked by an Israeli strike on the Iranian consulate in Damascus.

An Iranian official said the United States had also conveyed messages to Tehran at least three times since Saturday's attack on the Golan Heights, "warning that escalating the situation would be detrimental to all parties."

Hezbollah is the most powerful of Iran's "Axis of Resistance" network of regional proxy groups and allied with Palestinian terror group Hamas. It has been trading fire with the Israeli military across Lebanon's southern border since the Gaza war began in October. During a 2006 war, the last time Israel and Hezbollah fought a major conflict, Israeli forces bombed Beirut's southern suburbs, known as the Dahiya, hitting Hezbollah-affiliated buildings as well as residential towers. Beirut airport was bombed and put out of action, and across Lebanon bridges, roads, gas stations and other infrastructure were destroyed.

A French diplomat told Reuters that, since the Golan attack, Paris also has been involved in passing messages between Israel and Hezbollah to de-escalate the situation.

France has historic ties with Lebanon, which was under French mandate from 1920 until it gained independence in 1943. Paris has maintained close ties since then and has about 20,000 citizens in the country, many dual nationals.

The French foreign ministry didn't respond to Reuters requests for comment.

Israel's Homefront Command, a military unit responsible for protecting civilians, has not changed any of its instructions to citizens so far, an indication that the military is not expecting imminent danger from Hezbollah or any other group.

On Sunday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's security cabinet, which comprises 10 ministers and has dictated policy on the Gaza war and Hezbollah, authorized the premier and the defense minister to "decide on the manner and timing of the response" against Hezbollah.

This decision, coupled with the abstention of Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners - Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir - suggests that Israel has opted for a response short of the all-out war that some politicians have advocated for.

Following the Golan attack, Smotrich issued a strong statement demanding robust action. He posted on X: "For the death of children, (Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan) Nasrallah should pay with his head. All of Lebanon should pay."

First published: 22:34, 07.29.24

7.29. 24 – Mo

Police raided IDF facility interrogating Hamas; arrest soldiers suspected of abuse

7.29. 24 – Mo

Protesters break into IDF detention facility after military police arrest soldiers  
Riot takes place after soldiers suspected of abusing a terrorist were taken for questioning;  
Knesset lawmakers and protesters breach gate of facility where Gaza terrorists taken for questioning

Ilana Curiel, Yoav Zitun, Moran Azulay, Shilo Freid|09:09

Military police raided the IDF's Sde Teiman detention facility, where Hamas terrorists are taken for questioning, and detained for questioning nine reservists suspected of abuse of a Nukhba terrorist who was detained at the base. There were physical confrontations between the military policemen and the reserve soldiers during the arrests. The terrorist was taken to Soroka Hospital in Be'er Sheva with bruises on his buttocks.

Some of the protesters attacked a television news team that came to cover the protest, calling them "traitors." The protesters broke open the gate of the part of the base where terrorists arrested in Gaza are kept. After that they began to march on it, while soldiers tried to repel them. A small contingent of police arrived long after the start of the riot.

Knesset member Zvi Sikkot breaks through gate at Sde Teiman detention facility, then calls not to confront soldiers

Knesset lawmaker Zvi Sikkot of the religious Zionist Party led by Bezalel Smotrich was filmed entering the base without permission through a breach in the fence. Later, he was recorded calling on the protesters not to confront the soldiers there. "We have no other army, this is an important demonstration, let's go outside and not fight with the soldiers," he said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant did not comment on the incident.

Members of right-wing parties in the Knesset came to the defense of the soldiers. The chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Yuli Edelstein of the Likud Party, will hold a discussion on the conduct of the chief military prosecutor. "A situation



in which **masked** military policemen **raid** an IDF base **is not acceptable** to me and I will not allow it to happen again. Our **soldiers are not criminals**, and this **contemptible pursuit of our soldiers is unacceptable** to me," Edelstein said.

The IDF has emphasized that there were **no arrests**, stressing that the **soldiers were detained as part of an investigation**.

An IDF spokesperson said in a statement that "following a **suspicion of serious abuse of a detainee** who was held in the detention facility in Sde Teiman, an **investigation** by the military police was **opened by order of the military attorney's office**."

Among the **demonstrators** who arrived at the scene **were reservists**, who blocked the base's exit and later **breached its fences along with members of the Knesset** who arrived at the scene

The **demonstrators** who arrived at the scene **claimed that the detention of the reservists, suspected of abuse of a prisoner**, could "demotivate reservists."

"These are people who raped and harmed," they told Ynet, "**tomorrow our battalion is supposed to enter Gaza**. In the end, **people will think twice because of this**. It's like the Jews in the Holocaust who were informers on others."

Minister of National Security Itamar **Ben-Gvir** offered his **support to the detained soldiers**, and said that "The spectacle of military police officers **coming to arrest our best heroes** at Sde Teiman is nothing less than **shameful**. I recommend that the defense minister, the chief of staff and the army authorities **back the fighters and learn from the prison service**. The summer camps and **patience for the terrorists are over**. **Soldiers should get full backing**," he said.

