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Hamas hostage rescued alive after 326 days in captivity, in complex Gaza operation

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Hezbollah rockets to Israel came from mosques, schools, gas stations & UN compounds.

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5 terrorists killed in IDF strike on West Bank Jihad Battalion operations room

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Ben-Gvir says a synagogue should be built on Temple Mount

8.25. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in August 25 spot – Sunday

Shin Bet chief Bar is target of Ben-Gvir's wild and crude attacks by full-page ads

8.25. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

US, Israel join forces on hunt for Sinwar, evading elaborate surveillance

8.25. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

IDF reduced Hezbollah retaliation on Israel; 320 rockets fired instead of thousands

8.25. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Hezbollah claims 320 rockets fired at Israel in 'first phase' of retaliation

8.24. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in August 24 spot – Saturday

Settlers attack two northern West Bank towns, Palestinian news agency Wafa reported

8.24. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

IDF dismantles tunnel in Khan Younis, eliminates dozens of terrorists

8.30. 24 – Fr

Government extends IDF reserve service period as Haredi protest draft

8.30. 24 – Fr

Government extends IDF reserve service period as Haredi draft proves ineffective

Military says Defense Ministry's urgent voting on extension will allow fresh manpower to enter the system as burden on reservists continues to grow

Itamar Eichner|15:09

The government on Friday approved a proposal to extend the service order of IDF reservists, which is set to expire on Saturday, allowing the continued recruitment of reserve troops until December 1.

The proposal, issued by Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, stressed the increased burden on Israel's population serving in the IDF. It was noted the military is expanding the pool of service members through several methods, without addressing the recruitment in the ultra-Orthodox sector.

This isn't the first time the order allowing the IDF to call up over 300,000 reservists has been extended. Amid failed attempts to recruit yeshiva students, the decision read that the proposed quota of 350,000 reservists would allow those already in active service to continue serving until their release date, facilitate the rotation of those previously called up, allow the recruitment of troops who were released and are needed for additional activities and immediately draft reservists right after their compulsory service ends. The order also allows the IDF to recruit reservists under an emergency order (Tzav 8) for an additional three months due to the IDF's operational needs. The order, approved by the ministers via a phone vote, noted the decision entails increasing burdens on reservists, "especially given it falls on a relatively small group of service members from the overall population, who are repeatedly called up for extended periods, the cumulative effect of which is severe, affecting the service members themselves and their close circles (family, employers, etc.)."

This issue was also raised in the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee discussions, where it was asked that efforts be made to further distribute the burden of operational tasks more broadly — both within compulsory service and in the reserves.

The decision explained that the IDF "continues to work on expanding its pool of service members, both in compulsory and reserve service," and detailed the methods being used to do so.

For example, it was noted that the enlistment of some yeshiva students has been brought forward, the deferment period for some pre-military academy students has been shortened, tens of thousands of reservists have been recruited into military units, especially in combat roles, and a process has begun to cancel reserve service exemptions given to thousands of reservists and return them to the IDF's ranks.

Without specifically addressing the need or attempts to recruit yeshiva students, the decision concluded that "Israel's defense bodies will continue to examine possible alternatives to increase equality in bearing the burden of military service in both compulsory and reserve forces."

Since the start of issuing out draft notices to ultra-Orthodox men, which began after a new law regulating their exemption has not yet been finalized, only a few dozen have arrived for drafting, partly due to intense protests by extremist ultra-Orthodox members near IDF recruitment offices.

8.30. 24 – Fr

IDF eliminate 20 terrorists, seized weapons and equipment in West Bank operation

8.30. 24 – Fr

**IDF eliminates at least 20 terrorists in ongoing West Bank operation**

Military says security forces are continuing efforts to root out terror cells in the area, where troops also seized weapons and military equipment  
Ynetnews|11:52

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit reported on Friday that security forces taking part in the ongoing counter-terrorism operation across the West Bank have so far eliminated 20 terrorists located across local terror cells in the area.

“Since Tuesday night, the IDF, ISA, and Israel Border Police forces have been conducting a precise, targeted regional operation across three terror hubs. The forces are operating against terrorist cells of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorist organizations in the area, as well as ongoing attempts by the enemy to carry out attacks against Israeli civilians and IDF soldiers,” the military said in a statement.

“So far, the forces have eliminated 20 terrorists in exchanges of fire and airstrikes and apprehended 17 suspects linked to terrorist activities. Additionally, they have destroyed dozens of explosive devices and confiscated large quantities of weapons.”

“Simultaneously, alongside the operation in northern Samaria, the IDF and ISA have completed an operation in the area of Far'a in the Jordan Valley Brigade. The security forces continue their operations at this time,” it added.

Back on Thursday, in a joint statement, the Israel Police, IDF and Shin Bet confirmed that during operations in Tulkarm, following exchanges of fire, five terrorists hiding inside a mosque were killed.

Among them was Muhammad Jaber, also known as Abu Shujaa, who led a terrorist network of about 30 members in Nur Shams and was involved in multiple attacks, including the murder of Amnon Mukhtar, 67, in Qalqilya in June. Another terrorist operative was arrested during the operation.

8.30. 24 – Fr

**Egypt rejects Israeli military presence along the Philadelphi Corridor**

8.30. 24 – Fr

**Egypt 'won't agree to Israeli military presence along the Philadelphi Corridor'**

Senior Egyptian official talking with Ynet says Cairo is adamant to refuse IDF presence along the route following Security Cabinet's decision to stay within the Philadelphi Corridor

Smadar Perry|11:10

A senior Egyptian official who's closely following the cease-fire and hostage deal talks in Cairo clarified on Friday in a conversation with Yent, "We won't agree to an Israeli

military presence along the Philadelphi Corridor. This has been our stance from the start of the negotiations, and we have no intention of changing it."

The official, however, added, "I won't comment on the introduction of Israeli surveillance and monitoring equipment along the route." In other words, the senior official in Cairo refused to clarify whether Egypt intends to silently approve the establishment of electronic devices for Israeli supervision along the route.

The official also noted that CIA Director William Burns, who was present at the negotiations in Cairo alongside Egyptian Intelligence Chief Abbas Kamel, Mossad Director David Barnea and Shin Bet Director Ronen Bar, strongly advised the parties against leaking details that could, according to him, reach the media. Burns even praised the Egyptian media for avoiding "prying" into the negotiations.

The Egyptian official emphasized the U.S. is making optimistic statements despite the significant challenges remaining before a deal is secure.

"The Americans intend to maintain a businesslike, perhaps even positive, atmosphere between senior officials from Egypt and Israel," the official said. "But Netanyahu's influence is felt in the negotiation room; we know he receives real-time updates from the talks."

After Israel's Security Cabinet decided the IDF would remain on the Philadelphi Route on Thursday, the Egyptian official said that Egyptian security forces had "sealed most of the tunnels under the buffer zone with water and flooded them with concrete to prevent the smuggling of weapons, goods and spare parts."

"I'm aware of the Israeli complaints saying not all the tunnels have been sealed, hence the need for an Israeli military presence in the area. This is unacceptable to Egypt, just as it would be unacceptable for Israel to have a presence at the Rafah Crossing," the senior official said.

Considering the Egyptian official's statements, senior figures in Cairo, who unanimously reject any Israeli presence along the Philadelphi Route and at the Rafah Crossing, don't mention who could control the Palestinian side of these two strategic sites in an alternative.

"It's certainly permissible to consider the possibility of an Arab and international force in the area," the Egyptian official explained. "No one is currently talking about Hamas' presence there, but rather that of an Arab force composed of Palestinian authorities, Arab forces from Jordan and Arab Gulf states, perhaps including Saudi Arabia and European observers joining them."

In any case, the official stressed Egypt's leadership firmly rejects the persistent Israeli effort and wouldn't agree to IDF soldiers or any Israeli authority arriving with "boots on the ground," along the Philadelphi Corridor.

The Egyptian official, who talked on condition of anonymity, clarified he agreed to speak with Ynet "only to sharpen the Egyptian stance for the Israeli public, including lawmakers."

8.30. 24 – Fr

Cabinet votes to keep IDF forces in Philadelphi Corridor; Gallant was only opposition

8.30. 24 – Fr

Cabinet votes in favor to keep IDF forces in the Philadelphi Corridor

Security cabinet votes to maintain an IDF presence on the Philadelphi Corridor with eight in favor, one against and one abstention, claiming the decision brings us closer to a hostage deal; Hostages' relatives were furious

Yael Ciechanover, Itamar Eichner|02:29

The political-security cabinet voted on Thursday in favor of keeping IDF forces in the Philadelphi axis as part of a possible deal. Defense Minister Yoav Gallant was the only one to oppose the decision, eight voted in favor and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir abstained. According to sources, the IDF's maps of the forces remaining on the axis were adopted by the U.S. as part of the plan to return the hostages.

