

Ynet-News, September 27, 2024 – Friday

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News Placed in September 27 spot – Friday
Nasrallah was in the Beirut command center airstrike, as Netanyahu addressed the UN

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
32 years at the helm: Nasrallah is Shiite commander of Hezbollah Shura Council

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
IDF strikes Hezbollah central command in Beirut; Nasrallah reportedly targeted

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
Once Beirut buildings collapse, IDF will initiate a ground operation. We're not there yet

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
 Hamas terrorists murder Gazan mother after she refused to give charity funds

9.27. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
Belgium authorities appear powerless over campus PA protests against Israel

9.26. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
 Hamas massacre to be celebrated in Spain as Israel unable to sway public opinion

9.26. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
North residents will not live in proxy sights. It is time to vanquish Hezbollah

9.26. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in September 26 spot – Thursday
Biden & Macron call immediate 21-day cease-fire: Israel, Lebanon situation intolerable

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Haredi draft dodgers on 3rd notice collision course with IDF, face possible jail time

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Efforts to target Israelis, Jews traveling abroad ahead of High Holiday

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Attack on Eilat: UAV explodes in Cable car port, second drone intercepted

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Israel is not negotiating with Hezbollah: PM Red line is to push it past Litani River

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
IDF mobilizing 2 reserve brigades to north ready for ground war in Lebanon

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
1,500 Hezbollah lost sight & limbs to pagers, leaving displaced to fend for themselves

9.25. 24 – We- - - News Placed in September 25 spot – Wednesday
Journey of escape: Thousands of Lebanese flee combat in gridlock roads to Beirut

9.25. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Israel urges US to warn Iran against intervening in Lebanon

9.24. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in September 24 spot – Tuesday 3Q Moon 1:02pm
IDF reveal hidden rocket-loaded trucks & cruise missiles in 100s of Lebanon homes

9.24. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 3Q Moon 1:02pm
Coastal communities 200 rockets south of Haifa jolted by first rocket alarms since 2014

9.24. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 3Q Moon 1:02pm
Iran President spoke peace at UN; Tehran quickly denied wants by the new president

9.24. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 3Q Moon 1:02pm
Katz to UN: 'Israel demands enforcement of Resolution 1701 to remove Hezbollah

9.23. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
Southern Lebanon is empty: IDF strikes spur mass exodus; many relocated to Syria

9.23. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
Israeli government declares nationwide emergency amid Hezbollah tensions

9.23. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in September 23 spot – Monday
IDF intensifies Hezbollah bombing campaign, warning Lebanon to evacuate

9.23. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
IDF reveals Hezbollah plans to fire cruise missile from Lebanon apartments

9.22. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
Shiite 15 drone swarm targeted south Golan Heights, along the border with Jordan

9.22. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
Hezbollah deputy says there is an 'open-ended battle of reckoning'

9.22. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
PM "generals' plan" proposes actions in Gaza, reducing aid & a new strategy for Hamas

9.22. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in September 22 spot – Sunday
IDF raids Al Jazeera Ramallah office, over decision to shut network in Israel

9.22. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
A look at the Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 rockets Hezbollah fired deep into Israeli territory

9.21. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Hezbollah fires 110 rockets in 4 volleys deep into northern Israel

9.21. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

IDF eliminated the two terrorists who murdered the six hostages found on August 31

9.21. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

US shocked at pager attack, ending 18 years of deterrence & efforts to a cease-fire

9.21. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

IDF strike 180 targets in southern Lebanon, dismantles thousands of launchers

9.21. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in September 21 spot – Saturday

IAF with F-35 fighter jet kills 1983 bomber of 241 US Marines in Beirut barracks

9.27. 24 – Fr

Nasrallah was in the Beirut command center airstrike, as Netanyahu addressed the UN

9.27. 24 – Fr

'Nasrallah was present at command center,' Israeli officials say

Israel and the world await updates on Hezbollah leader's fate following Beirut strike; 'No one there could have survived,' Israeli official says; Nasrallah was reportedly on brief visit to Beirut

Itamar Eichner, Yossi Yehoshua|14:39

“Enough is enough,” Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared in his speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Friday, without hinting at the imminent military action. Behind the scenes, however, plans for the Israeli strike on Beirut’s Dahieh district had been approved before the Israeli leader departed for the UN. An operational window presented itself, and the final green light was given.

According to a U.S. official who spoke with ABC, Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and some of his associates were in Beirut for a brief visit when the strike occurred. The official did not confirm whether Nasrallah was at the targeted site, but this may have been the operational opportunity identified by Israeli intelligence. Israeli officials believe Nasrallah was present at the command center, with one saying, “Anyone there could not have survived.”

Netanyahu, who authorized the strike while in the U.S., abruptly left a press briefing following his speech at the UN General Assembly after being approached by his military secretary. The Prime Minister's Office later announced that Netanyahu would cut his trip short and return to Israel, departing the U.S. at 3 a.m. Israel time.

IDF spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said in a televised statement that Hezbollah's central command was located beneath residential buildings in Dahieh. Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese network Al Manar reported that at least six buildings were destroyed in the attack. Local reports indicated that around 10 explosions were heard in the Lebanese capital.

Footage from the scene showed extensive damage, with the Lebanese news agency reporting that the attacks created a "belt of fire" from Burj Barajneh to Haret Hreik.

Security sources in Lebanon told Reuters the attack, the most extensive Israeli assault on the southern Beirut Hezbollah stronghold since the war began, targeted an area where top Hezbollah officials are usually based.

Iran's embassy in Lebanon said on X that the strike represents a dangerous game-changing escalation that will "bring its perpetrator an appropriate punishment." Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzl Halevi and Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar were in the Air Force command center in Tel Aviv during the attack.

Israel updated the United States about its upcoming operation, but a Pentagon spokesperson denied Washington knew of the strike in Beirut in advance. The spokesperson also said that U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke with his Israeli counterpart as the operation was ongoing.

Netanyahu, addressing the United Nations earlier Friday, said Israel must defeat Hezbollah and prevent the group from posing a threat along its northern border.

"Hezbollah is a terrorist organization that has murdered American, French and other civilians. We will not allow them to sit on our border and plan another October 7," Netanyahu said. "Israel has no choice—and every right—to eliminate this threat, and that is exactly what we are doing."

"We have eliminated commanders responsible for the murders of Israelis, Americans, and French citizens, and then we took out their replacements, and their replacements' replacements," Netanyahu added. "We will continue our strikes until we achieve all our objectives."

Friday's attack came on the heels of a spree of assassinations of high-profile Hezbollah commanders and figures.

On Thursday, the IDF killed Hezbollah's air unit commander Mohammed Srur in Beirut, using three missiles near the site where Ibrahim Aqil, Hezbollah's head of operations, and other senior Radwan Force commanders were killed last weekend.

On Tuesday, the IDF targeted Ibrahim Qubaisi, Hezbollah's head of missile operations, in a strike on Dahieh. According to the army, several key commanders in Hezbollah's missile and rocket divisions were with Qubaisi at the time of the strike.

Earlier this week, the IDF attempted to eliminate Ali Karaki, Hezbollah's southern front commander and the organization's third-highest-ranking official. However, Hezbollah announced that Karaki survived and had been moved to a secure location. In July, Fuad Shukr, described as Hezbollah's "most senior military commander and head of the group's strategic operations," was killed in Dahieh. According to the IDF, Shukr was a close aide and strategic adviser to Nasrallah.

9.27. 24 – Fr

32 years at the helm: Nasrallah is Shiite commander of Hezbollah Shura Council

9.27. 24 – Fr

32 years at the helm: Who is Hezbollah's Hassan Nasrallah?

Nasrallah, 64, has led Hezbollah since the assassination of his predecessor in 1992; after Israel's withdrawal from southern Lebanon, he was perceived as a Arab hero; the arch-terrorist targeted by Israel in Beirut

Yaron Drukman|12:55

Israel attempted to assassinate Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in an airstrike on the Dahieh district of Beirut on Friday, but his fate remains unknown.

Nasrallah, 64, has served as Hezbollah's secretary-general since 1992, following the assassination of his predecessor, Abbas Musawi. Known for his fiery rhetoric, charismatic presence and eloquent speeches, Nasrallah has become one of Lebanon's most prominent figures and a significant leader within the broader radical Islamist movement.

Born in a refugee camp in eastern Beirut, Nasrallah was the eldest of nine children in a poor Shiite family originally from a village in southern Lebanon. From a young age, he was deeply interested in Islam and dedicated much of his time to religious studies. During the Lebanese Civil War, he and his family returned to their village, where he joined the Shiite Amal movement.

Nasrallah's talents and dedication were soon noticed, and he was taken under the wing of a prominent local cleric. At 16, he was sent to study at a prestigious seminary in Najaf, Iraq, under the guidance of Abbas Musawi, a fellow Lebanese who would later become Hezbollah's leader. The two developed a close friendship.

In 1978, as the Iraqi regime began cracking down on Shiite clerics, Nasrallah and Musawi fled Iraq along with hundreds of other Lebanese seminarians. Upon returning to Lebanon, Nasrallah continued his studies and taught at a religious seminary established by Musawi in Baalbek. His charisma and militant messages quickly elevated his status as a religious leader, attracting a devoted following.

After the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Nasrallah, following Musawi's lead, left the Amal movement and joined forces with the newly formed Hezbollah, which was supported by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Nasrallah's leadership abilities

quickly became evident, and he was appointed commander of Hezbollah's forces in the Bekaa Valley.

Under the guidance of the Revolutionary Guards, the Lebanese Shiites worked to develop a new framework known as Hezbollah. Nasrallah was a founding member and part of the organization's leadership from its inception.

Over the years, Nasrallah consolidated his position as both a military and religious leader within Hezbollah, leading several successful operations against Amal fighters in the late 1980s. He later traveled to Iran to continue his studies in the holy city of Qom.

When the conflict between Hezbollah and Amal resumed in 1989, Nasrallah returned to Lebanon, where he participated in the fighting and sustained minor injuries. By the following year, he had become one of Hezbollah's top military commanders and a member of the group's highest decision-making body, the Shura Council.

During that time, the organization's leadership was divided between different factions loyal to Syria and Iran. In 1991, amid negotiations between the two countries, Musawi, who was seen as an ally of Damascus, was appointed secretary-general of Hezbollah, with Iran-backed Nasrallah's influence within the organization further solidified.

The campaign to eject Israel from Lebanon

In 1992, Musawi was assassinated by Israel and Nasrallah took over the helm. Under his leadership, Hezbollah launched a wave of retaliatory attacks against Jewish and Israeli targets worldwide, including bombings at the Israeli embassy and the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, which left dozens dead.

Nasrallah's leadership faced a significant challenge in 1997 when former Hezbollah leader Sheikh Subhi Tufayli led a "revolution of the hungry" in protest of what he saw as the group's abandonment of its social commitments to Lebanon's Shiite community in favor of becoming a mainstream political organization. However, with support from Iran and Syria, Nasrallah successfully quashed the uprising, disarming Tufayli's supporters in the Baalbek region.

From 1985, following Israel's withdrawal from most of Lebanon, Hezbollah waged a persistent guerrilla war against Israeli forces and the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) in the security zone.

Under Nasrallah's guidance and with backing from Iran, Hezbollah's military capabilities grew significantly. However, the IDF's superior firepower resulted in high casualties for Hezbollah fighters, and many of their operations ended in failure.