The ultra-Orthodox Shas party also called in a statement for support for the soldiers. "The grim sight of **masked military policemen** raiding an IDF base and **arresting soldiers like criminals** should disturb every citizen in the country. Our dear **soldiers who sacrifice their lives** in a difficult war **against the murderous enemy** of Hamas **should receive full support and total respect and appreciation**," the party statement said.

Justice Minister Yariv Levin also criticized the arrests. "I was shocked to see the difficult pictures of soldiers being arrested at Sde Teiman the way dangerous criminals are arrested," he said, adding: "**We must not forget that these are soldiers who do difficult holy work for all of us by guarding the worst of the terrorists**

He reiterated his **call for judicial reform**, blaming the arrest on the Supreme Court.

"Today, many are voicing the **demand for a fundamental change** in the situation. The time has come for this **justified public outcry to find a listening ear among the Knesset members** who in the past refrained from supporting the implementation of the necessary changes," he said.

The head of the opposition, **Yair Lapid**, **condemned those that broke into the detention facility**. : "The incursion into Sde Teiman is a despicable and **dangerous crime** by lawmakers who weaken and dismantle the IDF, weaken and dismantle the State of Israel, **gnawing away at** the foundations of our **power from within**," he said.

"The politicians who abandoned the hostages, abandoned security and destroyed Israeli society are now **destroying the chain of command**. The country is in existential danger if these people do not leave power and get out of our lives," he said.

Transport Minister Miri Regev claimed: "Arresting our soldiers who defend the country is a dangerous step in wartime. The military justice system must focus on protecting our soldiers, not pleasing our enemies."

The chairman of the Democrats Party, made up of left-wing parties Labor and Meretz, Yair Golan, said that with this incident Israel has reached a crossroads.

"We have reached a time of decision - the fascist state of Judah or the liberal-democratic state of Israel. Those who allow the Kahanists to enter the government discover how serious the phenomenon is when they choose to rebel against the army. To the extent that criminal offenses were committed by soldiers who acted contrary to orders, it is the duty of the army and the state to investigate them. The army must not allow the phenomena of criminal fringes to do as they wish in the army."

Left-wing Knesset member Gilad Kariv said that "the attempt to interfere in command and legal decisions within the army will lead to the disbanding of the army and serious security damage. Itamar Ben-Gvir and Otzma Yehudit are encouraging a rebellion within the army, no less than that. Along the way, they expose IDF soldiers and commanders to international proceedings."

The storm even reached the WhatsApp group of government ministers, where Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu of Ben-Gvir's Otzma Yehudit party wrote that "What is happening now in Sde Teiman is legal madness. Whoever gave the order to persecute the heroic soldiers who are forced to live in the environment of human animals should put down the keys and go home."

After the storm that erupted following detentions, IDF Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant General Herzi Halevi said in a statement: "The break-in at the Sde Teiman Base is extremely serious and against the law. Breaking into a military base and disturbing the order there is severe behavior that is not acceptable in any way. We are in the midst of a war, and actions of this type endanger the security of the state. I strongly condemn the incident, and we are working to restore order at the base.

"I fully support the Military Advocate General's Corps and the Military Police Criminal Investigation Division in investigating every incident brought to their attention. This is their duty, regardless of rank or position. It is precisely these investigations that protect our soldiers in Israel and the world and preserve IDF values. These investigations are conducted while respecting the dignity of our soldiers, whom we command."

7.29. 24 – Mo

IDF waits for right opportunity to retaliate against Hezbollah in Lebanon

7.29. 24 – Mo

IDF waits for right opportunity to retaliate against Hezbollah in Lebanon

Military makes preparations for an estimated 'significant' attack against the terror group after Majdal Shams attack; officials say several days of fighting possible after retaliation Yoav Zitun, Itamar Eichner|06:16

Israel is still waiting for the operational opportunity for a retaliatory strike in Lebanon that was approved by the Security Cabinet on Sunday, two days after the massacre that

claimed the lives of 12 children and teenagers in Majdal Shams. The target of the strike was decided by Israeli officials and brought for approval in the Cabinet discussion.

The IDF is waiting for the right chance to carry out the strike, which involves many considerations, including the possible presence of non-combatants near the target, the possibility of striking senior Hezbollah figures, or striking strategic terror sites.

Other preparations also include defense needs and readiness efforts. The response options prepared by the IDF weren't presented to the Cabinet out of fear they would be leaked and thereby influence future decisions.

Israel also estimates that while several days of fighting may follow the strike, the move would still be a "limited" one only. Similar statements were made by Israeli officials to the Reuters news agency.

"Israel wants to hurt Hezbollah but not drag the Middle East into all-out war," a senior security official told the agency. "We're preparing for the possibility of several days of fighting," two other officials said.