Cabinet ministers claimed in the discussion that "this decision brings the possibility of a hostage deal closer", even though this point of contention is the main one with Hamas and Egypt. According to the ministers, the decision makes it clear to Hamas that it "will have to compromise on the Philadelphi issue, just as it compromised on its demand to end the war."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in the discussion that October 7 was possible because the Philadelphi Corridor was not in Israeli control. According to Netanyahu, Gazans smuggled countless weapons through the Egypt-Gaza border which were used by Gaza's terrorist organizations. He stressed that this situation "will not happen again" and that this time Israel is determined to keep this border in its hands.

The prime minister and cabinet ministers criticized the defense establishment over security officials' quotes saying they would know how to retreat from the Philadelphi Corridor. This refers to security officials' assurances after the Gaza disengagement that they would know "how to deal with rockets."

The cabinet also discussed the issue of the hostages who were murdered in captivity, and the ministers were told that from a preliminary examination by the experts, "most of the hostages who died were murdered in the first half of the year, right next to the Hamas attack, and not in the last few months."

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum issued a statement following the cabinet's decision regarding the Philadelphi axis: "After almost a year of neglect, Netanyahu does not miss an opportunity to miss a deal. Not a day passes that Netanyahu does not endanger the return of all the hostages home. The government didn't feel pressure to launch an attack in Rafah and the southern Gaza Strip in the first months of war. What will happen if we withdraw from the axis for a fixed period and finalize a hostage deal?" The Hostages and Missing Families Forum also stated that "the IDF has confirmed the demolition of 80% of the Hamas tunnels in Rafah, the Americans, and the Egyptians are

giving guarantees that were not there before, including the construction of a barrier, in Rafah the Egyptians are ready for an Israeli presence and request a modest presence of the Palestinian Authority. Is this why they abandon hostages and sabotage a deal?" A week ago it was announced that the prime minister agreed to retreat hundreds of meters behind the Philadelphi route. However, this slight compromise did not lead to a breakthrough in the hostage deal negotiations. U.S. President Joe Biden spoke with Netanyahu last week and asked him to be more flexible on the issue of the Philadelphia axis between the southern Gaza Strip and Sinai. According to various reports, Israeli and Egyptian teams have discussed in recent months proposals for alternative solutions that may allow for a compromise, such as the construction of an underground barrier, sensors, and cameras or observation towers to prevent arms smuggling through the Philadelphi axis. Another possible outcome was deploying an international force. The Egyptian mediators opposed to the Israeli demand to maintain a military presence in the Philadelphi axis, but agreed to convey the proposed Israeli outline to Hamas as part of the negotiations.

8.30. 24 – Fr

Shin Bet chief warned PM in July 2023 that war is incoming, assessed Gaza as stable

8.30. 24 – Fr

Shin Bet chief warns prime minister in July 2023 that war is incoming

Breaking: Shin Bet chief warns Netanyahu war is incoming as early as July 2023;

Opposition Leader Yair Lapid receives the same warning, inquiring if Netanyahu knows of this warning

Nadav Eyal|01:02

Opposition Leader Yair Lapid testified on Thursday in a conference about October 7 on Thursday that he warned the nation about an incoming war in September, weeks before the Hamas October 7 Massacre due to information he received in security briefings.

"I am forced to warn the citizens of Israel, that we are getting dangerously close to a violent, multi-front conflict. My media team advised me to give up the press conference and I said that this is the warning I want to give, that no one is paying attention to a serious and immediate security threat. I told them that they do not see the intelligence that I see, and I must warn the public against a clear and immediate danger."

Lapid elaborated on a series of briefings he received, one of them alongside Prime Minister Netanyahu, by the prime minister's military secretary, Major General Avi Gil. They all warned of regional escalation on all fronts, of Israel's diminishing deterrence, and that Hamas and Hezbollah are emboldened to act against Israel. The background of the security briefing was the judicial overhaul, attempted by the coalition during 2023 which was opposed by approximately half of the population.

Lapid also mentioned his conversation with Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar, on July 24, 2023, when the Knesset voted on the reasonableness clause, aiming to curb the Supreme Court's

power. A day before the vote, Bar spoke with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and warned him of the incoming war.

"I am warning you that war is incoming. I can't give an exact day and time. But this is the warning." According to Bar's assessment, "Our enemies see weakness. We need to show unity to the region, to prevent the possibility of war."

The Shin Bet chief is responsible for the security situation concerning the Palestinians, not Hezbollah. The Shin Bet's main concern was one of two scenarios: either Hezbollah instigates war in the north and the West Bank joins, or the West Bank launches the third intifada and other fronts join the war.

Bar received the Prime Minister's approval to meet with Lapid to give him the same briefing.

Lapid asked Bar: "Did you say that to the Prime Minister?" Bar confirmed. After the security briefing, Hamas attacked Israel 76 days later and Hezbollah began its attack on the north 77 days later.

Although this warning does not diminish the responsibility of the IDF and the Shin Bet, they explicitly warned the government of an impending security disaster. The state, on the other hand, has the ultimate responsibility to secure the country. Bar's warning should have prompted the government to preform a series of actions. Prime Minister Netanyahu can pretend he did not fail but there are questions that he needs to answer.

The Prime Minister's Office denied these allegations, saying: "Prime Minister Netanyahu did not receive a warning about the war in Gaza not on the date in question not before October 7. On the contrary, all security officials made it clear that Hamas is deterred and strives to reach an agreement. Also, a few days before October 7, the Shin Bet assessed that Gaza's stability is expected to be maintained for a long time."

The Shin Bet did not comment on the Prime Minister Office's response.

8.29. 24 – Th

Hamas leader in Turkey, calls for suicide attacks in Judea and Samaria to end the siege

8.29. 24 – Th

Hamas leader calls for suicide attacks in Judea and Samaria

"We want to return to martyrdom operations," Khaled Mashaal, who represents the Gaza terror group abroad, told a conference in Istanbul.

Hamas leader abroad Khaled Mashaal on Wednesday called for a return to suicide terror attacks against Israelis in Judea and Samaria.

During a video address to a conference in Istanbul, Turkey, Mashaal said, "Resistance operations in the West Bank are escalating despite the harsh conditions," according to CNN Arabic.



“We want to return to martyrdom operations. This is a situation that can only be addressed by open conflict. They are fighting us with open conflict, and we are confronting them with open conflict,” he continued.

“The enemy has opened the conflict on all fronts, seeking us all, whether we fight or not. The enemy says, ‘I am crazy,’ and it is up to the nation to assume its responsibilities. I reiterate my call for everyone to participate on multiple fronts in the actual resistance against the Zionist entity.”

The “military wings” of the Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad terrorist groups took responsibility for a failed suicide bombing attack in south Tel Aviv earlier this month.

In a statement, Hamas vowed to continue to carry out suicide attacks “as long as Israel continues its massacre and policy of assassinations in Gaza.”

The bomber, who was killed in the blast, was a Palestinian from the area of Nablus (Shechem) in central Samaria.

The Israel Defense Forces launched a large-scale counterterrorism operation in the Jenin and Tulkarem areas of northern Samaria overnight Tuesday, involving hundreds of troops as well as air support.

Mashaal also criticized U.S.-led diplomatic efforts to reach a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, accusing the Americans of supplying Israel with “weapons of destruction.”

“America abandoned the July 2 paper [U.S. President Joe Biden’s Gaza ceasefire proposal] then blamed Hamas, knowing that the one who disrupted the agreement was [Israeli Prime Minister] Benjamin Netanyahu, who has a personal agenda, in addition to the Zionist agenda that America and some Western countries unfortunately support,” he said.

Mashaal, who was said to have been considered to replace slain politburo head Ismail Haniyeh but instead was passed over in favor of Hamas leader in Gaza Yayha Sinwar, stressed that the Hamas movement abroad “puts its trust in the leader Yayha Sinwar who the Zionist intelligence is chasing to harm and kill him.”

Hamas still holds 108 hostages in Gaza, including 104 of the 251 hostages taken on Oct. 7—34 of whom are deceased, according to the military.

On Tuesday, Israeli security forces rescued Qaid Farhan Alkadi from a Hamas tunnel in southern Gaza.

In March, Mashaal said that Hamas would not release any hostages until Israel ends the war, withdraws its troops, allows all Gazans to return to their homes and lifts the blockade on the coastal enclave.

“Inshallah [‘God willing’], we will defeat them in the field and in the negotiating battle,” said Mashaal, adding that the group is also fighting “intense battles” in the media and in the political sphere.

The terrorist leader reiterated that “in the negotiations, we insist on stopping the aggression, withdrawing from Gaza, returning the displaced to their places, especially in northern Gaza, providing all necessary relief, shelter and reconstruction, and ending the siege.