Israeli attempts to end the prolonged conflict, such as Operations Grapes of Wrath and Accountability, were met with Hezbollah rocket and mortar fire on northern Israel, international condemnation and the group's entrenchment within the civilian population.

Under Nasrallah's leadership, Hezbollah shifted its strategy to include targeting Israeli public opinion, recognizing that the Israeli public's sensitivity to casualties was a potential vulnerability. This approach turned the media into a key battleground for Hezbollah, contributing to a protracted conflict that inflicted ongoing casualties on both sides, including Hezbollah fighters, IDF soldiers and SLA forces.

By the late 1990s, the continuous casualties and lack of a decisive outcome led to growing public opposition in Israel to the military presence in Lebanon. This pressure culminated in the Israeli government's decision to withdraw from the security zone. In

May 2000, the IDF executed a unilateral withdrawal to the international border, ending its 18-year presence in southern Lebanon.

During celebrations marking the withdrawal, Nasrallah delivered a speech declaring, “Israel has nuclear weapons and the strongest air force in the region, but in reality, it is weaker than a spider’s web.” His so-called “Spider Web” theory suggested that Israeli society’s sensitivity to casualties and perceived decadence made it vulnerable to a prolonged struggle and heavy losses.

Domestically, Nasrallah focused on solidifying Hezbollah’s influence within the Shiite community, particularly against its main rival, the Amal movement. A significant portion of the group’s budget was allocated to establishing welfare, education, charity and healthcare institutions, providing free services to the community.

Despite Israel’s withdrawal, Nasrallah refrained from ending hostilities, frequently attacking and mocking Israel and its leaders in his speeches. While the intensity of the conflict decreased, it was marked by sporadic skirmishes and preparations for future confrontation.

In early July 2006, a Hezbollah squad attacked an Israeli military patrol along the Israel-Lebanon border, capturing two Israeli soldiers and killing three others. In response, the Israeli government launched a large-scale military operation against Hezbollah, later known as the Second Lebanon War.

During the war, Nasrallah went into hiding, fearing an Israeli assassination attempt. However, he continued to deliver messages to the Lebanese public and engage in psychological warfare with Israel through speeches broadcast on Hezbollah’s television station.

The last speech

Since then and until October 2023, Hezbollah, with significant Iranian support, has armed itself extensively but largely avoided direct clashes with Israel.

Over the past month, Israel has killed several senior Hezbollah commanders close to Nasrallah. Foreign reports have also attributed to Israel a large-scale sabotage operation of communication devices used by the group’s operatives, resulting in dozens of deaths and thousands of injuries.

Last week, in a televised speech, Nasrallah vowed that Israel would face a “harsh and just punishment” for its recent actions, warning, “We are currently in the most sensitive phase of the campaign.” However, he did not specify what Hezbollah’s retaliation would look like, saying that the details are kept within a “small circle” of the group’s leadership.

“I won’t speak of the time, form or place. The response will come,” Nasrallah declared, adding, “The aggression is unprecedented and will face a harsh reckoning and just retribution—whether from an expected or unexpected place.”

He accused Israel of intending to kill 5,000 people—presumably referring to Hezbollah members—in the communication device blasts, claiming, “The enemy has crossed all red lines with this action.”

Nasrallah also hinted that Israel’s actions could be considered a declaration of war, though he stopped short of making such a declaration himself.

Nasrallah is married to Fatima Yassin. His eldest son, Hadi Nasrallah, was killed by Israeli forces in September 1997. His body was transferred to Israel and later returned to

Lebanon as part of a prisoner exchange deal for the remains of an Israeli Navy commando killed in a separate incident the same year.

9.27. 24 – Fr

IDF strikes Hezbollah central command in Beirut; Nasrallah reportedly targeted

9.27. 24 – Fr

IDF strikes Hezbollah central command in Beirut; Nasrallah reportedly targeted
Army says targeted terror group's HQ located beneath residential buildings in Lebanese capital's Dahieh district; Hezbollah sources say Nasrallah is alive and taken to safety; Lebanese Health Ministry says at least 2 dead and 76 injured in airstrike
Yoav Zitun, Itamar Eichner, Lior Ben Ari|10:50

The IDF said it carried out an airstrike on Friday evening targeting Hezbollah's central command, located beneath residential buildings in the Dahieh district in southern Beirut.

Some media reports suggested that the Lebanese terrorist group's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, was the intended target. A source close to the group told Reuters that Nasrallah is alive. Hezbollah sources also told Iran's Tasnim and Sky News Arabia that Nasrallah was taken to a secure location.

“On October 8, Hezbollah, led by Nasrallah, initiated a war and has since escalated the situation,” IDF spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said in a televised statement. “Israel warned them, but they continued their aggression against our citizens and sovereignty. The Air Force continues to strike terror targets to diminish their capabilities.”

Hagari added there are no changes to the Home Front Command's safety guidelines and any updates will be provided immediately through official channels.

Security sources in Lebanon told Reuters the attack, the most extensive Israeli assault on the southern Beirut Hezbollah stronghold since the war began, targeted an area where top Hezbollah officials are usually based.

In past conflicts, senior Iranian officials have often been present alongside Hezbollah leaders during military campaigns. During the 2006 Lebanon War, Qassem Soleimani, the commander of Iran's Quds Force, accompanied Nasrallah and the group's then-military chief Imad Mughniyeh. Israel is now investigating whether any Iranian officials were among those hit in the strike.

Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese network Al Manar reported that at least six buildings were destroyed in the attack. Local reports indicated that around 10 explosions were heard in the Lebanese capital.

The Lebanese National News Agency described the strikes as creating a “belt of fire” from Lebanon's Palestinian Burj Barajneh refugee camp to Haret Hreik. Saudi television channel Al Arabiya reported that dozens were injured in the airstrike.

The Lebanese Health Ministry reported that at least two people were killed and 76 others injured in the powerful Israeli airstrike.

A senior U.S. intelligence official told Sky News Arabia that Nasrallah "could not have survived" the strike if he had been in the building or beneath it.

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati condemned the attack, saying, "The strike in Dahieh shows that Israel disregards international calls for a cease-fire."

A security source told Reuters the Lebanese army was protectively setting up a security cordon around the U.S. embassy in Lebanon, which is north of Beirut.

Iran's embassy in Lebanon said on X that the strike represents a dangerous game-changing escalation that will "bring its perpetrator an appropriate punishment."

Pentagon spokesperson Sabrina Singh told reporters the United States had no advance warning of the strike in Beirut and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke with his Israeli counterpart as the operation was ongoing.

"The United States was not involved in this operation and we had no advanced warning," she said, declining to say what Defense Minister Yoav Gallant told Austin about the operation and whether it targeted Nasrallah. The Pentagon also declined to speculate on whether the Hezbollah leader was still alive.

Austin and Gallant spoke as the Pentagon chief flew over the Atlantic after a visit to London.

The strikes hit Beirut shortly after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to continue Israel's attacks on the Iranian-backed terrorist group in Lebanon in a closely watched United Nations speech, as hopes faded for a cease-fire that could head off an all-out regional war.

Netanyahu abruptly left a press briefing he was holding following his speech after learning about the strike. He decided to cut short his U.S. trip and will depart for Israel from New York at 3 a.m. local time.

Gallant, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzl Halevi and Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar visited the Air Force command center in Tel Aviv earlier on Friday.

On Thursday, the IDF killed Hezbollah's air unit commander Mohammed Srur in Beirut, using three missiles near the site where Ibrahim Aqil, Hezbollah's head of operations, and other senior Radwan Force commanders were killed last weekend.

On Tuesday, the IDF targeted Ibrahim Qubaisi, Hezbollah's head of missile operations, in a strike on Dahieh. According to the army, several key commanders in Hezbollah's missile and rocket divisions were with Qubaisi at the time of the strike.

Earlier this week, the IDF attempted to eliminate Ali Karaki, Hezbollah's southern front commander and the organization's third-highest-ranking official. However, Hezbollah announced that Karaki survived and had been moved to a secure location.

In July, Fuad Shukr, described as Hezbollah's "most senior military commander and head of the group's strategic operations," was killed in Dahieh. According to the IDF, Shukr was a close aide and strategic adviser to Nasrallah.

9.27. 24 – Fr

Once Beirut buildings collapse, IDF will initiate a ground operation. We're not there yet

9.27. 24 – Fr

'Once buildings in Beirut start collapsing, it'll be clear we're using our strength'

As IDF operation against Hezbollah continues military is adamant to cut off Lebanon from smuggling routes used to deliver weapons to terror group from across the Middle East

Yoav Zitun|06:37

Amid Operation Northern Arrows against Hezbollah announced by IDF Chief of Staff LTG Herzl Halevi last week, military indications point out the Iran-back terror group is maximizing its efforts in receiving new munitions and military equipment from Tehran via smuggling routes in Syria, Iraq and Iran — which the IDF is now adamant in disrupting.

More than 200 Hezbollah targets were attacked on Thursday out of approximately 3,000 since Israel's large-scale operation began. Four border crossings in Lebanon were attacked by Israeli Air Force fighter jets as well, with plans to escalate strikes in the coming days to disrupt Hezbollah's smuggling routes.

A mid-operation assessment by the IDF indicated that the operation's initial strikes, which severely impacted dozens of Hezbollah commanders — including top officials who were eliminated — are the primary reason the Shiite terror army has struggled to implement its contingency plans.

These included the daily firing of thousands of rockets, precision missiles and drones against Israel in general and Tel Aviv in particular in large-scale barrages.

Hezbollah's initial shock over the elimination of its key leaders, including its air unit commander, has hindered its ability to reassess and formulate additional actions. The IDF, however, said it has yet to fully unleash its force. "It will be clear that we are applying our full strength once buildings in Beirut start collapsing or the IDF Northern Command forces initiate a ground operation. We're not there yet."

The IDF believes that the past week demonstrates Hezbollah has lost its operational balance, though it still retains significant capabilities for major attacks deep within Israel. As a result, prolonged strikes are necessary which will possibly last several more weeks. At this stage, the IDF isn't attacking dual-use infrastructure in Lebanon, such as bridges that Hezbollah could also use, reserving these elements for an all-out war.

One of Israel's primary objectives in this operation is to sever the connection between Lebanon and Gaza. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah committed — and followed through on his promise — to fire at Israel as long as fighting continues in the Gaza Strip. The Ground operation in Gaza has been dramatically reduced to a minimal force maintaining the Netzarim and Philadelphi corridors in the past month, with only a few hundred soldiers involved and without the widespread ground raids that were initially planned for the war's "Phase C".

Meanwhile, the Israeli Air Force sees both fronts as joined. The pilots who attacked hundreds of additional targets in Lebanon on Thursday also participated in airstrikes against Hamas's recovering positions in Gaza, as part of support for divisions defending the Gaza border.

According to IDF estimates, Hezbollah is still equipped with thousands of short-range rockets as well as thousands of drones and precision missiles. However, the elimination of senior figures in recent days has disrupted its ability to use them.

The IDF is aware Hezbollah hasn't yet deployed its heavy arsenal, much of which has been targeted: precision missiles, and not only surface-to-surface missiles but also advanced Russian-made Yakhont cruise missiles which the IDF believes the terror group still holds from its part in suppressing the Syrian civil war.

The Yakhont missile can hit any target along Israel's coast within a range of about 300 km (186 miles), potentially crippling the Haifa and Ashdod ports and endangering Israel's gas rigs. However, the IDF believes Hezbollah would need to assemble the missile's components from various hideouts in order to deploy it, a process the IDF has detected and disrupted.