Meanwhile, a Hezbollah Radwan force operative was killed on Monday in a strike in southern Lebanon. Local reports mentioned two dead and three injured, including civilians, in an airstrike on a vehicle and motorcycle in the Meiss Ej Jabal area.

The government's ministers authorized Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to choose the manner and timing of the response on Sunday. Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir abstained, demanding a harsher measure.

A security source said, "You have to decide what your goal is and derive actions from that goal in order to respond more harshly than you have in the past while trying to circumvent an all-out war. You can't base your actions on avoiding war because things might get complicated." At the end of the Cabinet meeting, estimations said a severe response to the attack was very likely.

The international stage and equally the U.S. is also putting pressure on Israel to opt for a measured response, while the French are pressing the Lebanese. A senior official in U.S. President Joe Biden's administration that he didn't think "we're heading toward an all-out war in Lebanon." He added, however, that a "miscalculation could lead to war."

Lebanese Parliament Deputy Speaker Elias Bou Saab told Al Jazeera on Sunday, "If civilian casualties occur or if Beirut and its suburbs are attacked, we won't consider this as a limited response."

Another senior Israeli official said that although Israel's response would be severe, it wouldn't lead to a full-scale war. However, he noted that the Israeli strike is expected to be met with an unusually harsh response from Hezbollah.

7.29. 24 – Mo

Bibi told Trump, the Jews vote for Dems out of habit; they live in a true Democracy

7.29. 24 – Mo

Trump: Bibi says Jews vote for Dems out of habit

Republican presidential candidate meets Jewish fundraisers in New Jersey; claims 'the Democrats hate Israel' after slamming Kamala Harris for insulting comments post

Netanyahu meeting

Ynet|01:35

Former U.S. president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump told Jewish donors at an event in New Jersey on Sunday that he asked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last week during their meeting why Jews still vote for Democrats. According to Trump, Netanyahu replied, "It's a habit." Trump also told supporters that "The Democrats hate Israel."

Trump attacked Democratic candidate Vice President Kamala Harris last week claiming her meeting with Netanyahu was "terrible and insulting."

According to Trump, "Her ineptness will greatly prolong the war [in Gaza] and delay the hostage release." Trump also mentioned the fact Harris avoided presiding over the Senate during Netanyahu's speech in Congress and added, "The same people that embarrassed us in Afghanistan with their gross incompetence, are the ones who are telling Israel not to fight any longer with Hamas."

"Forget October 7th, they say! Any Jewish person that votes for Kamala, or a Democrat, should immediately have their head examined," he wrote.

Harris said in a statement following her meeting with Netanyahu that the two had a "frank and constructive meeting" and reiterated her "unwavering commitment" to Israel's security. Harris added, "The difficult humanitarian situation in Gaza cannot be ignored."

Trump, for his part, attacked Harris in front of Netanyahu, saying that "Harris's comments weren't very nice pertaining to Israel."

In October last year, Trump sharply criticized Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and Israeli intelligence for their handling of the crisis. Just five days after the October 7 attack, Trump remarked that "Israel was not prepared" and expressed his disappointment in Netanyahu.

7.29. 24 – Mo

Dutch: Turkey should be kicked out of NATO after threatening Israel with war

7.29. 24 – Mo

Wilders: Turkey should be kicked out of NATO after threatening Israel with war

Far-right Dutch leader says Erdogan is nuts; Ankara Foreign Ministry compares Netanyahu to Hitler and says he will end up like the Nazi dictator

Itamar Eichner|00:14

Far-right Dutch leader Geert Wilders said Turkey should be kicked out of NATO after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan threatened Israel with war.

"Islamofascist Erdogan threatens to invade Israel. This guy is totally nuts. Turkey should be kicked out of NATO," Wilders said in a post on X.

Speaking to his political party, Erdogan on Sunday suggested a potential military action against Israel, drawing parallels to Turkey's involvement in Karabakh and Libya.

On Monday, the Turkish Foreign Ministry in Ankara compared Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to Hitler and said he would end up like the Nazi dictator.

"Just like the genocidal Nazis were prosecuted, so will those trying to destroy the Palestinians. Humanity will stand by the Palestinians," the Turkish ministry said in a post.

Wilders who is known for his extreme anti-Muslim and anti-immigration views is a staunch supporter of Israel and has claimed that Jordan is a Palestinian state and if it only changed its name to Palestine there would be an end to the Middle East conflict. His party won 23% of the Dutch vote in last November's election

7.28. 24 – Su

Turkey President Erdogan suggests potential military action against Israel

7.28. 24 – Su

Turkey's Erdogan suggests potential military action against Israel

'We will do the same to them as we did when we entered Karabakh and Libya,' Turkish leader says; Katz: 'Erdogan is following in the footsteps of Saddam Hussein'  
Itamar Eichner|14:08

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday suggested a potential military action against Israel, drawing parallels to Turkey's involvement in Karabakh and Libya.

Erdogan, who has been a fierce critic of Israel's offensive in Gaza, started discussing that war during a speech praising his country's defense industry.