“We will not release their prisoners [the hostages] until we achieve these goals,” Mashaal vowed.

Late last year, speaking to France’s Le Figaro daily from his residence in Qatar, Mashaal predicted that “sooner or later, the United States will argue that Hamas is a reality and enjoys legitimacy among the people. We must learn from history. The Americans accepted the Taliban. [PLO founder] Yasser Arafat even won the Nobel Peace Prize,” he noted.

Hamas’s Oct. 7 massacre “shocked world public opinion, and polls in the United States show increased support for the Palestinian cause” in its wake, he concluded, adding that Hamas’s terrorist army in Gaza would not be destroyed as it had “passed the credibility test against Israel.”

In January, Mashaal restated his rejection of Israel’s right to exist, saying that the Oct. 7 mass murder “turned the idea of liberating Palestine from the [Jordan] River to the [Mediterranean] Sea into a realistic idea that has already begun.”

8.29. 24 – Th

15 West Bank terrorists turned themselves in to PA security, fearing IDF operation

8.29. 24 – Th

Balata camp terrorists turned themselves in to PA over fear of IDF operation

According to a source in the Palestinian security forces, Islamic Jihad terrorists from Balata faced intense public pressure due to the scenes from Jenin and Tulkarm in the West Bank; 'They began reaching out and surrendering,' source says, estimating that some 15 terrorists have turned themselves in  
Einav Halabi, Yoav Zitun|Yesterday | 11:14

Islamic Jihad terrorists operating in the Balata refugee camp east of Nablus have surrendered their weapons and turned themselves in to the Palestinian Authority’s security forces, fearing an imminent Israeli military operation, a security official revealed on Thursday.

“There is significant public pressure on these terrorists, especially after seeing the recent military operations. Since Wednesday, they began reaching out and have started to surrender,” the official said, estimating that around 15 terrorists have done so.

The IDF's military operation in the West Bank continues in Jenin and Tulkarm, with the army focusing on the threat posed by explosive devices. The IDF reported that powerful explosives, similar to those used in the recent Tel Aviv attack, have been discovered. Meanwhile, IDF and Shin Bet forces completed an operation in the Far'a refugee camp in the Jordan Valley. The operation, which lasted about 30 hours, aimed to eliminate terrorists and uncover terrorist infrastructure in the camp. Paratroopers were airlifted to the area by Israeli Air Force helicopters and surrounded the camp. During the operation, an airstrike targeted a vehicle carrying terrorists.

In the midst of the operation, undercover Duvdevan unit soldiers, guided by Shin Bet intelligence, used a drone to locate an explosives lab and an operations room inside a mosque in the camp. Inside the mosque, they found ready-to-use explosives intended for attacks against Israeli forces, along with a large cache of weapons.

During the first day of military operations in the West Bank and Jordan Valley, at least 12 terrorists were killed, more than 10 wanted individuals were arrested, and dozens of explosive devices and other weapons were destroyed. Among those killed was Mohammad Jaber, known as "Abu Shujaa," who was the leader of a terrorist organization in the Nur Shams camp. During the operation, an IDF soldier was moderately injured, and a member of the elite Yamam unit was lightly wounded.

8.29. 24 – Th

Hostage families storm Gaza border for 22 minutes in call for release of loved ones

8.29. 24 – Th

Hostage families storm Gaza border in call for release of loved ones

Demonstrators breach border fence and sprint toward Palestinian enclave, return after 22 minutes at request of security forces

Yael Ciechanover|03:26

Family members of Israeli hostages held by Hamas breached the border fence on Thursday morning and ran into Gaza in a call for the release of their loved ones.

The demonstrators arrived at the Gaza border sector as part of a protest convoy that departed from Tel Aviv the day before.

Upon reaching the border, demonstrators set up powerful speakers on a crane near the border fence. They called out to their loved ones held captive by Hamas and urged for a deal to secure their release.

At one point, demonstrators, some wearing shirts stained with red to symbolize blood, breached the border fence and sprinted toward the Palestinian enclave. At the request of security forces, they returned after 22 minutes.

On Tuesday, the IDF rescued Qaid Farhan Alkadi, 52, after 326 days in Hamas captivity. Alkadi, a resident of the Rahat area, was taken hostage on October 7 while working as a guard at Kibbutz Magen near the Gaza border.

The rescue took place in a tunnel in southern Gaza, where Alkadi was found alone during a complex operation involving Shayetet 13, the 401st Brigade, Yahalom and Shin Bet forces under the command of the 162nd Division.

Alkadi, married and a father of 11, was taken to a hospital in stable condition and was discharged Wednesday afternoon. His brother, Hatem, expressed the family's relief, saying, "We are happy to receive the news and hope to see him recover."

8.29. 24 – Th

Israel eliminates 5 terrorists, including key leader, in major West Bank operation

8.29. 24 – Th

Israel eliminates 5 terrorists, including key leader, in major West Bank operation  
Military says forces eliminated terror commander involved in attacks against Israelis during raids in Tulkarm and arrested senior Islamic Jihad commander  
Yoav Zitun|01:56

Israeli security forces, guided by the Shin Bet, eliminated five terrorists overnight Thursday, including Muhammad Jaber, the head of a terrorist organization in Nur Shams, during a large-scale counterterrorism operation in the West Bank that began on Wednesday.

In a joint statement, the Israel Police, IDF and Shin Bet confirmed that during operations in Tulkarm, following exchanges of fire, five terrorists hiding inside a mosque were killed. Among them was Muhammad Jaber, also known as Abu Shujaa, who led a terrorist network of about 30 members in Nur Shams and was involved in multiple attacks, including the murder of Amnon Mukhtar, 67, in Qalqilya in June. Another terrorist operative was arrested during the operation.

Palestinian reports indicated that an undercover IDF unit, disguised as civilians, entered the outskirts of the Tulkarm camp overnight and arrested Muhammad Qassas, a senior member of the Islamic Jihad's Al-Quds Brigades. One IDF officer was lightly wounded and evacuated to a hospital after the operation.

The IDF launched the operation on Wednesday to arrest wanted individuals and dismantle terrorist infrastructure in the West Bank, focusing on Jenin, Nur Shams and Tubas refugee camps.

Meanwhile, another operation targeted the Far'a refugee camp. According to the IDF, nine terrorists were killed on Wednesday, including three eliminated by airstrikes in Jenin. Palestinian sources reported at least 11 casualties, most of them in Jenin. Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah's military wings claimed their operatives detonated explosives during the operation in an attempt to harm Israeli forces.

8.29. 24 – Th

IDF assigns Brig. Gen. Elad Goren to oversee Gaza relief & repair operations

8.29. 24 – Th

As Israel's role deepens, IDF assigns senior officer to oversee Gaza relief operations. Army expects greater involvement in Gaza, appointing brigadier general to oversee long-term humanitarian aid and civil coordination; 'This position will be with us for years to come'

Yoav Zitun|00:10

The IDF has appointed a senior officer, Brig. Gen. Elad Goren, to oversee humanitarian aid efforts in Gaza as Israel prepares for a prolonged responsibility over the region.

This marks the first time a high-ranking officer has been assigned to manage aid coordination for the two million Palestinians living under Israeli control in Gaza, nearly 11 months after the start of the war.

Goren, who previously served in the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) unit—a Defense Ministry unit responsible for coordinating civilian and humanitarian affairs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip—is expected to lead long-term strategic efforts to maintain international legitimacy for Israel's ongoing military operations in Gaza while preventing a humanitarian crisis. His role parallels that of the head of the Civil Administration in the West Bank.

"This is not a temporary project; this position will be with us for years to come," a senior defense official told Ynet, dismissing the notion that Israel's involvement in Gaza will end soon, regardless of the pace of the fighting or any potential hostage deals.

While the head of the Gaza Coordination and Liaison Administration, a colonel, will continue to handle day-to-day tactical issues such as the transfer of humanitarian aid and infrastructure repairs, Goren will focus on broader strategic initiatives. These include coordinating large-scale operations like evacuating critically injured civilians for medical treatment abroad and preparing Gaza for the winter amid widespread infrastructure destruction.

Goren will also play a key role in any potential return of displaced Gazans to their homes in northern Gaza, should a hostage deal be reached. The plan could involve the supervised return of nearly a million displaced people through the Netzarim Corridor.

Additionally, Goren will oversee the ongoing management of the Rafah crossing, which could see the reintroduction of international oversight, similar to the arrangement in place before Israel's disengagement from the Gaza Strip in 2005.

"Dealing with Gaza will occupy us significantly in the coming years, even more than it does now," the senior defense official said, emphasizing the need to sustain military operations while mitigating international criticism.