Another key target being gradually worn down is Hezbollah's Radwan Force, the terror group's elite unit comprising thousands of highly trained soldiers organized into battalions. Israel has made significant efforts to distance the unit's operatives from southern Lebanon.

The Radwan Force's command chain has been hit or eliminated by the Israeli Air Force in recent days, which the IDF believes has disrupted Hezbollah's plans to invade the Galilee which took over two decades to develop and designed to mirror Hamas's invasion on October 7.

9.27. 24 – Fr

Hamas terrorists murder Gazan mother after she refused to give charity funds

9.27. 24 – Fr

Hamas terrorists murder Gazan mother after refusing to give charity funds

Local reports say terror group operatives stopped Islam Hijazi's car and fired over 90 bullets at her after she refused to provide them with money donated to her organization Einav Halabi|05:24

Hamas terrorists on Thursday killed Islam Hijazi — program director of the Heal Palestine organization working to medically support the Strip — near a hospital in Khan Younis after she refused to hand charity funds she collected over to the terror group.

According to eyewitnesses, three masked Hamas terrorists stopped Hijazi's car Thursday overnight and fired around 90 bullets at her while she was on her way to visit patients. Gazan reports noted that the motive for the murder was Hamas operatives' takeover of large portions of the aid and funds entering the Strip via donations.

"Islam was a mother of two young children, a humane woman with the highest level of ethics and professionalism. She stayed in Gaza intentionally to help others. She always said, 'I'm staying here to help our people,'" The NGO said in a statement following the murder.

Iyad Khader, a Gaza resident, posted on social media following the murder, writing, "A mafia has recently been established in the southern part of the Strip to loot, kill, steal and terrorize the residents. War must declare war on them immediately."

"This isn't the first of such a case," said Hussein Jamal, a political researcher from Gaza. "The truth is that civilians are murdered daily and no one talks about it. Hijazi was unfortunately well-known; otherwise, no one would have known the circumstances or details of her death."

9.27. 24 – Fr

Belgium authorities appear powerless over campus PA protests against Israel

9.27. 24 – Fr

'Nasrallah, hit Tel Aviv': Belgium protest calls on Hezbollah to attack Israel
Israel's ambassador to Belgium posts clip on social media in which extreme pro-Palestinian group calls for attacks on country and say they support Hamas
Itamar Eichner|01:25

Israel's ambassador to Belgium Idit Rosenzweig-Abu, posted a video on her X account on Thursday showing a pro-Palestinian demonstration in central Brussels in which hundreds of protesters participated, chanting in Arabic for Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah to launch rockets at Tel Aviv.

"Hassan (Nasrallah), hit, hit Tel Aviv, please sir, in the name of Allah," they chanted. "Hamas, we are here for you." The demonstration was organized by a group called "Samidoun," a Palestinian organization advocating for Palestinian "prisoners."

The extremist group even opposes the Palestinian Authority, believing that anyone negotiating with Israel is a traitor. They support the establishment of a Palestinian state from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean and accuse the United Arab Emirates of betrayal for making peace with Israel.

The group's leader was deported from Germany and now lives in Canada, while the head of its European center, Mohammad Khatib, resides in Brussels. A few months ago, Belgium's interior ministry announced plans to deport Khatib, but the issue is still under legal proceedings following a public uproar and he still resides in the country.

Watch: Mohammed Khatib, head of #Samidoun Belgium, in a webinar talking about the 7.10 massacre.

During the war in Gaza, the organization's activists held a webinar with a Hamas spokesperson. They regularly organize demonstrations on university campuses in the country, often marked by violence.

Pro-Palestinian protesters in Belgium have a structured plan to turn campus demonstrations violent, both in Europe and beyond. Belgian authorities appear powerless in dealing with the group.

9.26. 24 – Th

Hamas massacre to be celebrated in Spain as Israel unable to sway public opinion

9.26. 24 – Th

Hamas massacre to be celebrated in Spain as Israel unable to sway public opinion

Several pro-Palestinian organizations announce plans to celebrate atrocities committed on Israelis; Israel's position at a disadvantage with no Ambassador named to head mission harming efforts to counter Palestinian narrative

Itamar Eichner|11:28

Several Spanish organizations, some funded by Iran, are set to hold events across the country on October 6 and 7 to celebrate Hamas' attack on Israel. Spain's postal workers union decided to go on Strike on October 9 to protest "Israeli aggression," while failing to mention the massacre that took place across southern Israel before the war began.

Israel's embassy in Madrid has appealed to the relevant Spanish authorities to cancel a planned parade by the Masar Badil organization, affiliated with Hamas, celebrating Hamas' atrocities in the city. Despite the embassy's efforts, the parade is still set to take place.

Senior officials noted that the embassy is tirelessly working to counter the Palestinian narrative and ensure Israel's voice is heard — both among official figures in the government and opposition and with the Spanish public.

Meanwhile, Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas was received with full honors in Spain this week, including in a meeting with Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez. Sanchez promised that a bilateral meeting between Spain and the PA would take place soon following a major international conference held nearly two weeks ago with foreign ministers from Arab and European countries participating aimed at promoting the two-state solution.

The only country not invited to the event was Israel, which is perceived as irrelevant to the process by the current Spanish government. The Foreign Ministry chose to avoid a direct attack on Spain and instead focused criticism on the European Union's Foreign Affairs Chief Josep Borrell, who's due to end his term in late October.

Israel itself seems largely absent from the Spanish arena amid the anti-Israel sentiment present there and its voice is barely heard. It's not that Israel lacks friends in Spain or people willing to help, but with the embassy operating without an ambassador since May,

following Spain's recognition of a Palestinian state, bringing Israel's perspective to the media or initiating meetings with senior Spanish officials has hit snags.

Sources familiar with Israel-Spain relations say that inaction only strengthens the anti-Israel stance and creates the impression that Israel has given up on Spain. Israel's ambassador to Spain Rodica Radian, who was recalled in May, has since retired. Her replacement, Zvi Vapni, is waiting for the government to decide if and when he should leave to take up his post.

Spain isn't only a popular tourist destination for Israelis, but also the fourth-largest economy in the European Union. Its economy is thriving, and it has maintained significant business and economic ties with Israel which have been mutually beneficial but are now at risk due to the increasingly hostile stance in the country.

"Israel's frustration with Spain's recent conduct is understandable and justified, but now is the time to resume action, send an ambassador back to Madrid and take a firm and aggressive stance to counter the ongoing deterioration in relations. We must not lose Spain, and to prevent that, we need to operate at full capacity in the country," sources said.

9.26. 24 – Th

North residents will not live in proxy sights. It is time to vanquish Hezbollah

9.26. 24 – Th

Residents of north say cease-fire is gift to Hezbollah

Local leaders up north say they won't accept insufficient agreements with Hezbollah before returning home, demanding decisive action from Netanyahu's government and commending the IDF for recent successes; This comes amid rumors that a cease-fire agreement could materialize by the end of the day

Yair Kraus|03:28

Amid Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's approval to hold talks with the U.S. about a temporary halt to strikes in Lebanon for cease-fire negotiations, northern border community leaders are expressing concern. They refuse to accept any "exit points" for Hezbollah that might allow the terror organization to regroup. Instead, they have put their hopes on IDF Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi, who has stated that the IDF is ready to enter Lebanon to dismantle terrorist infrastructure, a fundamental condition for ensuring the safe return of northern residents.

"I sincerely hope the Israeli government isn't stepping back again but continues to move forward," he said. "We've experienced this after the Majdal Shams event, the preemptive attack on Tel Aviv, and other instances where the military launched a strong operation only to return to a containment policy. We're tired of this policy and the expectation of retaliation every time we strike."

Azoulay emphasized that, post-October 7, Israel's deterrence has been significantly eroded, and now is the time to restore it. "Deterrence isn't regained through a single

operation but through sustained efforts to sever Iran's proxy arm in Lebanon completely. We won't tolerate a cycle of forward and backward steps anymore; we demand consistent progress," he said.

In both the security and political arenas, it's understood that the northern conflict will eventually conclude with a settlement with Hezbollah. The key question is what position of strength Israel will bring to these discussions and how proactive it will be in achieving an agreement before international demands to halt the conflict arise. "We must persist without pause, advancing daily until Hezbollah says 'enough.' I believe international pressure from Americans, French, and Europeans will lead to an agreement, but it must be robust. It shouldn't rely on (UN Resolution) 1701 and must be enforced by the IDF, with every violation addressed. I doubt we've already hit 50% of Hezbollah's capabilities; maybe only 30%," Azoulay added.

On Tuesday, the IDF Chief of Staff announced that the offensive in Lebanon would be named Northern Arrows. The announcement of this as "another operation" worried many, including local leaders, fearing the military isn't aiming for a comprehensive campaign. IDF sources clarified that the operation is part of the broader campaign to restore security to the north, but noted that all aspects depend on political decisions and guidance.

Avichai Stern, mayor of Kiryat Shmona, noted that after a year of attrition and displacement residents demand a war to bring them home. "In 2006, it was a war, and they didn't finish the job. Certainly, an 'operation' with some made-up name won't do the job. We pay the price, and from the IDF, we expect just one operation for the holidays – Operation 'One Plus One' – Gaza plus Lebanon or Nasrallah plus Sinwar."

On Tuesday, in a rocket barrage on Kiryat Shmona, Hezbollah launched about 50 missiles, causing direct hits and significant damage to residential homes and municipal emergency facilities. Stern said that, in the past two weeks, "the IDF has operated brilliantly, and we express gratitude and appreciation. The army has demonstrated its capability to surprise, initiate, destroy, and strike – these capabilities must continue in the war."

With the mobilization of two reserve combat brigades in anticipation of expanding the conflict and the recent deployment of numerous artillery units, the possibility of a ground invasion seems real. However, northern leaders aren't rushing to demand it just yet. Azoulay noted that he doesn't believe it's time for a ground operation in southern Lebanon. "Once the Dahiyeh district falls, Nasrallah will capitulate. We should also target their airport in Beirut and power station; the Lebanese government should pay for this. Why aren't we destroying their drug fields? Brute force is the only language they understand."

"If Hezbollah agrees to cease-fire now, it will undoubtedly end in certain massacre" Meanwhile, the Fighting for the North organization headquarters contacted Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, warning that residents won't settle for mere declarations of "restoring security" or "a sense of security." The headquarters, which includes hundreds of evacuated families from the north, expressed appreciation for the IDF's actions against Hezbollah, alongside the decision to include the northern campaign in the military's war objectives, but stated that isolated operational moves are insufficient. "We are more apprehensive than ever that soon we'll be told to return home after Israel reaches international understandings regarding the northern front," they wrote. "We

declare that if the war is stopped prematurely, without a ground incursion and clearing the area, restoring security to the north, we will not return."

Rafael Slav, a leader of the headquarters, told Ynet: "I see various former generals discussing the possibility of giving Hezbollah an 'exit point,' as if our lives are their investment portfolios. If Hezbollah agrees to a cease-fire now, before all its capabilities are destroyed, it will certainly end in a massacre as soon as they are able to execute it." He added: "We must not seek escalation to reach an agreement. We cannot return to our homes without an absolute buffer zone devoid of residents, certainly without Hezbollah." Lobby 1701 stated: "In the past week, the IDF has been attacking Lebanon with strength and sophistication. The government has finally made the return of residents home a part of the war objectives. But, as usual, when the enemy suffers, they run to plead with the French and Americans, who in turn pressure for a resolution. We've seen this scenario before. It won't happen again. We hear voices in television news studios starting to calculate whether the war is economically worthwhile, instead of asking how to repopulate the Galilee. This opportunity to continue striking the enemy must not be missed. There are no more pagers. Tens of thousands of northern residents have been evacuated from their homes for a year, and tens of thousands more live in a war zone, with hundreds of thousands joining this week. This must not be in vain. We must not return to October 6. We must not stop."