"We must be very strong so that Israel can't do these ridiculous things to Palestine. Just like we entered Karabakh, just like we entered Libya, we might do similar to them," Erdogan told a meeting of his ruling AK Party in his hometown of Rize.

"There is no reason why we cannot do this ... We must be strong so that we can take these steps," Erdogan added in the televised address.

AK Party representatives did not respond to calls asking for more detail on Erdogan's comments. Israel did not immediately make any comment.

Foreign Minister Israel Katz responded late Sunday to Erdogan's threats, comparing him to Iraqi despot Saddam Hussein. "Erdogan is following in the footsteps of Saddam

Hussein by threatening to attack Israel. He should remember how that turned out and how it ended," Katz wrote on X

The president appeared to be referring to past actions by Turkey.

In 2020, Turkey sent military personnel to Libya in support of the United Nations-recognized Government of National Accord of Libya.

Libyan Prime Minister Abdulhamid al-Dbeibah, who heads the Government of National Unity in Tripoli, is backed by Turkey.

Turkey has denied any direct role in Azerbaijan's military operations in Nagorno-Karabakh, but said last year it was using "all means", including military training and modernization, to support its close ally.

7.28. 24 – Su

Iran warns Israel against escalation to drag Lebanon into full-scale war

7.28. 24 – Su

Iran warns Israel against 'adventure' in Lebanon

Following Israeli threats to retaliate against Hezbollah's deadly missile attack on the Golan Heights, Iran warns against any possible escalation or attempts to drag Lebanon into the war

Ynet|04:10

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson on Sunday warned against any Israeli "adventure" in Lebanon after the deadly Hezbollah rocket attack on the Golan Heights. Israel vowed to respond forcefully after the strike on Majdal Shams that killed 12 children on Saturday

"Contrary to its denials, Hezbollah is the entity that is unequivocally responsible for yesterday's massacre. The rocket that murdered our boys and girls was an Iranian rocket and Hezbollah is the only terror organization which has those in its arsenal," he said adding that Israel will exercise its right and duty to act in self-defense and will respond to the massacre.

Hezbollah - Iran's frontline outpost in Lebanon - carried out a massacre in Majdal Shams yesterday: the murder of innocent children and teenagers while they were playing football.

Foreign Minister Israel Katz said that the Hezbollah attack crossed all red lines and would be met with an appropriate response. "We are approaching the moment of full-scale war with Hezbollah and Lebanon," Katz said.

"We will pay a price on both the front and the home front, but by the end of the war, Nasrallah and Hezbollah will be crushed, and Lebanon will suffer severely. We will restore peace and security to the northern communities. I have instructed the Foreign Ministry to prepare for a comprehensive campaign worldwide to gain legitimacy for action in Lebanon," he added.

Tensions on the northern front have been rising with constant attack from Hezbollah drone swarms and missile barrages fired at civilians.

Hezbollah's latest attack has reportedly crossed a line, prompting Israel to vow to respond in kind. Iran, as Hezbollah's benefactor, warned Israel from retaliating in Lebanon and dragging the country into full-scale war.

Iran's threat comes against the backdrop of its involvement in terror threats in the region. The IDF ascertained the missile Hezbollah launched was an Iranian-made Falaq-1. Iran has also been supplying the Houthis with missiles and drones, one of which has hit Tel Aviv in the past month, killing a civilian and injuring others.

7.27. 24 – Sa

Iranian Falaq-1 missile used by Hezbollah killed 12 children in Golan Heights

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF strikes Lebanon| Hezbollah fires Iranian Falaq-1 missile  
Rocket killing at least 12, carries a 50 kilogram (110 lbs.) warhead produced in Iran which the IDF says only Iranian proxy Hezbollah possesses; IDF strikes Hezbollah targets in initial response, including in the Bekka Valley region  
Yoav Zitun, Yair Kraus| | 23:22

'Break their bones,' Fauda's Idan Amedi says after Hezbollah attack on Majdal Shams  
The IDF said on Sunday that it had conducted several raids against Hezbollah targets in Lebanon including in the Bekka Valley. "Overnight, the IAF struck a series of Hezbollah terror targets both deep inside Lebanese territory and in southern Lebanon, including weapons caches and terrorist infrastructure in the areas of Chabriha, Borj El Chmali, and Beqaa, Kfarkela, Rab El Thalathine, Khiam, and Tayr Harfa," the military said.  
The IDF spokesperson said late on Saturday that the deadly rocket that killed 12 children in the Golan Heights was a Falaq-1, manufactured in Iran, a rocket with a warhead of over 50 kilograms. According to the military Hezbollah is the only Iranian proxy that possesses such a weapon. "Hezbollah lied," Read Admiral Daniel Hagari said when the Lebanon-bases terror group denied it had fired the rocket.

Hagari also revealed the name of Hezbollah's commander Ali Yahyah Mohammed, who was responsible for its launch. "An alert siren was activated but unfortunately not early enough for the children to reach safety," Hagari said adding that there was no prior intelligence indicating Hezbollah's intent to target the Golan Heights. "We will prepare a response against Hezbollah. When we finish our assessments, we will act."