Meanwhile, Israel's defense establishment is grappling with the challenge of ensuring that humanitarian supplies, such as food and fuel allowed into Gaza by the IDF under Cabinet orders, do not end up in the hands of Hamas. Efforts are underway to find alternative supply routes to prevent the resources from being used to support the terrorist group.

UN World Food Program suspends Gaza operations

Meanwhile, Israel faced renewed international scrutiny after the UN World Food Program (WFP) reported that one of its armored vehicles was struck by gunfire near an IDF checkpoint in the central Gaza Strip, a short distance from the Netzarim corridor. The vehicle was struck by 10 bullets in the Tuesday incident; no injuries were reported among the crew.

The WFP announced a temporary suspension of its movements across Gaza in response to the attack. The organization said the armored vehicle was part of a convoy returning from the Kerem Shalom crossing, escorting trucks loaded with humanitarian supplies. Despite being clearly marked as a UN vehicle and having received all necessary approvals from Israel, the vehicle came under fire as it approached the checkpoint. The WFP did not explicitly accuse the IDF of the shooting, and the Israeli military has yet to comment on the incident.

The WFP noted that while this was not the first security incident its teams have faced in Gaza, it was the first time a clearly marked UN vehicle had come under direct fire near an IDF checkpoint. "This incident is a stark reminder of the rapidly shrinking humanitarian space in Gaza, where escalating violence is severely impacting our ability to deliver life-saving aid," the WFP said, warning that the situation exacerbates the already dire humanitarian crisis, leaving fewer Palestinians with access to desperately needed food. The organization also reported that frequent evacuation orders from the IDF have not only displaced residents but also disrupted efforts to provide them with food. "Last week, WFP lost access to its third and final operational warehouse in central Gaza, and five active WFP community kitchens were forced to close. On Sunday, evacuation orders affected our main operational center in Deir al-Balah, forcing our team to relocate for the third time since the conflict began," the WFP said.

WFP Executive Director Cindy McCain, widow of U.S. Senator John McCain, condemned the incident, calling it "absolutely unacceptable and the latest in a series of unnecessary security incidents that have endangered WFP staff in Gaza. As last night's events show, the current deconfliction system is failing and cannot continue. I urge Israeli authorities and all parties to the conflict to act immediately to ensure the safety and security of all aid workers in Gaza."

In response, the IDF acknowledged the report and stated that an investigation is ongoing. The army emphasized the importance of the humanitarian effort and the protection of aid workers, adding that Israel is constantly working to improve coordination and security

mechanisms with aid organizations to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance within Gaza.

However, the army noted that coordinating movement requests within the coastal enclave is complex due to the nature of military operations, making the safety of aid convoys a significant challenge.

8.28. 24 – We

UNIFIL Lebanon mandate extended another year - despite its peacekeeping failure

8.28. 24 – We

UNIFIL to remain in Lebanon for another year - despite its failure

UN Security Council unanimously approved the extension of UNIFIL's mandate, despite its significant failures in fulfilling its mission; Israel's efforts to cancel the move and reduce the mandate to six months were thwarted by strong opposition from France and other UN members

Itamar Eichner|13:09

The UN Security Council unanimously approved Wednesday the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force In Lebanon (UNIFIL), renewing it for another year along the Israel-Lebanon border.

Israel's attempts to cancel the move and shorten the mandate to six months were blocked by strong opposition from France and other UN members.

The decision comes amid ongoing Hezbollah attacks on Israel, despite the shortcomings of the UN peacekeeping force. Since October 8, the Iranian-backed Shiite terror group has launched approximately 8,500 rockets and hundreds of drones toward Israel. Earlier on Wednesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the northern border, stating, "A few days ago, we thwarted a surprise Hezbollah attack on Israel. We destroyed thousands of short-range rockets aimed at the Galilee and Golan Heights. I repeat – thousands of rockets. We also intercepted all the drones targeting Israel, Galilee, and the center, and they were destroyed. This is a significant achievement, but it's not enough. As I've said, this is not the end of the story. The end will come only when we can restore security and safely return residents to their homes. That is our top national priority, and we are committed to achieving it."

Israel responded to the UN decision earlier, emphasizing that the UN secretary-general's reports on the implementation of Resolution 1701 do not reflect the reality on the ground. According to Israel, the reports fail to adequately address the movement restrictions and operational limitations Hezbollah has imposed on UNIFIL observers in southern Lebanon for years. They also do not sufficiently acknowledge the group's growing military presence within the international force's area of operation, which clearly violates Resolution 1701. Israel has also accused the UN of not properly addressing the presence of Iranian weapons in Lebanon, which breaches the arms embargo and creates a false equivalence between Hezbollah and Israel.

Israel's stance on the renewal of the mandate is that full implementation of Resolution 1701 and UNIFIL's mandate is necessary, including the expulsion of Hezbollah from north of the Litani River. The Israeli delegation to the UN, led by Ambassador Danny Danon, worked closely with its allies, particularly the United States, during the renewal process. Israel's position was driven by the need to signal that it could not be "business as usual." Some of Israel's demands were accepted, including a proposal to draft a shorter and more concise mandate renewal text, which would downplay the significance of the international force.

However, one demand that was not met was the shortening of the mandate to less than 12 months, due to France's position and that of most other Security Council members. Additionally, the delegation's request to include a condemnation of Hezbollah in the mandate was also rejected. The Lebanese terrorist organization is not mentioned in the mandate draft, despite being the greatest threat to UNIFIL.

In recent months, Hezbollah has not only fired rockets at Israel from areas near UNIFIL bases but has also endangered UN personnel by using these locations as launch sites, with some rockets landing close to international force units. This tactic of using UN soldiers as human shields highlights the increasing danger faced by UNIFIL troops and underscores the urgent need for international intervention to enforce the mandate.

As of July 2024, UNIFIL consists of approximately 10,000 soldiers from 49 countries, including Italy, Spain, France, India, China, Guatemala, Kenya, Nigeria, Uruguay, Zambia, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Turkey and Ireland. The organization has an annual budget of \$510 million. In December 2022, Hezbollah killed a UNIFIL soldier from Ireland. Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, said: "I intend to make it clear to the Security Council that if the UN's UNIFIL force does not push Hezbollah away from the border, we will. UNIFIL must be active and effective in enforcing Resolution 1701. The situation where Hezbollah, with Iran's assistance, fires rockets at Israel near the international force's bases is unacceptable."

8.28. 24 – We

Hostage families form convoy to Gaza border, demanding a deal to rescue captives

8.28. 24 – We

Hostage families form convoy to Gaza border

In times when it seems the government is more concerned with the Philadelphi corridor than lives of Hamas hostages, their families have made the dramatic call to drive to the Gaza border, demanding an immediate deal to release their loved ones

Yael Ciechanover|10:38

Wary of false promises, political maneuvering and dishonest expressions of empathy, families of hostages held by Hamas embarked on a car convoy to the Gaza Strip border on Wednesday, demanding a deal to secure the release of their loved ones still languishing in subterranean tunnels and dusty apartment buildings in Gaza.



“Every day that passes is another lost opportunity to bring them home; it's time to end the abandonment,” declared the Hostages and Missing Families Forum headquarters in a statement. Shira Elbag, mother of the abducted lookout Liri Elbag, said at the march's outset: “We are on the 327th day of this war, 327 days and nights of hearing Liri cry for help, calling ‘Mom,’ and me not being able to come. Can you imagine that feeling, knowing your child is suffering and you're powerless to help?”

Shira continued, “Yesterday we saw Farhan Alkadi, heard of the torment he endured. Over 11 months, eight hostages have been rescued alive, while 21 were murdered who should have returned. The 108 hostages still there can only be freed through a deal. The prime minister shouldn't gamble with their lives. Military officials clearly state that conditions for a deal are ripe. Disputes between military and political levels don't matter; there's a covenant between the state and its citizens to leave no wounded behind. Mutual responsibility, redemption of captives. Where are you, government members? Mr. President?”

“What will be inscribed in the pages of history isn't whether we conquered the Philadelphi Corridor or how many terrorists were killed, but whether we brought our hostages home. This will weigh on your conscience, a wound that won't heal. Sorry Liri, hold on just a bit longer, Mom is coming for you and she will never give up,” Shira said. Hagit Chen, whose son Itay's body is held in Gaza, remembered her so and called for his return. “My Itay, I miss you so much and can't fathom the situation we find ourselves in. When you decided to join the army and become a fighter, I didn't foresee the dreadful state it would bring us to. You said, ‘Mom, don't worry,’ you believed in the system. I wanted you to come home and fulfill your dreams. What did you manage to achieve in this life? I ache for your absence in ways I never knew were possible. I'm sorry the Israeli government thinks the Philadelphi Corridor is more important than you and 108 other hostages. How can they tell us false promises day after day?”