Meanwhile, Minister for the Development of the Periphery, the Negev and the Galilee Yitzhak Wasserlauf, of the Otzma Yehudit party, posted on his X account: "Good evening, Mr. Prime Minister, I am now in the north. Another long day with the incredible and dedicated local leaders here. Just today I sat with sixteen of them. and I am informing you about their consensus: without a significant military decision against Hezbollah there is no point in discussing the return of northern residents to their homes. No one believes in agreements with terror. The State of Israel has learned this the hard way. Northern residents will no longer live under Hezbollah's sights. Now is the opportunity to vanquish Hezbollah."

9.26. 24 – Th

Biden & Macron call immediate 21-day cease-fire: Israel, Lebanon situation intolerable

9.26. 24 – Th

Biden and Macron call for immediate 21-day cease-fire: 'Situation between Israel, Lebanon is intolerable'

U.S. and France issue a statement, joined by several other countries, calling for stop to hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah 'to provide space for diplomacy towards the conclusion of a diplomatic settlement'; Calls on parties to 'endorse the temporary cease-fire immediately'

Daniel Edelson, Itamar Eichner, Dan Raban, Lior Ben Arij 00:00

U.S. President Joe Biden and French President Emmanuel Macron issued a joint statement overnight between Wednesday and Thursday calling for an immediate 21-day

cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah. "It is time for a settlement on the Israel-Lebanon border that ensures safety and security to enable civilians to return to their homes," the statement reads. "We call on all parties, including the governments of Israel and Lebanon, to endorse the temporary cease-fire immediately." Senior White House officials hinted that Israel and Lebanon were familiar with the agreement, and even endorse it.

As of 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, no rocket alert sirens were heard in the north. The IDF, meanwhile, continued its attacks in Lebanon.

"The exchange of fire since October 7th, and in particular over the past two weeks, threatens a much broader conflict, and harm to civilians," the statement continues. "We therefore have worked together in recent days on a joint call for a temporary cease fire to give diplomacy a chance to succeed and avoid further escalations across the border." The statement is endorsed by Australia, Canada, the European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

"The situation between Lebanon and Israel since October 8th, 2023 is intolerable and presents an unacceptable risk of a broader regional escalation. This is in nobody's interest, neither of the people of Israel nor of the people of Lebanon," according to a statement signed by all of the countries. "It is time to conclude a diplomatic settlement that enables civilians on both sides of the border to return to their homes in safety. Diplomacy however cannot succeed amid an escalation of this conflict."

"Thus we call for an immediate 21 day cease-fire across the Lebanon-Israel border to provide space for diplomacy towards the conclusion of a diplomatic settlement consistent with UNSCR 1701, and the implementation of UNSCR 2735 regarding a cease-fire in Gaza," according to the statement.

It concludes: "We call on all parties, including the Governments of Israel and Lebanon, to endorse the temporary cease fire immediately consistent with UNSCR 1701 during this period, and to give a real chance to a diplomatic settlement. We are then prepared to fully support all diplomatic efforts to conclude an agreement between Lebanon and Israel within this period, building on efforts over the last months, that ends this crisis altogether."

A senior White House official said that the statement was coordinated with the Israeli and Lebanese governments and that they could endorse it in the coming hours. "This is a breakthrough, we will try to use the time to make achievements on all fronts, including Gaza," he said.

The official added that 21 days is a long enough period to allow practical contacts to reach a very complex agreement. It's not some magic formula, but we thought it fit. We have held talks in recent months and we hope to use these 21 days to reach a permanent agreement that will allow citizens to return to their homes, that is the goal."

The cease-fire will be along the blue line dividing Lebanon from Israel approved by the UN in 2000 for the purpose of determining whether Israel had fully withdrawn from Lebanon; During the cease-fire the parties would discuss a comprehensive agreement

that will allow civilians to return to their homes in both Israel and Lebanon, according to the official.

"This is a great effort that has been made during the last 48 hours. The president and his advisers have dealt with this with countries around the world. Lebanon and Israel have worked tirelessly to reach this moment and we value their cooperation," according to the official.

U.S. officials said Hezbollah would not be a signatory to the cease-fire but believed the Lebanese government would coordinate its acceptance with the group, and that once it is approved by Lebanon it would be understood that Hezbollah is involved. They said they expected Israel to "welcome" the proposal and perhaps formally accept it when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at the General Assembly on Friday.

The White House said Wednesday night even before the joint statement, that Biden and Macron talked on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York about efforts to reach a cease-fire in Lebanon to avoid a wider regional war.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife, Sara, leave for the United Nations General Assembly meeting in New York early Thursday morning

The joint statement comes after Israel's political-security cabinet convened Wednesday night for about four hours at the Kirya base in Tel Aviv, against the backdrop of the possibility that the IDF will soon enter into a ground war in Lebanon as part of the Northern Arrows operation. After the discussion ended, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu flew to the United States where he will speak at the UN General Assembly in New York without providing a statement before take off.

The Pentagon said that it does not appear that the entry of IDF forces into Lebanon is likely to happen immediately despite the messages coming out of the IDF, and the Wall Street Journal cited sources familiar with the matter as saying that the IDF is not yet in a position to carry out a ground operation until it moves more soldiers to the north, but that the Pentagon believes that an Israeli ground operation could happen in the coming days. The IDF announced Wednesday afternoon that it will mobilize two reserve brigades of combined infantry and tanks for operational missions in the north.

9.25. 24 – We

Haredi draft dodgers on 3rd notice collision course with IDF, face possible jail time

9.25. 24 – We

Haredi draft dodgers on collision course with IDF, face possible jail time

In a first, Haredi youth who refuse to report for IDF enlistment after receiving a personalized draft order will face sanctions, which could result in jail time; IDF spokesperson: 'Those who do not report are committing an offense of absence without leave'

Shilo Freid | 17:39

Young ultra-Orthodox men in Israel who failed to respond to military draft orders were issued warning calls on Wednesday. These calls informed them that they must report to

recruitment offices within 48 hours or face potential arrest warrants. This marks a shift as the military now considers employing sanctions and legal measures against those who do not comply.

An ultra-Orthodox worker who received an exemption due to his limited weekly yeshiva study hours, shared his experience with Ynet. "I was contacted by the Haredi administration, and they informed me of two orders I had missed. I told them that, just as they have a commander who instructs them, my commander is the rabbi, and he advised me not to enlist. They insisted I report within 48 hours or face an arrest warrant," he said.

Another young man, Yair, explained: "I received a call from the army's Haredi administration, telling me I have 48 hours to report, or legal proceedings will be initiated against me." He expressed his frustration, over the incident. "The ultra-Orthodox members of the Knesset are not assisting us, nor is the Yeshiva Committee providing any answers," he said.

In an attempt to broaden recruitment, the IDF has issued over 1,000 initial draft orders to young ultra-Orthodox men in recent months, yet only about 70 have reported to recruitment offices. Brigadier General Shay Tayeb, head of the IDF's Planning and Manpower Directorate, addressed the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee recently, acknowledging the low turnout following the initial orders. "Those who did not respond to the first order have received a second. We also make phone calls to clarify that they can report at a more convenient date without demonstrations. If any do not report, the process will continue, and we expect the numbers to rise." According to the law, failing to respond to a second order results in a third warning, followed by potential economic sanctions, arrests, and travel restrictions.

Rabbi Moshe Hillel Hirsch, a prominent figure in the Degel HaTorah party, met with heads of ultra-Orthodox high schools this week. "If yeshiva students who received orders are arrested, I will come to support them in prison." Rabbi Dov Landau, leader of the Lithuanian stream, also announced his support for those who do not enlist, even if they face arrest. "Judicial authorities have declared war against the Torah world and are forcing the army to issue draft orders to yeshiva students. We publicly declare that under no circumstances should anyone report to the recruitment offices, and we stand with these yeshiva students and their families during this trial. We are with you, heroes of valor," he said.

The IDF spokesperson's unit responded. "Those designated for security service who were summoned for recruitment and did not report are committing an offense of absence without leave, will be declared draft dodgers, and are subject to enforcement proceedings according to the law." It is important to note that as part of the enforcement process, a draftee may be arrested, and their departure from the country could be delayed," the unit said in a statement.

9.25.24 – We

Efforts to target Israelis, Jews traveling abroad ahead of High Holiday

9.25. 24 – We

Terror groups intensify efforts to target Israelis, Jews traveling abroad ahead of Oct. 7, NSC warns

National Security Council warns that elevated motivation and 'atmosphere of hatred' across the globe significantly increases the risk of attacks by lone-wolf assailants or organized terror cells targeting Israelis or Jews around the world

Itamar Eichner|13:47

The National Security Council (NSC) issued on Wednesday a public update on terror threats targeting Israelis and Jews traveling abroad ahead of upcoming High Holiday season, warning of heightened efforts to harm Israelis or Jews on October 7, marking the anniversary of Hamas' deadly terror attack.

"We expect October 7, 2024, (the one-year anniversary of the Swords of Iron War) to be a significant date for terrorist organizations (and in particular Hamas and Global Jihad factions). Around that time, efforts to carry out attacks against Israeli/Jewish targets abroad are expected to intensify, both in planned attacks and in local initiatives or lone-wolf attacks," the NCS said in a statement.

The NSC noted a sharp rise in motivation and attempts by terror groups to target Israeli or Jewish sites worldwide since October 7, 2023, citing a series of recent attacks and attempted attacks over the past year, as well as numerous threats of revenge from Iran. The statement also emphasized that the Sinai Peninsula remains a high-risk area due to its popularity among Israeli tourists, despite the significant terror threat there. The NSC reiterated that a Level 4 travel advisory remains in effect for Sinai, warning against any travel to the region.

The NSC highlighted the elevated motivation of various terror groups (including Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas and global jihadist factions) alongside the growing "atmosphere of hatred" against Israelis and Jews due to the ongoing war. This, they noted, significantly increases the risk of attacks by lone-wolf assailants or organized terror cells targeting Israelis or Jews abroad.

The NSC issued the following recommendations:

"We wish to emphasize the dangers of sharing or posting on social media (Facebook, Telegram, WhatsApp, TikTok, etc.) anything that could identify you as being a member of or active in Israel's security forces (be it regular service, standing army or as a reservist). Sharing any such information increases the risk that the person who shared it or is depicted in it will be marked as a target for attack."

"We also wish to underscore the possible danger of being lured and kidnapped. We ask that you be wary of anyone unfamiliar who tries to make any type of contact with you, especially online and for those who do most of their business abroad. We stress the importance of refraining from travel to the following countries, in light of the real life-threatening danger facing Israelis in these places: Iraq (including the Kurdish region), Yemen, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia (restricted by law), Bangladesh, Somalia,

Pakistan, Afghanistan, Libya, Algeria, Jordan, Egypt (including the Sinai Peninsula) and Turkey.