Hagari urged civilians to prepare for more Hezbollah fire which he said would come, once Israel responds to the strike on the Druze village on the Golan.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu cut short his weekend stay in the U.S. and was expected to land in Israel in the afternoon to hold a security cabinet meeting after the deadly attack.

Netanyahu came under fire for, initially choosing not to leave Washington early, according to reports, but in a statement issued by his office denied that he had considered staying on in D.C.

7.27. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah rocket barrage over 100 rockets fired for an hour to Galilee & Golan Heights

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF prepares to retaliate after Hezbollah rocket kills 11 children in Majdal Shams  
Army says deadly strike came following assassination of Hezbollah operative in southern Lebanon: 'We killed a Hezbollah operative, and in response, they killed children'  
Yoav Zitun | 13:29

Following the rocket attack on the northern Druze town of Majdal Shams, the IDF reported Saturday night that Hezbollah fired the rocket that struck a soccer field where children were practicing, killing at least 11 of them and injuring over 20 others, including at least five critically. Multiple high-level assessments are underway within the IDF.

The military said that the barrage followed the earlier elimination of members of Hezbollah's elite Radwan force in the southern Lebanon town of Kfarkela. "We killed a Hezbollah operative, and in response, they killed children. The IDF is prepared to respond," the army said.

An initial IDF investigation indicated that the air defense systems had difficulty intercepting the rocket, and the incident is under review by the Air Force. No Home Front Command restrictions were imposed on the northern Golan Heights town, allowing the soccer practice to proceed.

Security consultations are currently being led by Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and IDF Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi in the absence of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who is on a state visit to the United States.

Gallant and senior Northern Command officials have repeatedly sought to escalate attacks on Hezbollah, advocating early in the war for Lebanon to be the primary theater of operations rather than Gaza.

Foreign Minister Israel Katz said that the Hezbollah attack crossed all red lines and would be met with an appropriate response. "We are approaching the moment of full-scale war with Hezbollah and Lebanon," Katz said.

"We will pay a price on both the front and the home front, but by the end of the war, Nasrallah and Hezbollah will be crushed, and Lebanon will suffer severely. We will restore peace and security to the northern communities. I have instructed the Foreign Ministry to prepare for a comprehensive campaign worldwide to gain legitimacy for action in Lebanon."



Hezbollah sources told Lebanese media that "Israel's accusations that Hezbollah attacked Majdal Shams are false," denying that they fired the rocket that hit the soccer field. Hezbollah later issued an official statement denying involvement. "Hezbollah completely denies the accusations by Israeli media about the attack on Majdal Shams. Hezbollah confirms it has no connection to the incident," a statement read. The rocket barrage began at 6:18 p.m., with reports indicating that Hezbollah launched dozens of rockets at northern Israeli communities. The Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese network Al Mayadeen claimed that the barrage included more than 100 rockets fired over the course of an hour toward the Galilee and Golan Heights, following the killing of four Radwan force operatives in Kfarkela.

7.27. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah rocket kills 11 children, injures over 20 in Golan Heights Druze town

7.27. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah rocket kills 11 children, injures over 20 in Majdal Shams

Emergency services report Hezbollah munition exploded in soccer field in northern Druze town; Netanyahu to hold situation assessment; Katz: 'We are approaching full-scale war with Hezbollah and Lebanon'

Yoav Zitun, Einav Halabi, news agencies|Updated: | 10:53

A Hezbollah rocket struck a soccer field in Majdal Shams, a Druze town in the Golan Heights, killing at least 11 children, and injuring over 20 others, the IDF reported on Saturday.

"Ten people in serious condition are being evacuated via Israel Air Force helicopters and MDA first responders. Initial reports from the scene were very difficult; they were scenes out of a battlefield," Magen David Adom (MDA) emergency service Director Eli Bin. The injured, aged 10-20, are receiving treatment at local clinics. At least five of them were in critical condition

"We arrived at the area and saw damage and belongings set on fire," Idan Avshalom, a senior MDA paramedic, described the scene. "The injured were lying on the grass, and the scenes were difficult to watch. We began treating the injured immediately. Some of them were evacuated to local clinics. The injured are still receiving medical attention."

Nasser, a resident of Majdal Shams, recounted the moment of impact to Ynet. "This is the first time we were hit. There was a siren; I didn't have time to cover my head with my hands when the explosion happened," he said.

"Some children who were injured have no chance of being saved. This war needs to end. They're all little kids, playing around with scooters and bicycles, playing soccer. No one knows where their children are; no one is allowed to come near the area. There were over 30 ambulances and many Magen David Adom teams here. I've never been in such a situation in my life."

Another local claimed that the Iron Dome missile defense system was not activated.

An Israeli official reported that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is visiting the United States, was being briefed on the incident and was holding a situation assessment. Netanyahu's office later confirmed he will hold a broad situation assessment with all security officials later on Saturday.