“The prime minister has a majority in the government to pass a deal, a majority in the Knesset, a political safety net. The only thing preventing a deal is the Philadelphi Corridor. Seven months of fighting and the IDF hasn't been there. It's time for the hostages. A month and three days ago, we sat with U.S. President Joe Biden and Netanyahu, who gave his word that a deal was imminent. I was sure it was a matter of days. The time ran out long ago. Where is the deal to bring Itay back? How can it be that the U.S. president is more determined for a deal than the prime minister of Israel, who bears responsibility for the October 7 disaster? Itay, I'm not giving up on you; I hope for a miracle that you might return to me.”

Itay's father, Rubi, added: “We, the parents, after seeing the current round of talks ending without result, are compelled to wage a battle and embark on a journey to Gaza, to remind the Israeli government to fulfill its moral, ethical and Jewish duty, so we can bring our Itay to burial in Israel.”

Ziv Abud, partner of Eliya Cohen, declared: “I stand here with a clear message to the people of Israel and our leaders: it's time for a deal. In these nerve-wracking days, I ask myself if the mediators are more determined than us? This question should burden us all. So far, military actions have rescued 8 hostages alive. In the last deal, 105 were released.

I ask our leaders to consider – do you understand that every delay in a deal is a gamble on the hostages' lives? We must not leave anyone behind; we've learned there's no greater joy than a freed hostage. Every such rescue brings a beacon of hope, proving the impossible can be achieved."

With tears, Ziv said, "we will go to the Gaza border to apologize. Eliya, I'm sorry, my love, I'm doing everything. This year is cursed, and I hope the Israeli government hasn't given up on you in captivity. I'm not giving up; I'm with you, hold on, you'll be home soon."

8.28. 24 – We

IDF sweep West Bank refugee camps, military has blocked entrances to the city of Jenin

8.28. 24 – We

IDF raids West Bank refugee camps in major counter-terror sweep

Forces enter camps near Jenin, Tulkarm and in the Jordan Valley to apprehend terror suspects and dismantle military capabilities, army says

Yoav Zitun|Yesterday | 23:17

The IDF launched a major counterterrorism operation in West Bank refugee camps near Jenin, Tulkarm, and the Far'a camp in the Jordan Valley early Wednesday. At least eleven terrorists have been reportedly killed, most in Jenin.

According to Palestinian sources, at least six terrorists were reported killed in intense clashes in Jenin, including four who died in an airstrike targeting a vehicle: Ahmad al-Sous, Saeed al-Wahdan, Mohammed Abu Zamiru and Ahmad Hussein Yacoub. The Palestinian Health Ministry also reported the deaths of Qassam Jabareen and Asem al-Dabaia in Jenin, with additional terrorists wounded. Five more terrorists were killed in the nearby city of Tubas.

This operation comes in response to a recent attack in Tel Aviv, launched from the Tulkarm area, which is currently a focus of the IDF's efforts. The operation, involving two brigade-level combat teams, is expected to continue for several days. Three of the terrorists killed in Tulkarm were targeted in an airstrike.

"Security forces have initiated a counterterrorism operation in Jenin and Tulkarm," the IDF said in a statement. "Forces are surrounding local hospitals to prevent terrorists from seeking refuge inside."

Hundreds of soldiers, supported by military air cover, are participating in the operation, with efforts being made to allow local civilians to leave the targeted areas. Palestinian reports indicate that the military has blocked entrances to the city of Jenin.

Earlier on Wednesday, the IDF confirmed that five terrorists were eliminated in a drone strike on Monday in Nur a-Shams, targeting a compound used as a command center for attacks.

The Palestinians claimed the strike hit a warehouse filled with explosives. The Palestinian Health Ministry confirmed that "five bodies were brought to the Tulkarm Governmental Hospital as a result of the bombing in the Nur a-Shams camp."

One of the dead was Jibril Jibril, a 20-year-old from Qalqilya affiliated with Hamas' military wing, the Al-Qassam Brigades. He was released from an Israeli prison as part of a hostage exchange deal in November and quickly became involved in several shooting incidents, making him a wanted man.

According to Palestinian sources, the bombed warehouse was located behind the home of Abu Shuja, the commander of the Tulkarm Battalion of Islamic Jihad, who has previously been the target of assassination attempts. In April, Palestinians reported that Abu Shuja was killed by IDF forces along with four other terrorists, but it was later revealed that these reports were incorrect.

Since October 7, more than 70 airstrikes have been carried out by the IDF in the West Bank.

8.27. 24 – Tu

Hamas hostage rescued alive after 326 days in captivity, in complex Gaza operation

8.27. 24 – Tu

Hamas hostage rescued alive in complex operation in Gaza

Qaid Farhan Alkadi, 52, of Rahat is married and the father of 11; he was kidnapped on October 7 while at work as a security guard at a kibbutz packing plant; 108 hostages remain in captivity, many believed to be dead

Ynet|07:25

Rescued alive, after 326 days in captivity: On Tuesday the IDF rescued alive hostage Qaid Farhan Alkadi, 52, a resident of the Rahat area who was kidnapped on October 7 from Kibbutz Magen on the border with Gaza where he worked as a guard at the packing house. There are now 108 hostages in captivity, many of them believed to be dead.

Alkadi was rescued alive around noon on Tuesday where he was being held alone in the Gaza Strip, in a complex operation in the southern Gaza Strip by Shayetet 13, the 401st Brigade, Yahalom and ISA forces under the command of the 162nd Division. He is in a stable medical condition and was transferred for medical checks at a hospital, after being questioned by the forces in the field.

Alkadi is married and the father of 11. He lived with his family south of Rahat and was kidnapped while at work as a security guard.

Hathem, Alkadi's brother, said the family was "happy to receive the news," of his rescue. "We're thankful for everyone and hope to see him returning to health," he added.

Later, just before he went in to meet his brother at the hospital, Hathem said that he hopes that the joy that the family now feels will be felt by all the other families of hostages.

"We hope that there will already be a deal and that all the hostages will come out and that all the emotions we feel - all the parents and families of the hostages will feel the same way." The family was not sure until now if Alkadi was alive or dead, he said; "He was resurrected today."

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said following the operation: "As part of the bold and determined operations of the IDF and Shin Bet forces deep in the Gaza Strip, our fighters succeeded in rescuing Farhan Alkadi and returning him to his family in Israel. This operation joins a series of impressive operational activities that bring us closer to achieving all the goals of the war."

IDF Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Herzi Halevi, said at the end of a situation assessment he conducted with the commander of the Southern Command and other senior military officials, including Major General Nitzan Alon who is responsible for the IDF's POW sector: "We are doing everything to save all the hostages. The IDF and Shin Bet forces demonstrate courage, determination and initiative in complex operations in the field."

President Isaac Herzog also welcomed the rescue. "I am overjoyed by the successful rescue of the hostage Qaid Farhan Alkadi. Qaid, a Muslim resident of the Bedouin Israeli community in the Negev, who was kidnapped on October 7th from where he worked in Kibbutz Magen when Hamas terrorists came to indiscriminately abduct, murder, and rape — without distinction between race or religion. I congratulate the IDF, the Shin Bet, and all the security services, and send my blessings to his family on his return - which is a moment of joy for the State of Israel and Israeli society as a whole. I wish for the immediate and swift return of all our 108 hostages, who are being held cruelly in captivity in Gaza," he said in a post on the X platform.

Alkadi is one of six Bedouins kidnapped in the October 7 massacre: Samer al-Talalqa, 25, who was accidentally shot to death by the IDF along with Alon Shamriz and Yotam Haim; and Yousef al-Ziadna, 49, from the Rahat area who was kidnapped with his children Hamza, 22, Bilal, 18, and Aisha, 17. Aisha and Bilal were released in the hostage deal with Hamas at the end of November last year. Hamas also holds Hisham al-Sayed a Bedouin Arab Israeli civilian who has been held in the Gaza Strip since 2015. Last month, in a bid to assist the Alkadi family, the prosecutor's office agreed to a plea deal for his brother, Jama'a, the main defendant in one of the flagship cases against extortion of fees for protection. "There was a desire to make it as easy as possible for the accused and his family during the difficult period they are going through," the prosecutor's office explained at the time.

The family of hostage Qaid Farhan Alkadi arrives at Soroka Medical Center after his rescue from Hamas captivity

Alkadi is the eighth hostage to be rescued alive from the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the war. In June, Noa Argamani, Almog Meir Jan, Shlomi Ziv and Andrey Kozlov were rescued from Nuseirat in the central Gaza Strip in the daring Operation Arnon ; In February, Fernando Simon Marman and Louis Har were rescued from Rafah; And at the end of October, soldier Uri Magidish was rescued.