"To clarify, if you are concerned that you have been exposed to a terrorist threat while abroad, you must first inform the local security forces in the country where you are staying and then contact the NSC's Travel Warning 24/7 hotline, at +972-2-6667444." "For updates or if you have questions relating to terrorist threats against Israelis, please contact the NSC's Travel Warning 24/7 hotline, at +972-2-6667444. For other matters, such as health services, consular issues, crimes related to personal security, or antisemitism, please contact the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' 24/7 hotline, at +972-2-5303155."

9.25. 24 – We

Attack on Eilat: UAV explodes in Cable car port, second drone intercepted

9.25. 24 – We

Attack on Eilat: UAV explodes in port, second drone intercepted; Watch the videos Two people were slightly injured in the attack; Islamic Resistance in Iraq claims responsibility; Cable cars at Mount Hermon site hit by Hezbollah rockets 'There will be a need for massive and rapid rehabilitation' Dan Raban|13:13

A drone that approached the southern Israeli city of Eilat from the east on Wednesday night slammed into the Eilat port, injuring two people.

The Islamic Resistance in Iraq, an association of pro-Iranian militias, claimed responsibility for launching the drone attack against what it called a "vital target" in Eilat. In addition, the Lebanese Al-Mayadeen news network, that has ties to Hezbollah, cited Iraqi sources as saying that the attack on Eilat was launched by militias in Iraq. A militia spokesman said: "We hope that the resistance factions in Iraq will increase their activity and the level of threat to the enemy."

Erez, 34, a resident of Eilat who works at a hotel in the city, said: "I finished work and left the hotel. I heard the alarm and at first I didn't know where to run, people were running in all kinds of directions. In the end I hid in the parking lot of a building and saw the lights in the sky. It was scary, I hope the situation doesn't get worse."

Ariel Kadami, also a resident of Eilat, said: "I was sitting on the balcony with a beer after a day's work. About 8 p.m. there was an alarm. I was curious so I looked and saw the interception over the sea. My partner works at a hospital, everyone there went into the emergency room."

Idan Kornfeld and his wife were leaving their home to attend a concert in the city when the alarm sounded. "The children Yanai, 8, and Ziv, 5, cried and went into the protected room and we calmed them down. Ziv said, 'I'm tired of the war.'" The couple was later able to go to the concert.

In footage from the scene of the UAV impact in the port of Eilat, panicked voices are heard, and the man who took the video shows damage to the windshield of a truck, which was parked next to a building in the port that was also destroyed. "The windshield flew off, it almost killed us," he is heard saying.

Rocket hits Mount Hermon site

"The damage will require us to carry out a massive and rapid restoration in order to be able to meet the needs of security on the mountain and for the success of the campaign in the north," noted the director general of the site, Raphael Neve. "The Hermon site has been closed to visitors for an entire year. We all hope for good days and the return of travelers to the site," he said.

9.25. 24 – We

Israel is not negotiating with Hezbollah: PM Red line is to push it past Litani River

9.25. 24 – We

Netanyahu says Israel not part of negotiations with Hezbollah: 'Red line' is to push it past Litani River

Several sources have confirmed that behind-the-scenes negotiations are taking place to achieve a cease-fire deal with the Iranian proxy, which the Biden administration is pushing for in time for the November elections; Blinken: 'Israel will have some tough decisions to make'

Daniel Edelson, Lior Ben Ari, Itamar Eichner|11:46

Amid reports that Israel will stop its strikes on Hezbollah in order to negotiate a settlement to bring quiet on the northern border, a source close to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Wednesday evening that Israel currently is not part of any negotiations.

"Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Minister Ron Dermer's red line is to kick Hezbollah to the north side of the Litani River. There are currently no negotiations," the source said.

Earlier on Wednesday Netanyahu in a statement: "I cannot detail everything we are doing, but I can tell you one thing – we are determined to return our residents in the north home safely. We are inflicting blows on Hezbollah that it never imagined. We are doing it with might; we are doing it with stratagems. I promise you one thing – we will not rest until they return home."

Amid ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel, coupled with Northern Command Chief Major General Ori Gordin's threats to launch a ground offensive into Lebanon, international diplomatic efforts are intensifying to de-escalate tensions. The United States is spearheading efforts to lower the flames, although Washington acknowledges the limited influence of the Beirut government over Hezbollah.

Concurrently, consultations are underway in Jerusalem to soon decide Israel's next steps in the conflict.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has authorized negotiations, led by himself and Minister Ron Dermer, with the U.S. to consider a temporary cessation of attacks in Lebanon to facilitate cease-fire talks. Since the U.S. does not have direct communication with Hezbollah, negotiations on the opposite side are conducted indirectly through the Lebanese government and European entities, including the French. Simultaneously, Iran is also engaged in attempts to prevent a full-scale war. As an Israeli source noted, "We are approaching a crossroads of decisions on the war's trajectory."

U.S. initiative links Gaza, Hezbollah conflicts

The United States is spearheading a new diplomatic effort to end hostilities in both Gaza and Lebanon, linking the two conflicts as part of a single initiative, six sources familiar with the initiative told Reuters.

Details are being hammered out at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, according to two Lebanese officials, two Western diplomats, a source familiar with Hezbollah's thinking and a source briefed on the talks.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said during an NBC interview on Wednesday regarding the northern escalation: "Israel has a real and legitimate problem. Hezbollah is a terrorist organization, and what everyone wants is a safe environment where people can simply go home, and children can return to school. That's what Israel is looking for. The best way to achieve that is not through war, not through escalation."

"A diplomatic agreement, whereby forces withdraw from the border, creating a safe environment for people to return home, is what we are aiming for. While there is a legitimate issue here, we don't believe war is the solution. That's our focus now, including working with many partners here in New York at the UN General Assembly, the Arab world, Europeans, and others. It's unlikely people will be able to return home if there's a full-scale war," Blinken said.

When asked whether Israel should have provided the U.S. with advance notice about attempts to assassinate senior figures in Iran or about last week's operations, Blinken responded, "It's always nice not to be surprised by someone's actions; it's certainly preferable."

"Beyond our efforts to ensure that October 7 never repeats itself, and the attempt to ensure that civilians in Gaza – men, women, and children caught in Hamas' terrible crossfire – are better protected and receive the help they need, we have also acted to prevent this war from spreading, escalating, and reaching other places. Ensuring that the situation in northern Israel and southern Lebanon does not escalate into a full-scale war is our current focus, and conversely, addressing the issue Israel faces," he said.

Regarding the potential for a cease-fire agreement with Hamas, Blinken remarked: "We have a draft agreement with 18 paragraphs. Fifteen of those have been agreed upon between Hamas and Israel. However, in recent weeks, Hamas simply has not been at the table, unwilling to engage with the remaining issues, which, if resolved, would finalize the deal. Israel will also have some tough decisions to make in the end, so we need to consider that."

He said that President Joe Biden is determined to finalize the deal before his term ends. "He knows what he wants to achieve. He is determined to utilize the remaining months as president to reach the finish line. Our message, my message to anyone who perceives the U.S. as weak or indecisive – President Biden is here until January 20. He will use every day to advance the national interest."

Meanwhile, White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby stated the U.S. is "very concerned" about reports of Hezbollah launching a missile at the Mossad headquarters this morning. However, Kirby noted Washington's belief that a diplomatic solution could reduce tensions along the Lebanon-Israel border.

In a CNN interview, Kirby also highlighted: "This again proves that Israel faces a legitimate threat from an Iran-backed terrorist organization. The U.S. continues to support Israel's right to defend itself. No nation should have to live with such threats just beyond its border, right next door."

Response in Lebanon

In Lebanon, Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri noted today that serious efforts are underway with international parties, including Americans, to halt what he terms "the recent Israeli escalation against Lebanon." In an interview with the Saudi newspaper Asharq Al-Awsat published in London, Berri stated that the next 24 hours would determine whether diplomatic efforts have led to a political solution or failed.

Berri was asked whether Hezbollah would be willing to separate the Gaza and Lebanon fronts, to which he replied that diplomatic efforts account for the inseparability of these arenas. The Lebanese official explained that those involved in de-escalation attempts are working on a solution based on proposals put forward by American envoy to the region, Amos Hochstein, even before the war in Gaza. Berri did not disclose the details of the solution but said it is the only feasible one.

A senior Lebanese official and the source familiar with Hezbollah's thinking told Reuters that Hezbollah was "open to any settlement that would include both Gaza and Lebanon."

9.25. 24 – We

IDF mobilizing 2 reserve brigades to north ready for ground war in Lebanon

9.25. 24 – We

IDF mobilizing 2 reserve brigades to north signaling possible ground war in Lebanon

IDF announced mobilization of two reserve brigades of infantry and tanks, which could participate in a ground invasion in Lebanon; Political-security cabinet set to meet Wednesday night in the underground bunker of defense headquarters at the Kirya base in Tel Aviv

Yoav Zitun, Itamar Eichner|09:35

The IDF announced Wednesday afternoon that it will mobilize two reserve brigades of combined infantry and tanks for operational missions in the north. The call-up comes as fighting in the Northern Arrows operation against Hezbollah on the northern border continues.

The mobilization "will enable the continuation of combat against the Hezbollah terrorist organization, the defense of the State of Israel, and create the conditions to enable the residents of northern Israel to return to their homes," the IDF spokesperson's office said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the political-security cabinet is set to meet Wednesday evening in the underground bunker of defense headquarters at the Kirya base in Tel Aviv. The mobilized reserve brigades are integrated armored-infantry brigades that have previously been mobilized in this war, and will return to increase the defensive operations in the Galilee Division, as well as participating in a ground invasion of Lebanon if one begins.

Earlier on Wednesday Northern Command head Maj. Gen. Ori Gordin said Israel has 'entered a different stage of the campaign' and threatened a ground entry into Lebanon, after another morning with dozens of rockets launched in attacks on areas of northern Israel, and waves of Israel Air Force attacks from the air throughout Lebanon, including north and south of Beirut. "We have entered another phase of the campaign. We must be fully prepared for a ground incursion and action," Gordin said during a visit to the 7th Brigade's divisional exercise on the northern border, to assess the readiness of the commanders and soldiers.

Gordin said that the Northern Arrows operation "began with significant strikes on Hezbollah's capabilities, focusing on their firepower and a severe blow to their commanders and personnel. In light of this, we need to change the security situation."

The political-security cabinet will meet Wednesday night, hours before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu takes off to the United States to give a speech at the UN General Assembly in New York. Netanyahu has postponed his trip again, and will only fly to the United States Thursday morning, instead of Wednesday evening. Before the cabinet meeting, he will hold limited consultations.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will leave for his UN speech tomorrow (Thursday) instead of tonight, and will return on Saturday evening," his office said in a statement. "Throughout today, the Prime Minister will hold consultations with security officials in order to discuss the continuation of the attacks in Lebanon," the statement also said. The announcement from Netanyahu's office came about an hour after Hezbollah expanded the circle of fire - and for the first time ever fired a missile from Lebanon into the center of the country. The IDF reported that one surface-to-surface missile was launched from Lebanon and, according to reports, it was aimed at the Camp Glilot intelligence military base, near Herzliya.

Meanwhile, the IDF spokesman announced that Israeli Air Force fighter jets had completed attacks on 60 Hezbollah intelligence targets. The strikes destroyed surveillance equipment, command centers and other infrastructure used by the group for intelligence gathering, according to the military.