Foreign Minister Israel Katz said that the Hezbollah attack crossed all red lines and would be met with an appropriate response. "We are approaching the moment of full-scale war with Hezbollah and Lebanon," Katz said.

"We will pay a price on both the front and the home front, but by the end of the war, Nasrallah and Hezbollah will be crushed, and Lebanon will suffer severely. We will restore peace and security to the northern communities. I have instructed the Foreign Ministry to prepare for a comprehensive campaign worldwide to gain legitimacy for action in Lebanon."

The spiritual leader of the Druze community, Sheikh Mowafaq Tarif, condemned the attack. "We are in great shock from the horrific massacre in the Druze village, an atrocious and murderous terrorist attack that struck innocent children playing soccer. The sight of the children's shattered bodies strewn across the grass is indescribable," he said.

"A civilized country cannot allow the continuous harm to its citizens and residents. This has been the reality for nine months in the northern communities. Tonight, it crossed every possible red line."

"A short while ago, sirens sounded in the area of Majdal Shams. One projectile was identified crossing from Lebanon toward the area. A hit was identified in the area.

Injuries were reported. The IDF, in cooperation with the MDA, are at the scene, evacuating those injured," the army said in a statement.

Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese outlet Al Mayadeen reported that the terrorist group's latest rocket barrage to northern Israel, which included the rocket that hit Majdal Shams, comprised over 100 munitions and lasted for over an hour. This followed the elimination of an operative of the terror organization's elite Radwan force in Lebanon.

Senior Hezbollah official Mohammad Afif told Reuters on Saturday that the terror group was not responsible for the strike on Majdal Shams, a claim the IDF dismissed.

"According to an IDF situational assessment and the intelligence in our possession, the rocket launch toward Majdal Shams was carried out by the Hezbollah terrorist organization," the military said in a statement. "The Hezbollah terrorist organization is behind the rocket launch at a soccer field in Majdal Shams which caused multiple civilian casualties, including children, earlier this evening."

Earlier on Saturday, the Iran-backed terror group reported that four of its operatives were killed in strikes in southern Lebanon. Hezbollah has officially confirmed that 383 of its members have been killed since the start of the war in Gaza on October 7, although Israeli assessments believe the number to be higher.

## Trump calls Harris' meeting with Netanyahu 'terrible and insulting'

7.27. 24 – Sa

Trump calls Harris' meeting with Netanyahu 'terrible and insulting'

Republican presidential candidate attacks US vice president and claims her 'ineptness' will only serve to prolong the ongoing fighting in the Gaza Strip

Itamar Eichner | 09:07

Republican presidential candidate and former U.S. president Donald Trump attacked Democratic candidate Vice President Kamala Harris on Saturday claiming her meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was "terrible and insulting."

According to Trump, who met with Netanyahu in Florida on Friday, "Her ineptness will greatly prolong the war [in Gaza] and delay the hostage release." Trump also mentioned the fact Harris avoided presiding over the Senate during Netanyahu's speech in Congress and added, "The same people that embarrassed us in Afghanistan with their gross incompetence, are the ones who are telling Israel not to fight any longer with Hamas."

"Forget October 7th, they say! Any Jewish person that votes for Kamala, or a Democrat, should immediately have their head examined," he wrote.

Harris said in a statement following her meeting with Netanyahu that the two had a "frank and constructive meeting" and reiterated her "unwavering commitment" to Israel's security. Harris added, "The difficult humanitarian situation in Gaza cannot be ignored." On Friday, Netanyahu's office suggested that Harris's comments on the humanitarian situation in Gaza might "hinder a deal" for the release of hostages. A senior diplomatic source claimed that this could happen "if Hamas interprets the comments as indicating a rift between the U.S. and Israel."

Trump, for his part, attacked Harris in front of Netanyahu, saying that "Harris's comments weren't very nice pertaining to Israel."

In October last year, Trump sharply criticized Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and Israeli intelligence for their handling of the crisis. Just five days after the October 7 attack, Trump remarked that "Israel was not prepared" and expressed his disappointment in Netanyahu.

He also repeatedly called for the end of the war in Gaza. On March 17, for example, he said in an interview with Fox News that Israel should end the war and conveyed a message to Netanyahu: "You have to finish it up and do it quickly and get back to the world of peace. We need peace in the world. We need peace in the Middle East."

In another interview with Time magazine at the end of April, the former president criticized Netanyahu's conduct during the war, saying about the October 7 terror attack that "happened on his watch," said Trump, adding that Netanyahu has rightfully been criticized for failing to prevent the Hamas attack.

"They have the most sophisticated equipment," Trump said of Israel. "They had everything was there to stop that. And a lot of people knew about it, you know, thousands

and thousands of people knew about it, but Israel didn't know about it, and I think he's being blamed for that very strongly, being blamed."