8.27. 24 – Tu

Hezbollah rockets to Israel came from mosques, schools, gas stations & UN compounds.

8.27. 24 – Tu

Most Hezbollah rocket launches at Israel came from civilian areas; Terror group poised to name Shukr's replacement

The list of candidates designated to replace Shukr will likely get the attention of the US Department of Justice, since some have a bounty on their head worth millions; Final decision could rest with Ayatollah Khamenei rather than Hassan Nasrallah  
Lior Ben Ari, Yoav Zitun|01:49

After a quiet interlude of 36 hours in the north, Hezbollah on Monday night unleashed what it dubbed "swarms of UAVs" on the Western Galilee and the Hula Valley. Some were intercepted, others detonated, igniting fires in Hanita and Ayelet HaShahar. This followed a series of IDF strikes in southern Lebanon, including an attack on a vehicle in Sidon linked to a Hamas commander, who survived.

According to the IDF's Monday night statement, Hezbollah's Sunday morning offensive involved 230 rocket launches and 20 UAVs breaching Israeli airspace. Ninety percent of these launches were fired from civilian areas, nestled next to civilian sites like mosques, schools, gas stations and UN compounds.

In a Sunday address, Hezbollah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, described the attack – largely thwarted – as the "first major operation" since Fuad Shukr, Hezbollah's military chief of staff, was eliminated nearly a month prior. This assault, Nasrallah asserted, marked the "first stage" of retaliation for the assassination of Shukr. Nasrallah proclaimed that there were no missteps, ignoring Israel's preemptive strike and falsely alleging damage to IDF bases.

In his speech, and those preceding it, Nasrallah left the question of Shukr's successor unanswered – a typical move for Hezbollah, which routinely announces operations and claims responsibility, yet rarely discusses appointments or replacements.

A report in the London-based Saudi newspaper Asharq Al-Awsat earlier this month highlighted the organization's opaque appointment process. Ali Al-Amin, a political activist opposing Hezbollah, remarked that Hezbollah's military apparatus is tightly linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guards, making Shukr's replacement their decision. Al-Amin suggested that Shukr's successor must be active, present and robust within Hezbollah's military framework, with a history of jihad.

The article also noted the challenge in replacing Shukr, a founding member of the terrorist organization. Here are the senior Hezbollah figures seen as potential candidates for the role:

Hailing from the Baalbek region in Lebanon, Talal Hamieh leads Unit 910, orchestrating "external operations" through various Hezbollah cells worldwide. This unit is responsible for planning, coordinating and executing attacks beyond Lebanon's borders. Well-connected within the organization, Hamieh has a storied history and familiarity with its leadership. He served as deputy to Hezbollah's Chief of Staff Imad Mughniyeh until Mughniyeh's assassination and is considered a veteran commander within Hezbollah's military wing. His name has been linked to the 1994 bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires. In 2012, the United States designated him a wanted terrorist, offering a \$7 million reward for information leading to his capture.

Ali Karaki

In September 2019, the U.S. imposed sanctions on several Lebanese affiliated with Hezbollah, including the late Fuad Shukr, Ibrahim Aqil, Mohammed abu-Haider, and Ali Karaki. Cited by the Hezbollah-aligned Lebanese newspaper Al-Akhbar, Karaki was described as a commander in the "Jihad Council"—Hezbollah's military and security wing—responsible for military operations in southern Lebanon. According to the Alma Research Center for Northern Security Challenges, Karaki oversees three Hezbollah units operating in southern Lebanon—Nasr, Badr and Aziz. Sky News Arabia reported in February that Karaki was targeted in an IDF strike but survived, an unverified claim.

Ibrahim Aqil

Described in the same Al-Akhbar publication as a senior member of Hezbollah's Jihad Council responsible for the organization's military operations, Ibrahim Aqil was designated a "terrorist" by the U.S. in 2015. His name is linked to numerous worldwide attacks and military activities in Syria. Last year, marking 40 years since the American embassy bombing in Beirut, the White House announced a \$7 million reward for information on Aqil, one of the masterminds behind the 1983 attack that killed 63 people. Aqil also commanded the attack on the U.S. Marine Corps base that October, which claimed 241 military personnel's lives. Additionally, Aqil led operations to kidnap American and German hostages in Lebanon and has been mentioned several times as a potential successor to Hezbollah's chief of staff long before Shukr's assassination. He has survived several assassination attempts, including one in February 2000 when Apache helicopters fired missiles at his car, causing only minor injuries.

Mohammed abu-Haider, a former Hezbollah member of the Lebanese parliament, managed the organization's networks outside the country, essentially overseeing Hezbollah fighters in Syria. In 2019, it was alleged in Lebanon that Israel attempted to assassinate him in Dahiya. Another senior figure who might assume the role is Khuder Yusuf Nader, commander of Unit 900, which serves as the organization's "secret police."

8.27. 24 – Tu

5 terrorists killed in IDF strike on West Bank Jihad Battalion operations room

8.27. 24 – Tu

5 terrorists killed in IDF strike on West Bank refugee camp targeting operations room

IDF used drone to attack an operations room in the Nur al-Shams camp near Tulkarm reported to be full of explosives, located behind the home of the commander of Islamic Jihad's Tulkarm Battalion; One of the dead terrorists is a Hamas operative released during hostage-prisoner exchange in November  
Yoav Zitun, Einav Halabi|00:26

The Palestinians report that at least five people were killed in an IDF drone strike in the Nur al-Shams camp near the West Bank city of Tulkarm, which the IDF said in a statement on Monday night, was aimed at an "operations room in the area."

A warehouse full of explosives was bombed in the attack, according to the Palestinians. According to the Palestinian Authority Health Ministry, "five dead" arrived at the government hospital Tul Kerem as a result of the bombing in the Nur al-Shams camp. "One of the dead" is Jibril Jibril, 20, from Qalqilya, a member of the al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas. He was released from prison in Israel as part of the hostage for prisoner deal between Israel and the terrorist organization in November, and shortly after his release he carried out several shootings and became a wanted man.

According to the Palestinians, the warehouse that was attacked is behind the house of the commander of the Tulkarm Battalion of Islamic Jihad, Abu Shuja'a, who has been the target of previous assassination attempts. In April, the Palestinians reported that Abu Shuja'a had been killed by IDF forces along with four other terrorists, but it later turned out that these were false reports and that he had not been killed.

In June, after an Israeli Air Force attack in Nur al-Shams in which the Islamic Jihad activist Saeed Jaber was eliminated, Palestinian sources said that the bombed building belonged to Abu Shuja'a's uncle.

On Thursday, the Palestinian Red Crescent announced three deaths in an IDF attack on Tulkarm. According to the security forces, this was an attack carried out from the air at night using an Air Force drone against armed terrorists. Since the beginning of the war, more than 70 airstrikes have been carried out in the West Bank.

Arab world mocks Hezbollah for damaging Israeli chicken coop in revenge attack  
Hezbollah publishes photos of the damaged chicken coop in northern Israel and is ridiculed by Arab memes and tweets: 'For every Hezbollah commander, one Israeli chicken'

8.26. 24 – Mo

Hezbollah resumes attacks across northern Israel; evacuations extended to September 30

8.26. 24 – Mo

Hezbollah resumes attacks as fires break out across northern Israel

A day and a half after major assault, terror group launches waves of drones and rockets, forcing Galilee residents into shelters; bushfire breaks out near Ayelet Hashahar; IDF conducts strikes in southern Lebanon  
Yair Kraus | 12:43

Sirens warning of an incoming hostile aircraft were activated in several communities across northern Israel Monday evening, marking Hezbollah's first attack on Israeli territory since launching over 300 projectiles Sunday morning as part of the terrorist group's retaliation for the assassination of its top general.

Warning alerts were issued for Amuka, Hulata, Ayelet Hashahar, Sde Eliezer, Yesod Hama'ala, Mishmar Hayarden, Gadot, Kibbutz Yiftah and the Mevo 'ot Hermon Regional Center in the Upper Galilee.

Additional sirens were sounded in Hanita, Shlomi, Ya'ara, Neve Ziv and Avdon, alerting residents to potential aerial threats. Simultaneously, rocket and missile alerts were triggered in Betzet, Rosh Hanikra, and Liman. Later, further warnings of hostile aircraft infiltration were issued in Matzuba, Goren, Gornot Hagalil, Adamit, Arab al-Aramshe, Liman, Ya'ara, the Achziv-Miluot Industrial Zone, Rosh Hanikra, Eilon and Betzet. The Upper Galilee Regional Council reported that three rocket crash sites were identified near Ayelet Hashahar in the Hula Valley; no injuries or damage were reported. A fire broke out in the Ayelet Hashahar area following the rocket strikes. In response to the sirens, several interceptors were launched at targets in the Galilee.