The IDF spokesman also announced that, as part of the Northern Arrows operation against Hezbollah, about 280 targets in Lebanon were attacked during the day, including the launchers from which the rocket launches were carried out Wednesday morning toward Safed, Nahariya and the Jezreel Valley area. In addition, terrorists, ammunition

depots and launchers ready for launch were also attacked, as well as military infrastructure of the terror organization. In addition, the IDF attacked ammunition depots and military infrastructure in the Nabatia region and other areas in the south of the country.

The army is concentrating its efforts on attacks against the terrorist organization's intelligence infrastructure, as well as against long-range missiles.

"They have a lot to lose if Hezbollah increases the range of fire," said a senior member of the General Staff yesterday. He added that "the assassinations have an effect on Hezbollah's ability to command, which has been severely damaged."

The Lebanese Ministry of Health announced 23 dead and 95 wounded in Wednesday's attacks in Lebanon. The Lebanese newspaper Al-Akhbar, which is affiliated with Hezbollah, reported that more than 95,000 displaced people have left southern Lebanon so far, after the expansion of Israeli attacks there.

According to the report, the displaced are staying in schools that have been turned into shelters in Beirut, Mount Lebanon, the Sidon area, al-Baqaa, Baalbek, al-Harmel, Bekhar and in the north of the country. It was also reported that the internal security personnel who were supposed to operate according to the government's emergency plan did not show up, and that the displaced were left to their fate. Only "social solidarity and civil initiatives" managed to alleviate the situation, the report said.

9.25. 24 – We

1,500 Hezbollah lost sight & limbs to pager bombs, leaving displaced to fend for themselves

9.25. 24 – We

1,500 Hezbollah fighters lost sight and limbs to pager bombs, report says
Senior Hezbollah official says many terrorists rendered unfit for combat due to explosions; new US report estimates Hezbollah's strength at 40,000 to 50,000 members—around half of number previously claimed by Nasrallah
Reuters|06:35

Some 1,500 Hezbollah fighters have been disabled after their communication devices exploded en masse last week, with many losing their sight or suffering hand amputations from the blasts, a senior member of the Lebanese terrorist group told Reuters on Wednesday on condition of anonymity.

Hezbollah published a list of casualties over the past week, following the explosions, reporting 37 deaths from various regions across Lebanon. These include the Bekaa Valley, the Dahieh district in Beirut, multiple locations in southern Lebanon and the Akkar region in the north. According to various Lebanese reports, around 3,000 people have been injured by the explosions.

While Reuters noted that the incident represents a "major blow" to Hezbollah, the disabled fighters represent only a small fraction of the group's total force, which,

according to a recent report submitted to the U.S. Congress, numbers between 40,000 and 50,000 members. Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah had previously claimed the organization had 100,000 fighters.

Three Hezbollah sources told Reuters that since October 7, the group has redeployed its fighters to “frontline areas in the south,” including some who have returned to Lebanon from Syria.

Additionally, Hezbollah has been rapidly moving more rockets into Lebanon in preparation for prolonged fighting. However, the sources emphasized that Hezbollah is seeking to avoid an all-out war.

Andreas Krieg, a senior lecturer at the School of Security Studies at King's College London, said that while Hezbollah operations had been disrupted by the past week's attacks, the group's networked organizational structure helped make it an extremely resilient force.

"This is the most formidable enemy Israel has ever faced on the battlefield, not because of numbers and tech but in terms of resilience."

IDF strikes 100 Hezbollah targets and counting

Amid reports of heavy losses for Hezbollah, Israel continued its extensive wave of airstrikes across southern and central Lebanon on Wednesday, with at least 10 people reported killed in the morning hours. By midday, the Israeli military said that its fighter jets had struck more than 100 targets in Lebanon, and the attacks were ongoing.

In response, Hezbollah launched dozens of rockets and drones at northern Israeli communities, with one residential unit suffering a direct hit.

Earlier in the day, Hezbollah fired a ballistic missile toward central Israel, triggering sirens in the Tel Aviv metropolitan area and the Sharon region. The missile was intercepted by the David's Sling missile defense system. Saudi network Al Hadath reported that the target was the Gilot military base.

Meanwhile, the pro-Hezbollah Lebanese newspaper Al Akhbar reported that over 95,000 people have been displaced from southern Lebanon as a result of the intensified Israeli strikes. The displaced are reportedly sheltering in schools turned into temporary shelters across Beirut, Mount Lebanon, Sidon, the Bekaa Valley, Baalbek, Hermel, Akkar and northern Lebanon.

The report added that internal security personnel, who were supposed to manage the situation according to the government's emergency plan, were absent, leaving the displaced to fend for themselves. Only “social solidarity and civic initiatives” have managed to alleviate the situation, the report said.

The newspaper also highlighted the economic impact of the displacement, noting that the influx of people into Beirut and its eastern suburbs has led to skyrocketing prices. The cost of bread has reportedly increased sixfold.

In a separate article, Al Akhbar described severe congestion at border crossings into Syria from the Bekaa Valley and northern Lebanon, with thousands of people crossing daily.

9.25. 24 – We

Journey of escape: Thousands of Lebanese flee combat in gridlock roads to Beirut

9.25. 24 – We

'The journey of escape from death': Lebanese fleeing combat zones gridlock roads to Beirut

Thousands flee southern Lebanon amid heavy fighting, creating massive traffic jams and panic; 'We left for Beirut not knowing where we were going'

Lior Ben Ari, news agencies|02:20

Thousands of Lebanese civilians are fleeing combat zones in southern Lebanon as the IDF continues extensive airstrikes on the second day of Operation Northern Arrows. The evacuations follow Israeli warnings for civilians to leave areas where weapons were allegedly being stored by Hezbollah.

Arab media outlets reported scenes of residents escaping under fire, enduring difficult road conditions and seeking refuge in schools converted into shelters.

On Monday, the first day of the IDF's precision strikes, 558 people were reportedly killed, the highest single-day toll in Lebanon since the civil war over 30 years ago. The Lebanese newspaper An-Nahar published an extensive report on the displaced, titled "The Journey of Escape from Death."

One woman displaced from her home in southern Lebanon described her journey to Beirut, saying, "Missiles were falling in front of us, behind us and on both sides. For four hours, we could not leave the house. We saw houses collapse on their occupants. We left for Beirut at 10 a.m. and arrived the next day at 7 a.m. due to heavy traffic. There was no food or drink on the way, everyone was in the same difficult situation." She said that the Israeli attacks "forced me, and thousands of families, to leave their homes instead of staying in place and dying."

Another displaced woman said: "We were at home when we heard the attacks around us. We woke up in the morning and discovered that the house was shaking from the force of the rockets and attacks in the area. We left the house and hid under the trees. Then we packed our suitcases and left for Beirut without knowing where we're going. We arrived at a school in Beirut until we know what fate has for us."

A displaced person who fled from Nabatieh in southern Lebanon said, "The attacks came closer to our house so we had to leave because there are children at home. If there were no children we would not have left. We do not have the financial ability to rent an apartment, so we came to a school to take shelter."

Another displaced person from the village of Ain Qana said, "A missile exploded a few meters from me. We took the children and drove to Beirut. There was heavy traffic for eight hours on the road."

Saudi daily Asharq Al-Awsat shared similar stories of families making treacherous journeys lasting up to 16 hours. Many used any available transportation, including tractors and trucks, as they fled northward. A displaced person from the town of Shaitieh

recounted his car breaking down, forcing him to spend the night in Zahrani before continuing his journey. "It's better to die on the road than in a place subject to dozens of attacks every day," he said.

Schools in Beirut and other cities have been turned into makeshift shelters as tens of thousands seek refuge. According to UN reports, about 6,000 people have crossed into Syria, and thousands more remain on the move within Lebanon. Volunteers at Bir Hassan Technical College in southern Beirut have been working tirelessly to provide food, water and medicine to those in need.

Rami Najam, a representative of the Shiite Amal movement, which is taking an active part in fighting against Israel, said, "In the beginning there were only a few families, by 5 p.m. we had 30 families."

Lebanon's Health Minister reported at least 569 fatalities and over 5,000 injuries since the escalation began on Monday.

Hezbollah confirmed the death of its missile commander, Ibrahim Qubaisi, in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut's Dahieh district. Israeli officials said that Qubaisi, who oversaw missile units targeting Israel, became the group's top military leader after recent high-profile assassinations.

9.25. 24 – We

Israel urges US to warn Iran against intervening in Lebanon

9.25. 24 – We

Israel urges US to warn Iran against intervening in Lebanon

Israeli intelligence indicates Nasrallah trying to drag Tehran into war; US officials believe intervention would drag the region into a full-scale war

Itamar Eichner|03:54

As Israel targets Hezbollah's military capabilities while bracing for retaliation, it is working through the U.S. to prevent a broader war by urging Washington to pressure Iran not to intervene.

The move comes after Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian on Tuesday suggested that Iran might support the terrorist organization.

The U.S. is concerned about further escalation in the region and believes there may be several more days of conflict ahead. American officials have urged Israel to refrain from significant strikes that could provoke Iran to enter the fray.

In response to IDF strikes on weapons caches in southern Lebanon, Hezbollah has expanded its operations, launching a surface-to-surface missile barrage toward central Israel.

Air raid sirens sounded across the Tel Aviv metropolitan area Wednesday morning as one of the missiles, which Hezbollah claimed it aimed at the Mossad headquarters, was intercepted. A Saudi report suggested that the target may have been the Gilot base.

While the U.S. is engaged in diplomatic efforts to "pacify" Hezbollah, it appears that the group's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, is demanding a cease-fire in Gaza as a condition for halting hostilities.

U.S. officials acknowledge that without a resolution in Gaza, it will be challenging to stabilize the situation in Lebanon. Most of their diplomatic efforts are therefore focused on Gaza, but progress has been slow, reportedly due to a lack of response from Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar to mediation efforts by Qatar and Egypt.

IDF takes the fight to Lebanon

Even before the missile attack on central Israel early Wednesday, Tuesday marked another day of intense clashes between Israel and Hezbollah. The terrorist group continued to fire barrages at northern Israeli towns, prompting widespread precision strikes by the IDF against Hezbollah's infrastructure, operatives and weapons stockpiles. Throughout the day, hundreds of rockets were launched from Lebanon, with a particularly heavy barrage at noon when 105 rockets crossed the border in less than an hour. In the evening, Hezbollah launched a drone toward the coastal town of Atlit, claiming it was targeting an elite Israeli commando unit.

Earlier on Tuesday, a house in Rosh Pina was directly hit by a rocket. The family inside was unharmed after taking shelter in a safe room. A 25-year-old reservist was moderately injured by shrapnel from an intercepted rocket near Yokne'am and was taken to Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa for treatment. "He defended himself well, lying on the ground, but was still hit by shrapnel," said a Magen David Adom spokesperson.

Meanwhile, the IDF conducted multiple rounds of strikes throughout Lebanon, including deep within Lebanese territory. The Lebanese Health Minister reported that the death toll from Israeli attacks over the past two days had risen to at least 569, including 50 children and 94 women, with around 5,000 people injured. Lebanese media reported that the IDF targeted a Hezbollah weapons depot near Jiyeh, about 12 miles south of Beirut.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant visited a training exercise by the IDF's 7th Armored Division and the 202nd Paratrooper Battalion, simulating ground combat in Lebanese territory. "Hezbollah today is not the same as last week's Hezbollah," Gallant said. "The sequence of blows to its command and control capabilities, operatives, and combat resources are severe."