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF strike command complex in Gaza school, PA report 30 dead 100 injured

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF strikes terrorists hiding in school, Palestinians report at least 30 dead

The IDF claims it attacked a Hamas command and control center in Deir-al-Balah while Gaza-based media claim the school was used as a field hospital to shelter displaced persons

Yoav Zitun, Einav Halabi | 06:09

The IDF commented on its recent attack on the Khadija School in western Deir-al-Balah, saying that Hamas used the school compound as a command and control complex disguised as an educational facility in the center of the Gaza Strip. Palestinian media reported at least 30 killed in the strike.

According to the IDF, "Hamas terrorists used the compound as a hiding place to direct and plan numerous attacks against IDF troops and the State of Israel. At the same time, the terrorists developed and stored large quantities of weapons inside the compound. Prior to the strike, numerous steps were taken to mitigate the risk of harming civilians, including the use of appropriate munitions, aerial surveillance and additional intelligence."

The IDF conducted airstrikes based on precise IDF and Shin Bet intelligence, which ascertained that terrorists operating in a Hamas command and control center were inside the Khadija school compound in central Gaza.

The IDF added: "This is a further example of the Hamas terrorist organization's systematic violation of international law and exploitation of civilian structures and population as human shields for its attacks against the State of Israel."

On Saturday, the IDF Spokesperson announced an "adjustment" to the humanitarian zone's borders in the area following intelligence indicating terrorist activity in central Gaza. The Hamas-controlled Health Ministry in Gaza reported at least 30 dead and at least 100 injured from the strike.

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF advances in Khan Younis, opening new front in Gaza ground operations

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF advances in Khan Younis, opening new front in Gaza ground operations

Army informs Gaza civilians about reduction of humanitarian zone in Al Mawasi ahead of operation targeting one of last 3 remaining Hamas battalions, warning southern neighborhoods of Khan Younis have become dangerous combat zones

Yoav Zitun, Einav Halabi | 03:53

The IDF announced Saturday morning a reduction in the designated humanitarian zone in the Gaza Strip's Al Mawasi due to "significant terrorist activity and rocket fire toward the State of Israel" from the southern neighborhoods of Khan Younis.

'Break their bones,' Fauda's Idan Amedi says after Hezbollah attack on Majdal Shams  
The army informed residents that staying in these areas has become dangerous and published a new map of the humanitarian zone in Al Mawasi.  
IDF forces operating in Gaza

IDF ground forces have so far not operated in the designated humanitarian zone throughout its campaign against Hamas. It hosts one of the last three battalions of the terror organization that the IDF has not yet targeted. The other two battalions are in Deir al-Balah and Nuseirat, both in the central Gaza Strip.  
According to the IDF, this is an "adjustment" of the humanitarian zone's borders based on "precise intelligence indicating that Hamas has embedded terrorist infrastructure in the area defined as a Humanitarian Area."  
The army added that the early warning is meant to minimize harm to civilians and to distance them from the combat zone. The IDF urged civilians in the southern neighborhoods of Khan Younis to temporarily relocate to the adjusted humanitarian area in Al Mawasi.

"The calls for the temporary evacuation are being communicated to residents through SMS messages, recorded voice messages, phone calls, media broadcasts in Arabic and flyers," the army said in a statement.

"The IDF will continue to act against the Hamas terrorist organization, which uses the Gazan civilians as a human shield for its terrorist activities and infrastructure."

Following the announcement, Palestinian social media was flooded with images of Gazans evacuating the area.

Meanwhile, brigade combat teams from the 7th and Paratroopers Brigades, under the command of the 98th Division, conducted targeted raids in Khan Younis over the past 24 hours, uncovering numerous weapons.

"Among the weapons found were shoulder-fired missiles, grenades, AK-47 rifles and additional military equipment. During one of the raids, a terrorist cell was identified launching rockets. Within minutes of the identification, fighter jets attacked and eliminated the cell members," According to the IDF.

Additionally, Air Force fighter jets struck dozens of terror targets in the Gaza Strip over the past day, including military buildings, armed cells and other terror sites. Under the

direction of the Southern Command, forces destroyed a launch site in the Zeitoun area that was prepared for firing rockets at Israel.

In Rafah, combat teams from the Givati Brigade and the 401st Brigade, under the command of the 162nd Division, raided several military sites, uncovered weapons and eliminated armed cells in close combat.

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF intercepted Hezbollah drone targeting Israeli offshore natural gas rig west of Haifa

7.27. 24 – Sa

IDF suspects intercepted Hezbollah drone targeted offshore gas rig  
Amid escalating tensions with Lebanese terror group, Israeli Navy shoots down Hezbollah drone in economic waters, suspected to be heading toward natural gas rig; unclear whether UAV armed or conducting reconnaissance  
Yoav Zitun | 03:50

A missile ship from the Israeli Navy's 3rd Fleet, in cooperation with the Air Force, successfully intercepted an unmanned aircraft that had entered Israel's economic waters from Lebanon, the IDF reported Saturday morning.

The drone was suspected of targeting a gas rig off northern Israel, but it remains unclear whether it was armed or conducting reconnaissance.