The Hezbollah-affiliated newspaper Al Akhbar reported that artillery fire was directed at Al-Naqoura in southern Lebanon, north of Rosh Hanikra, shortly after the rockets were fired at the western Galilee. Earlier, Al Akhbar also reported attacks in Aalman, Arnoun, Al Qusayr and between Khardali and Deir Mimas in various sectors of southern Lebanon. IDF strike in Arnoun, southern Lebanon

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Netanyahu's office issued a clarification regarding the government's decision Sunday to extend the evacuation of residents from northern and southern Israel. The extension of living allowances and hotel stays was approved until September 30—not December 31, as previously stated. The statement added that another government decision secured funding to extend the evacuations until the end of 2024, if necessary, pending additional legislation in the Knesset. Earlier, the Prime Minister's Office had announced that residents evacuated from their homes in the north and south, who cannot return due to security concerns, would be allowed to extend their hotel stays, subject to security recommendations, until December 31, 2024.

8.26. 24 – Mo

Ben-Gvir says a synagogue should be built on Temple Mount

8.26. 24 – Mo



Ben-Gvir says a synagogue should be built on Temple Mount  
Far-right National Security Minister says Jews should be allowed to worship on the mosque compound which is Islam's 3rd holy site; Shas minister urges PM to intervene warning danger to strategic alliances with moderate Arab nations  
Korin Elbaz Alush, Moran Azulay, Roni Green Shaulov|02:10

Far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir said on Monday that he would build a synagogue on Temple Mount. Known to Muslims as Haram al-Sharif, or the noble sanctuary - and housing the Al Aqsa and Omar mosques - the third holiest site in Islam, the compound is overseen by the Muslim religious council the Waqf since Israel conquered it in the 1967 Six Day War.

Israel then set the status quo that is officially still in place, specifying that Jews can visit the site but not pray there. According to strict Jewish law, Jews are banned from entering the site which once housed the Jewish Temple, so as not to step inside what was the inner-most sacred area used only by its Cohanim.  
That status quo has been repeatedly violated by national religious Jews for the past weeks, including on Sunday, when a group was seen on the ground in worship, while police stood by.

Ben-Gvir has repeatedly visited the site and claimed Jews, like Muslims should be allowed to worship there. He has been criticized for attempts to incite religious violence.

Interior Minister Moshe Arbel from the ultra-Orthodox Shas party called on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to intervene and "put Ben Gvir in his place." He said the minister's irresponsible comments "endanger Israel's strategic alliances with Muslim nations," which are part of the coalition against Iran.  
The Prime Minister's Office said in response that there was no change to the status quo.

8.25. 24 – Su

Shin Bet chief Bar is target of Ben-Gvir's wild and crude attacks by full-page ads

8.25. 24 – Su

Shin Bet chief target of far-right minister's campaign

Itamar Ben-Gvir's party takes out full-page ads in major papers blaming Bar for October 7 failings and warning he is bringing the next calamity in the hostage deal; PM fails to back his security chief while some ministers speak out  
Itamar Eichner|15:21

Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar was on Sunday the target of a media campaign paid for by National Security Minister Itamar Be-Gvir's Otzma Yehudit party. In the ad, Bar was blamed for the failings that led to the October 7 Hamas massacre and was accused of bringing the next calamity onto Israel in a cease-fire and hostage exchange deal.

Ben-Gvir last week, walked out of a cabinet meeting after Bar wrote in a letter addressed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the members of the cabinet, warning that the violence of West Bank settlers was a danger to Israel.

According to a report, Bar claimed that Ben-Gvir's approach would "lead to widespread bloodshed and fundamentally change the character of the State of Israel," stressing that "a cross-ministerial effort is needed to eradicate this phenomenon. I am convinced this must be one of the government's central objectives—before it's too late. This phenomenon poses a significant risk to regional security." He also warned of potential "revenge attacks."

In a cabinet meeting on Sunday, hours after Israel launched a pre-emptive strike on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, and hundreds of missiles and drones targeted Israel, some ministers spoke out against Ben-Gvir's attacks on Bar in the middle of a war.

"I was shocked to open the newspaper this morning and see you using state funds to attack the head of the Shin Bet," Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said. His position was echoed by Education Minister Yoav Kisch who said "this is outrageous; it's inappropriate, especially during a war."

As ministers spoke against and in favor of Ben-Gvir's campaign, Netanyahu did not intervene until he was asked to do so by Interior Minister Moshe Arbel from the ultra-Orthodox Shas party.

"Is Bar not head of the same security agency you have been praising today?" he asked.

Then Netanyahu said criticism of Bar was allowed but must be done appropriately. Today we must all be united, the enemy sees our division and our unity fragmented. We must show it that we are united as one against evil," he said.

In response to the attacks on Bar, 169 former senior defense officials, and members of the "Defensive Shield" forum, sent a letter of support to the Shin Bet chief.

"Under your leadership, the Shin Bet is facing numerous challenges, particularly the fight against terrorism," they wrote. "Unfortunately, the service has recently had to contend with Jewish terrorism as well. We want to offer our support to you and all Shin Bet employees in the face of the wild and crude attacks by ministers whose Kahane-inspired legacy is influencing Israeli government decisions. Especially now, when the Shin Bet, IDF, Mossad, and other security agencies are engaged in daily combat.

"Today, Shin Bet employees woke up to a smear campaign against them, funded by public money. We assert that attempts to weaken the security establishment and intimidate its leaders from expressing professional opinions will erode Israel and harm its security."

8.25. 24 – Su

US, Israel join forces on hunt for Sinwar, evading elaborate surveillance

8.25. 24 – Su

US, Israel join forces on hunt for Hamas' Sinwar

A joint effort includes advanced technology; Yahya Sinwar no longer uses phones and has a system of couriers like that used by Osama Bin Laden, although, unlike Al Qaeda leader, he still runs the war and has the final word on any negotiated deal  
ynet, I24NEWS|08:00

In the maze of the Gaza Strip, an unprecedented manhunt continues for Yahya Sinwar, the leader of Hamas, who remains elusive despite substantial efforts made by Israel and its allies to capture him. A recent New York Times investigation reveals the sophisticated methods used in this hunt, which came close to capturing the terrorist mastermind in January.

The report quoted U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan who said there were special American teams assisting Israel in the hunt to locate and kill the Hamas leader including with the use of sophisticated equipment and ground-penetrating radars.

Since the massacre of October 7, Sinwar has left scant traces, likened to a ghost in the media. Absent from the public and communicating only rarely with his supporters, he leaves few clues about his location. Israeli and US intelligence services believe that Sinwar has long abandoned all electronic communication, thus evading a very elaborate surveillance network.

Last January, Israeli forces thought they were on the verge of capturing him, the report said. An operation carried out in an underground complex south of Gaza nearly failed, as Sinwar had left the site a few days earlier. However, he left behind valuable documents and a substantial sum of money.

Both Israel and the U.S. have invested vast resources to locate the elusive terrorist. Eliminating him would have an immediate effect on the war.

Unlike other terrorist leaders, Sinwar remains actively involved in the conduct of military operations. Diplomats involved in cease-fire negotiations in Doha, Qatar, report that his opinion was needed for any major decision. However, communication with Sinwar has become increasingly difficult. While he once quickly responded to messages, his responses are now less frequent and take more time, often going through his deputies. He stopped using cell phones or satellite phones early in the war and evaded intelligence surveillance. The Times reported that their investigation revealed that Defense Minister Yoav Gallant advocated for fuel deliveries for Gaza, in order to keep the power going in the Hamas tunnels because at that stage of the war, Sinwar's communications were monitored by Israeli intelligence. He was criticized by far-right members of the coalition. Sinwar maintains contact with the outside world through a network of couriers. Officials compared Sinwar's system to that used by Al Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden, who evaded capture for nearly a decade until he was killed in a special ops raid on his home in Pakistan.

Israel and U.S. officials said that the hunt for Sinwar is more frustrating because, unlike Bin Laden, Sinwar is still running Hamas and its military operations. They said he may be struggling to keep in contact with his commanders but is the one who still decides the terror group's strategy.

Sinwar also has the final word in the cease-fire and hostage release negotiations. Not only is he the top leader of the group, he would also be the one to carry out the agreement on the ground.

The hunt for Sinwar continues as the close collaboration between Israel and the United States aims to capture the man considered the mastermind of the October 7, the deadliest attack in Israel's history. The outcome of this manhunt may redefine the contours of the ongoing conflict in Gaza.