IDF Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi, emphasized the need to maintain pressure on Hezbollah. "We must not give Hezbollah a break," he stated. "We need to continue working with all our strength, accelerating offensive operations and reinforcing all our efforts. The situation demands continued vigorous action on all fronts."

Another high-profile assassination in Dahieh

In a significant achievement during the second day of Operation Northern Arrows, Israel successfully targeted and killed senior Hezbollah commander Ibrahim Qubaisi, known as "Abu Musa," in an airstrike on Tuesday in the Dahieh district of Beirut.

Israeli sources identified Qubaisi as the head of Hezbollah's rocket and missile division and a direct subordinate to the group's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, making him the most senior military figure after recent high-profile assassinations.

Qubaisi had recently been brought into Nasrallah's inner circle, participating in closed meetings with the **Hezbollah leader**. According to the IDF, Qubaisi was **responsible for several attacks against Israel**, including the 2000 raid on Mount Dov, which resulted in the abduction and killing of Staff Sgt. Benjamin Avraham, 21, Staff Sgt. Adi Avitan, 22, and Staff Sgt. Omar Sawaid, 27. Their remains were returned to Israel for burial in 2004. Alongside Qubaisi, six other **Hezbollah operatives were killed, and 15 civilians** were injured in the attack.

This marks the latest in a series of **targeted strikes by Israel against senior Hezbollah figures**. On July 31, Nasrallah's military chief Fuad Shukur was killed, followed last week by the **elimination** of Ibrahim Aqil, the **head of Hezbollah's operations**, along **with senior commanders** from the Radwan Force.

Tuesday's strike in Dahieh is the fifth Israeli attack on Hezbollah's stronghold since October 8, when the terrorist group began firing at Israel unprovoked. The first attack targeted senior Hamas official Saleh al-Arouri, who was killed in January.

Residents of Dahieh are **increasingly feeling the impact of these escalations**. A **Lebanese resident** living near the building where Qubaisi was killed **described the incident**: "We heard a deafening explosion, and three floors of the building collapsed at once. In the past few days, there have been **several assassinations** in Dahieh, and only after the attack did we learn from the Israeli media **who was targeted**. We, the **ordinary residents of the district, had no idea.**"

9.24. 24 – Tu

IDF reveal hidden rocket-loaded trucks & cruise missiles in 100s of Lebanon homes

9.24. 24 – Tu

IDF reveals hidden rocket-loaded truck inside Lebanese village home

IDF spokesperson Hagari reveals footage showing truck loaded with rockets concealed inside southern Lebanon house, accusing Hezbollah of hiding many more in similar locations

Dan Raban | 14:22

The IDF's Operation Northern **Arrows against Hezbollah aims to be as brief as possible**, but an extended campaign remains a possibility, IDF spokesperson Daniel Hagari said Tuesday evening. "We still have work to do," he said, **emphasizing that the goal is to return northern residents safely to their homes.**

Hagari addressed the targeted **killing of Hezbollah's head of missile operations** Ibrahim Qubaisi in a precision **airstrike in Beirut's Dahieh district** earlier **Tuesday**. Qubaisi was reportedly involved in directing the morning's rocket fire at Haifa. The IDF released

footage of the strike, along with a video showing a truck carrying rockets hidden in a residential building in the village of Seddiquine in southern Lebanon.

"Throughout the day, we continued to strike in southern Lebanon and the Beqaa Valley. Hezbollah has turned these areas into a combat zone," Hagari said, presenting footage of attacks on three houses where weapons were stored.

"It is clear that missiles are exploding from the houses, missiles that are launched in every direction. Here, for example, you see a building where a truck carrying a medium-range rocket launcher was hidden."

Strike on a building followed by secondary explosions

Hagari accused Hezbollah of concealing numerous such vehicles inside homes where Lebanese families live, using them to transport weapons. "With precise intelligence, we struck the building and destroyed the launcher and rockets. We will continue to release and distribute such videos in various languages to the entire world to show what Hezbollah has been doing over the past 20 years in a vast project where they have turned thousands of civilian homes in southern Lebanon, and not only in southern Lebanon, into terror bases, turning southern Lebanon into a combat zone. They are using the civilian population as human shields, and by doing so endangering them and continuing to do so."

Regarding the Beirut strike that killed Qubaisi, Hagari said, "We eliminated Ibrahim Mohammad Qubaisi, the head of Hezbollah's missile and rocket unit. Israeli Air Force fighter jets accurately struck a level in a building where he was with other commanders from Hezbollah's missile unit. At least two of them were eliminated, and we are still assessing the results of the strike. Qubaisi was a key figure in activating missiles, predominantly precision-guided missiles. He was responsible for a series of attacks on Israeli territory. In recent days, he was responsible for the rocket fire toward Haifa, including this morning."

Hagari refrained from providing specific details about Hezbollah's degraded capabilities to avoid compromising intelligence. "We are focusing on their strategic capabilities, which pose the greatest risk to the Israeli home front," he said.

The IDF spokesperson reported that around 300 rockets were fired from Lebanon into Israel on Tuesday, injuring six people, mostly lightly. He commended northern residents for following Home Front Command guidelines, which he said saved lives and thwarted Hezbollah's objectives.

Hagari also referenced Monday's strike targeting Ali Karaki, Hezbollah's third-ranking leader, in Dahieh. Although Hezbollah claimed Karaki survived, Hagari said the IDF is still evaluating the results and refining future strikes.

As for the operation's duration, Hagari said, "We aim for the campaign to be as short as possible, which is why we are striking with immense force. However, we must also be prepared for it to last longer. Our mission is to achieve the war's objectives and ensure the safe return of northern residents to their homes. We must fulfill this task."

9.24. 24 – Tu

Coastal communities south of Haifa jolted by first rocket alarms since 2014

9.24. 24 – Tu

Coastal communities south of Haifa jolted by first rocket alarms since 2014

Hezbollah claims launched swarm of suicide drones toward Israeli Navy's Shayetet 13 base in Atlit area; over 200 rockets fired toward northern Israel

Ynet | 12:06

The Israeli Air Force continued its extensive air campaign against Hezbollah targets across Lebanon Tuesday evening as the Shiite terrorist group launched barrages of rockets at civilian areas in northern Israel.

Hostile aircraft infiltration warnings were issued for the towns of Neve Yam, Atlit and Megadim south of Haifa. This marks the first air raid warning siren sounding in Atlit since the 2014 Gaza war.

Two drones that targeted Atlit from the sea were intercepted, while a third drone crashed. No injuries were reported as a result of the incidents, according to Israeli military officials.

Shortly after, another siren sounded in Beit Jan in the Upper Galilee and several communities in the Lower Galilee, including Sde Ilan and Givat Avni.

Shortly earlier, rocket alert sirens were activated in the cities of Safed, Hatzor HaGlilit, Rosh Pina, Nof Kinneret and Elifelet in the Upper Galilee.

Meanwhile, the Israeli Air Force launched another wave of airstrikes Tuesday evening, its fourth of the day. Five buildings were reportedly struck in the southern village of Maliki, resulting in casualties, according to Lebanon's state news agency.

Hezbollah's Al Manar TV reported widespread strikes in nine locations across southern Lebanon shortly before the Maliki attack.

The Hezbollah-affiliated Al Mayadeen network reported one fatality in an Israeli drone strike on the Litani Bridge near Baalbek. Additional reports from the Lebanese newspaper Al Akhbar and the state news agency said five people were killed and six others injured in an airstrike on a house in Nabi Ila, in the Bekaa Valley.

Earlier, sirens also sounded in Katzrin and the surrounding areas in the Golan Heights, where five rockets were fired, some of which were intercepted. No injuries were reported. Meanwhile, sirens warning of drone incursions were activated in Shlomi, Rosh HaNikra and nearby communities in the Western Galilee.

Earlier, around 30 rockets were launched toward Safed and Merom HaGalil, with some intercepted. No injuries or damage were reported.

Another barrage of 30 rockets was fired at Shlomi and the western Galilee at 5:27 a.m., with no reported casualties or damage. In total, Over 200 rockets were launched within hours.

In Rosh Pina, four rockets landed, one of them striking a house. The four residents, who were in a reinforced shelter at the time, were unharmed but suffered from shock. Other rockets caused damage to infrastructure and open areas.

Extensive damage was reported to the house that was directly hit in Rosh Pina. Images showed a large hole above the bathroom, adjacent to the shelter where the family had taken refuge. "Mom, what happened to my room?!" a child was heard asking in footage from the destroyed home.

9.24. 24 – Tu

Iran President spoke peace at UN; Tehran quickly denied wants by the new president

9.24. 24 – Tu

'Iran willing to lay down weapons if Israel does too,' Pezeshkian says; Tehran FM denies report

Iranian president says his country wants peace not war but warns of irreversible consequences; says Iran willing to return to 2015 nuclear deal; denies providing missiles to Russia

Lior Ben Ari, News Agencies|22:34

"We want to live in peace, we don't want war," Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said. "It is Israel that seeks to create this all-out conflict," he told reporters upon arriving in New York to attend the UN General Assembly.

"We are willing to put all our weapons aside so long as Israel is willing to do the same," he said adding that Israel wants to drag the Middle East into a full-blown war by provoking Iran to join the nearly year-old conflict between Israel and Tehran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon, he said on Monday, warning of its "irreversible" consequences.

The Foreign Ministry in Tehran was quick to issue a statement denying the reported comments by the president.

Pezeshkian, a relatively moderate politician who was elected in July promising a pragmatic foreign policy, accused the international community of silence in the face of what he called "Israel's genocide" in Gaza.

Pezeshkian's call to resolve the Middle East conflict through dialogue came after Israel unleashed an intense wave of air strikes against Hezbollah on Monday, making it the deadliest day in Lebanon in nearly a year of conflict between Israel and the Tehran-backed terror group.

"We will defend any group that is defending its rights and itself," Pezeshkian said when asked whether Iran will enter the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah. He did not elaborate.

Pezeshkian said weapons of mass destruction have no place in Iran and its military structures. "We are still ready to live up to the same framework" that was agreed on in

2015, he said, but the Europeans tried to get Iran to sign a different accord, adding that Iran was willing to sit down with Europeans and Americans to negotiate."

Iran's regional policy is set by the elite Revolutionary Guards, who answer only to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the country's top authority.

Pezeshkian has repeatedly affirmed Iran's anti-Israel stance and its support for resistance movements across the region since taking office last month.

Asked if Iran would retaliate for the assassination of Palestinian militant group Hamas' leader Ismail Haniyeh on its soil in late July, Pezeshkian said "We will respond at the appropriate time and place, in an appropriate manner".

Haniyeh's killing, which both Tehran and Hamas have blamed on Israel, has aroused fears of direct conflict between Tehran and its arch-foe Israel in a region shaken by Israel's war in Gaza and a worsening conflict in Lebanon.

Iran's powerful Guards and Khamenei have vowed "severe" revenge for Haniyeh's killing, which happened while he visited Tehran. So far, Tehran has held back from direct retaliation against Israel, which has neither confirmed or denied its involvement.

Three senior Iranian officials told Reuters in August Tehran has been involved in intense dialogue with Western countries and the United States to calibrate retaliation against Israel for Haniyeh's assassination.

"We were told that within a week there will be a cease fire agreement" between Israel and Iran-backed Hamas, "but that week has never come and instead Israel has kept expanding its attacks," Pezeshkian said.