In February 2022, the IDF intercepted three drones over the Mediterranean Sea flying from Lebanon into Israel's economic waters. The army said one drone was intercepted by an F-16 fighter jet, while the other two were downed by the Barak naval missile defense system. That incident marked the first interception of its kind in Israel.

The incident occurred as tensions between Israel and Hezbollah were running high in the lead-up to the signing of an agreement delineating maritime borders between the two nations.

The agreement, signed in October 2022, resolved a long-standing dispute over a 330-square-mile area in the Mediterranean Sea rich in natural gas reserves which was claimed by both Israel and Lebanon, leading to heightened tensions and several confrontations over exploration and drilling rights.

The U.S.-brokered deal allowed both countries to exploit the maritime spoils within their respective zones, potentially unlocking significant economic benefits that Lebanon desperately needs for its ailing economy.

In December 2023, after the outbreak of war, a drone was intercepted at sea which the pro-Iranian militias in Iraq claimed to have launched at the Karish rig, located near the northern border of Israel's economic waters with Lebanon. The Air Force and Navy cooperated to intercept the drone using a fighter jet. The economic waters off northern Israel also house the Leviathan gas rig about 75 miles west of Haifa.

Meanwhile, the **IDF announced Saturday** morning a reduction in the designated humanitarian zone in the Gaza Strip's Al Mawasi due to "significant terrorist activity and rocket fire toward the State of Israel" from the southern neighborhoods of Khan Younis.

The army informed residents that staying in **these areas has become dangerous** and published a new map of the humanitarian zone in Al Mawasi. IDF ground forces have so far not operated in the designated humanitarian zone throughout its campaign against Hamas. It hosts one of the **last three battalions of the terror** organization that the **IDF has not yet targeted**. The **other two battalions** are in Deir al-Balah and Nuseirat, **both in the central Gaza Strip**.

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Ynet-News, July 26, 2024 – Friday

**7.26. 24** – Fr- - - News – Friday

**Trump, Netanyahu and Sara at Mar-a-Lago, quenching grudge over PM on Biden side**

**7.26. 24** – Fr- - - News – Friday

**Herzog at Paris Olympics as Iran plotting an attack on the Israeli teams**

**7.26. 24** – Fr- - - News Placed in July 26 spot – Friday

**Iran plans attack on Israeli Olympians in Paris, after sabotage of France's fast-rail**

**7.25. 24** – Th- - - News – Thursday

**Netanyahu, Biden & Harris meet: doubts regarding Harris' attitude toward Israel & Gaza**

**7.25. 24** – Th- - - News – Thursday

**Armenia denies report of signing a huge arms deal with Iran**

**7.25. 24** – Th- - - News – Thursday

**Three soldiers shot from a passing car in West Bank terror attack**

**7.25. 24** – Th- - - News Placed in July 25 spot – Thursday

**Congress alerted; Houthi drone in Tel Aviv was made of US-manufactured components**

**7.25. 24** – Th- - - News – Thursday

**3 bodies of murdered hostages extracted from Gaza by IDF, for burial in Israel**

**7.24. 24** – We- - - News Placed in July 24 spot – Wednesday

**Netanyahu addressed Congress: Gaza war is a clash between barbarism and civilization**

**7.24. 24** – We- - - News – Wednesday

**Defying status quo, Ben-Gvir endorses Temple Mount prayer, igniting Arabs**

**7.24. 24** – We- - - News – Wednesday

Trump concern letter from PA leader Abbas, Netanyahu set to meet at Mar-a-Lago estate

7.24. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Lebanon strengthens Hezbollah Guardian image by responding to IDF actions

7.23. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in July 23 spot – Tuesday

Amb. Mike Herzog has problematic statements about VP Harris & American politics

7.22. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Bereaved families challenge PA bid to overturn High Court terror compensation law

7.22. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in July 22 spot – Monday

Hamas rocket fire toward Israel moves IDF to Khan Younis at conclusion of Rafah

7.22. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Jericho students planned to kidnap Israelis under the guidance of Hamas in Turkey

7.22. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

1,000 Orthodox Haredi men receive a wave of IDF draft notice Sunday

7.21. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Full Moon 5:19am

Biden drops out of US presidential race, endorsed Kamala Harris to replace him

7.21. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Full Moon 5:19am

Knesset Speaker Ohana enrages Arab world with viral tweet to observe Israel aggression

7.21. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in July 21 spot – Sunday Full Moon 5:19am

PA squad of West Bank University students are paid by Hamas in Turkey, for terror

7.21. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Full Moon 5:19am

Israel's strike on Houthi lethal weapons port will burn in Yemen for days

7.20. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in July 20 spot – Saturday

IDF strike Houthi power plant, oil facilities & sea port for Iranian weapons

7.20. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

IDF relentless clash in Khan Younis; infantry necessary in every corner of the Gaza Strip

7.20. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Israeli officials concerned over diplomatic implications of ICJ leverage