8.25. 24 – Su

IDF reduced Hezbollah retaliation on Israel; 320 rockets fired instead of thousands

8.25. 24 – Su

IDF foils Hezbollah attack on strategic Israeli sites, hundreds of rockets fired in retaliation

Military intelligence thwarts large-scale attack, but terror group claims already fired over 320 rockets; strikes hit Acre and other localities as rocket fire on northern Israel continues; IDF destroys launchers set to fire at 5 a.m.

Ynet correspondents|00:52

The IDF thwarted a Hezbollah plan to strike strategic facilities in northern and central Israel, including a potential attack on Ben Gurion Airport, by destroying rocket launchers early Sunday morning, security officials told Ynet.

According to one official, Hezbollah intended to launch thousands of projectiles at hundreds of military and strategic targets. Instead, the terrorist organization fired drones and approximately 320 rockets at northern Israeli communities, including Acre, Ma'alot and Safed.

A New York Times report confirmed that the IDF's preemptive strike shortly before 5:00 a.m. destroyed launchers aimed at central Israel. The IDF said that many of the launchers were targeting northern Israel, resulting in Hezbollah's barrage beginning at 5:30 a.m., though on a reduced scale.

"The IDF neutralized thousands of launchers aimed at northern Israel in a coordinated strike involving around 100 Air Force jets," the IDF announced, noting that 40 launch sites were targeted. Hezbollah is currently reassessing its situation after the IDF's attack.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant directed the preemptive strike from the IDF's command center in Tel Aviv, with the Security Cabinet convening later in the morning. "We identified Hezbollah's preparations to attack Israel in the early hours and ordered the IDF to act preemptively to eliminate the threat," Netanyahu said.

Despite the preemptive strike, Hezbollah launched hundreds of rockets at northern Israel, causing damage in several communities. In Acre, buildings, homes and a kindergarten were hit, and a woman was lightly injured by shrapnel.

Hezbollah described the rocket fire as just the "first phase" of its response to the killing of its military chief Fuad Shukr. As a precaution, Defense Minister Gallant declared a

8.25. 24 – Su

Hezbollah claims 320 rockets fired at Israel in 'first phase' of retaliation

8.25. 24 – Su

Hezbollah claims 320 rockets fired at Israel in 'first phase' of retaliation

Terror group claims hit military bases 'to facilitate passage of drones' and operation 'will take time'

Lior Ben Ari|Yesterday | 23:48

Following the IDF's preemptive strike on southern Lebanon, Hezbollah issued two statements on Sunday morning, detailing what it described as the "first phase" of its response to the assassination of its military chief Fuad Shukr in Beirut, and claiming to have fired 320 rockets at "military targets" in Israel.

"As part of the first phase of the retaliation to the Israeli attack on the Dahieh [a Hezbollah stronghold in the Lebanese capital] that resulted in the death of Fuad Shukr and others, including women and children, Hezbollah initiated an air strike using a large number of drones deep inside Israel, targeting a military site that will be disclosed later," the Iran-backed terrorist group said.

Hezbollah also claimed that rockets were launched at several Iron Dome batteries and that its operations "will take time." A more detailed announcement about the operation and its objectives is expected later. Meanwhile, a woman was slightly injured by shrapnel in the coastal city of Acre, the southernmost area targeted. Drones and rockets were fired across the northern region of Israel, from the Golan Heights to the coast, triggering warnings in numerous communities.

At 4:45 a.m., the IDF launched an operation to "remove a threat" in southern Lebanon, where, according to a report by The New York Times, long-range missile launchers had been aimed at Tel Aviv. The IDF struck multiple targets in southern Lebanese villages, though no casualties were reported in the initial hours.

8.24. 24 – Sa

Settlers attack two northern West Bank towns, Palestinian news agency Wafa reported

8.24. 24 – Sa

Settlers attack two northern West Bank towns, Palestinian media reports  
Israeli security official says that in the village of Rujeib some 80 settlers entered Palestinian land, set fire to trees and property, threw stones, and engaged in violent confrontations with locals  
Yoav Zitun, Einav Halabi|12:48

Palestinian media reported Saturday that two northern West Bank towns were attacked by masked Israeli settlers.  
Reports and footage from the scene show that the Israelis threw stones, set fires, and damaged cars.

According to security officials, about 10 settlers arrived in the village of Massafer Yatta in southern Mount Hebron, attempted to enter homes, and clashed with residents. In the nearby village of Rujeib, near Nablus, around 80 settlers entered Palestinian land, set fire to trees and property, threw stones, and engaged in violent confrontations with locals. Security forces are working to prevent escalation. No arrests or injuries have been reported so far.  
The Palestinian news agency Wafa reported that settlers uprooted olive trees, set fire to large areas of land in Qusra, and burned several vehicles.

8.24. 24 – Sa

IDF dismantles tunnel in Khan Younis, eliminates dozens of terrorists

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IDF dismantles tunnel in Khan Younis, eliminates dozens of terrorists

Troops from the elite engineering Yahalom unit and the 82nd Battalion uncovered and dismantled an underground 500-meter-long tunnel which was used by Islamic Jihad  
Ynetnews|10:47

IDF troops from the 7th Brigade dismantled a 500-meter-long tunnel in Khan Younis the military reported on Saturday.

The forces were operating in the outskirts of Deir al-Balah, destroying additional terror infrastructure and eliminating dozens of Hamas terrorists.

Troops from the elite engineering Yahalom unit and the 82nd Battalion uncovered and dismantled the underground tunnel which was used by Islamic Jihad.  
In a separate operation, the 77th Battalion raided a terrorist compound, discovering weapons including military vests and grenades. They also found a rocket launcher prepared for firing.

Earlier on Saturday, the IDF intercepted a suspected aerial target over the sea near the coast of Nahariya. No alert was activated as the target was far from populated areas. The military is investigating whether the target was a Hezbollah drone.

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Ynet-News, August 23, 2024 – Friday

8.23. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday

Egypt passing Israeli proposal for Philadephi Corridor to Hamas on Saturday

8.23. 24 – Fr- - - News Placed in August 23 spot – Friday

Lebanon electricity grid complete shutdown across the country due to a lack of fuel

8.22. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

Israeli advocacy group tells ICC, prosecution's bias has no authority to judge Israel

8.22. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in August 22 spot – Thursday

IDF extracted six hostage bodies showing gun wounds, guards died from suffocation

8.22. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

Iran wary, but encourages Lebanon to attack; Sinwar plays waiting game

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Sinwar deal guarantees his life safety & no Israeli presence in Philadephi Corridor

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

IDF defeated the Rafah Brigade & destroyed 150 tunnels in the area, now moving north

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Jews bow in prayer on Temple Mount, violating status quo, as police stand by and watch

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Syria boycotts, Iran protests as Israel takes 4-week lead of UN Disarmament Conference

8.21. 24 – We- - - News Placed in August 21 spot – Wednesday

2 Tankers attacked & unable to maneuver off Yemen Red Sea; US & UK retaliate

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Fatah Quds force official killed in IDF strike in an affluent neighborhood of Sidon

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Cease-fire and hostage deal talks near collapse over the Rafah border crossing

8.21. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

12 attacks on Golan & Galilee on Wednesday after IDF strikes 100 kilometers north

8.20. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Khan Younis past months, the IDF has recovered 18 hostages' bodies from tunnels

8.20. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Scotland Israeli diplomats meeting was seen as inappropriate amid Gaza stalemate

8.20. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in August 20 spot – Tuesday

IDF call discharged reservists & Orthodox youth to serve manpower shortage

8.20. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

PA President Abbas determined to visit Gaza to reconnect with his people there

8.20. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Israel, Netanyahu accept bridging proposal; Sinwar calls cease-fire talks a bluff

8.19. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Full Moon 1:28pm

Israeli man indicted for working to incite military coup at behest of Iranian agent

8.19. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday Full Moon 1:28pm

Police rejects accusations it fails in dealing with settler crimes against PA in WB

8.19. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in August 19 spot – Monday Full Moon 1:28pm

Hamas systematic abuse, launches rockets from Rafah schools, clinic, cemetery

8.18. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Pro-Palestinian delegates to Democratic convention to push for Israel arms embargo

8.18. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Bomber dies in Tel Aviv blast from a botched terror attack; injuring one other

8.18. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in August 18 spot – Sunday

Hezbollah tunnel network poses major threat to Israel which no cease-fire can solve

8.18. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Knesset moves to ban TikTok on government phones, citing security risks

8.18. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

IDF expands to central Gaza after rockets launched from the PA humanitarian zone

8.17. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Herzog: extremism needs to be removed from government; referring to Ben-Gvir

8.17. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Upper Galilee targeted by 40+ Hezbollah rockets; IDF struck Lebanon military structures

8.17. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in August 17 spot – Saturday

8.17. 24 Saturday's Post on previous week of Aug 16 Media pdf;

Hamas refused Qatar hostage proposal, talks reconvene in Cairo next week