Pezeshkian insisted that Iran has not and will not supply Russia with ballistic missiles to attack Ukraine. "We have never approved of Russia's aggression against Ukrainian territory," he said, adding that the two countries should establish a dialogue.

9.24. 24 – Tu

Katz to UN: 'Israel demands enforcement of Resolution 1701 to remove Hezbollah

9.24. 24 – Tu

Katz to UN: 'Israel will no longer tolerate this war of attrition'

In letter to UN Security Council, foreign minister demands full implementation of Resolution 1701; 'Hezbollah deliberately embeds itself within civilian infrastructure, using the population as human shields.' he wrote

Itamar Eichner|17:16

Foreign Minister Israel Katz called on the UN Security Council Monday to take action against Hezbollah and Iran, declaring that "Israel will no longer tolerate the war of attrition that Hezbollah and Iran are trying to impose on us."

In a letter to the council, Katz demanded full enforcement of Resolution 1701, which mandates the disarmament of Hezbollah and prohibits armed groups in southern Lebanon.

He accused Hezbollah of embedding itself within civilian areas and using the population as human shields, urging the council to “strongly condemn the latest attack launched by Hezbollah at Iran’s behest.”

Katz also highlighted the Israeli airstrike against Hezbollah leadership in Beirut last Friday, saying it was necessary to prevent planned infiltrations into the Galilee and potential attacks similar to those carried out by Hamas on October 7.

“Israel does not seek a full-scale war,” Katz wrote, “but we will take all necessary measures to defend ourselves and our citizens in accordance with international law.” He blamed Iran for directing Hezbollah’s aggression since October 8, as well as arming its proxies, including the Houthis, who he said threaten both Israel and international stability.

He urged the international community to intensify sanctions on Iran and to designate the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization.

Katz also emphasized Israel’s diplomatic efforts, saying that over the past year, Israel has pursued a diplomatic solution with Lebanon to allow the safe return of both Israeli and displaced Lebanese civilians. He claimed that Hezbollah rejected these efforts and linked the issue to a cease-fire in Gaza.

“While Israel has shown remarkable restraint over the past 11 months, we will not endure the continued war of attrition that Hezbollah and its patron Iran are trying to force upon us,” Katz continued.

He concluded by urging the Security Council to act to ensure the full implementation of Resolution 1701.

“Now, this council must act to ensure the full implementation of Resolution 1701.

Hezbollah is intentionally spreading its military operations within civilian infrastructure in Lebanon, using the population as human shields. Israel has monitored this and will act to protect its people from Hezbollah’s attacks.

Interceptions in Haifa on Monday

“We have issued warnings to civilians in Lebanon near buildings and areas used by Hezbollah for military purposes, advising them to evacuate for their safety. I call on the Security Council to strongly condemn Hezbollah’s latest offensive, directed by its Iranian patron, and its ongoing attempts to destabilize the region.”

9.23. 24 – Mo

Southern Lebanon is empty: IDF strikes spur mass exodus; many relocated to Syria

9.23. 24 – Mo

'Southern Lebanese villages are empty': IDF air campaign spurs mass exodus
IDF calls on Lebanese residents to leave homes near Hezbollah weapon sites, prompting mass exodus; schools in Beirut, Tripoli and eastern Lebanon turned into shelters; UN reports over 113,000 people displaced before latest attacks

Lior Ben Ari|12:09

Thousands of residents in southern Lebanon were seen fleeing their villages and towns toward Beirut and northern regions on Monday, as the IDF launched extensive airstrikes across the country.

The mass evacuation followed an unusual warning from IDF Spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, who revealed that Hezbollah operatives had planned to launch a cruise missile from a civilian home in southern Lebanon and urged residents to distance themselves from Hezbollah weaponry.

Hagari's warning, widely covered by Arab media, stated that Israeli strikes would continue, advising residents to leave areas near Hezbollah assets. "Hezbollah is endangering you," Hagari said. The Saudi newspaper Asharq Al-Awsat headlined, "The Israeli military urges Lebanese residents to avoid Hezbollah positions," while social media was flooded with images and videos of the exodus from southern Lebanon. A split-screen broadcast by Saudi Arabia's Al Hadath TV showed heavy traffic at the southern entrance to Beirut on one side and footage of the intense Israeli airstrikes on the other.

Lebanese Education Minister Abbas Al-Halabi announced that schools in Beirut, Tripoli and other cities would open as shelters for those displaced from the south. "The displacement to Mount Lebanon and Beirut has forced us to open schools as shelters," Al-Halabi told Qatar's Al Araby TV.

According to AFP, hundreds of families have fled southern Lebanon following the airstrikes. The dramatic move comes after Lebanese Health Minister Firas Al-Abiad said on Saturday that preparations were underway to accommodate displaced persons should the conflict escalate.

Although the images of evacuation were particularly striking on Monday, residents had already been gradually leaving southern border villages since the start of hostilities. According to Arab reports, in November 2023, the number of displaced people stood at 29,000, rising to 110,000 by August. The Saudi network Al Arabiya recently reported that "Southern Lebanese villages are empty—113,000 displaced cannot return," citing a United Nations report stating the number of displaced as of September 6.

The report also noted that nearly a year after the conflict began, residents are unlikely to return anytime soon, and the number of displaced continues to grow each month. Visits to southern Lebanese border villages, even briefly, now require coordination with the Lebanese army, the Red Cross and UNIFIL forces.

In recent weeks, Lebanese media have shown images of residents systematically evacuating belongings from villages like Odaisseh and Meiss El Jabal in southern Lebanon.

Ibrahim, a resident of the town of Kfarkela near the Israeli border, told Al Arabiya last week, "The town is almost empty due to the ongoing fighting. Some residents return only to check on their properties or take a few items, at pre-arranged times and under the escort of the Lebanese army and UNIFIL."

Ibrahim, who has refused to leave Kfarkela, said that over 500 of the town's 1,500 homes have been destroyed in the strikes.

Another resident, from the village of Khiam, who wished to remain anonymous, said, "The village is deserted. The destruction is extensive, and it's impossible to return until the war is completely over."

Reports from early 2024 indicated that most displaced persons were from the areas of Bint Jbeil, Marjayoun and Tyre in southern Lebanon and had sought refuge in other parts of Tyre, Nabatieh, Sidon, Baabda, Beirut and other locations. The number of displaced has increased since then, with more villages joining the list.

Following Monday's airstrikes and images of the highways, it seems that even those who had insisted on staying in southern Lebanon over the past few months are now changing their minds.

For many, fleeing northward to Beirut and Dahieh is no longer considered safe either, after an Israeli airstrike on Friday killed senior Hezbollah commander Ibrahim Aqil and other leaders of the terrorist group's elite top Radwan Force.

The Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese newspaper Al Akhbar reported that on Saturday, residents of Dahieh fled with their children to Mount Lebanon, many without a place to stay. Some slept in their cars, while others searched for apartments late into the night. Mount Lebanon cities have begun receiving a new wave of displaced people from the south and Dahieh. Unlike the high rents that followed the assassination of Fuad Shukur, prices are now more reasonable. Some Palestinian-Syrian families have opted to temporarily relocate to Syria to escape the possibility of an expanding war.

By midday Monday, the IDF reported having struck over 300 targets across Lebanon and is preparing for continued large-scale operations.

The Lebanese Health Ministry reported at least 182 dead and 727 wounded nationwide, later revising the numbers up to 274 fatalities and 1,024 injuries.

At around 3 p.m., the IDF issued another targeted warning to residents of the Bekaa Valley, urging them to evacuate. In a statement by IDF Arabic Spokesperson Lt. Col. Avichay Adraee, accompanied by a map indicating the area to be evacuated, he called on residents to leave their homes "urgently" within two hours.

"IDF actions are targeting Hezbollah's terrorist infrastructure in your villages," the statement read. "The IDF does not want to harm you—if you are in or near a building containing Hezbollah weapons, you must leave and move at least 1,000 meters outside the village or go to the nearest central school and not return until further notice."

The statement concluded: "Anyone who remains near Hezbollah members, their facilities, and weapons is endangering their own lives and those of their families."

9.23. 24 – Mo

Israeli government declares nationwide emergency amid Hezbollah tensions

9.23. 24 – Mo

Israeli government declares nationwide emergency amid Hezbollah tensions

Government approves move in hastily convened phone vote, citing 'high likelihood of attacks on civilians across the country'; Home Front Command guidelines remain unchanged

Itamar Eichner|14:55

The Israeli government approved a nationwide state of emergency for civil defense on Monday evening through an urgent phone vote, following a proposal by Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

The decision allows the Home Front Command to operate with extended authority until September 30 amid rising security concerns.

According to the attached document, the declaration enables the Home Front Command to issue alerts and instructions to the public proactively, regardless of enemy actions, and to manage potential threats effectively.

“Due to recent developments in the conflict and the high likelihood of attacks on civilians throughout the country, this declaration is necessary to guide the civilian home front,” the document stated.

While the emergency declaration itself does not impose restrictions on civilians, it grants military and state authorities the ability to make rapid adjustments, including giving the Economy Minister the power to keep essential workers at their posts. The current Home Front Command guidelines remain unchanged, with no school in areas north of Haifa for the next two days.

9.23. 24 – Mo

IDF intensifies Hezbollah bombing campaign, warning Lebanon to evacuate

9.23. 24 – Mo

IDF intensifies Hezbollah bombing campaign, warning locals to evacuate

While the Air Force pummels southern Lebanon, it is also addressing locals via its Arabic spokesperson, urging them to remain far away from Hezbollah operatives; In Israel, Home Front Command asks residents to avoid large gatherings and non-vital outings

Lior Ben Ari, Elisha Ben Kimon, Yair Kraus, Yossi Yehoshua|05:06

Reports from Lebanon on Monday morning indicate that, following the revelation of Hezbollah's tactic of hiding heavy missiles in civilian homes and buildings, Israel is intensifying efforts to clear such structures of weapons.

This involves sending warnings to Lebanese citizens, even in Beirut, by taking over radio frequencies. Concurrently, the IDF announced a new wave of strikes in southern Lebanon, targeting rocket launchers and launch sites, after a significant attack penetrated deeper into Lebanon earlier in the day.

A broadcast on Lebanese radio stations issued an urgent warning: "This is an important message for Lebanon's residents. The IDF is targeting Hezbollah's military sites. If you are in or near a building used by Hezbollah, you must evacuate immediately. Being near Hezbollah operatives or facilities poses a life-threatening risk."

According to the Lebanese National News Agency, Lebanon's Minister of Information, Ziad al-Makari, also received a call urging him to leave the building he was in. IDF Arabic spokesperson, Lieutenant Colonel Avichay Adraee, conveyed a message to the Lebanese people, indicating that "strikes will commence shortly" and urging residents to "immediately evacuate homes where Hezbollah hides weapons. Hezbollah is deceiving you and putting your lives at risk."

Earlier, a security source informed Ynet that, in the coming hours, the military plans an "extensive" assault across Lebanon's rural areas. "By early afternoon, the Air Force will launch massive strikes throughout Lebanon," the source stated, warning that Hezbollah's response might include expanding their firing range, potentially targeting "selected sites in Tel Aviv."

IDF reported that, since the morning, over 300 targets in Lebanon have been attacked from the air using dozens of fighter jets. The military launched another wave of attacks in the early afternoon.

In a morning assessment of home front readiness, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant stated: "In this new phase of the war, the resilience of the home front is crucial for enabling the IDF to fight, achieve successes, and inflict damage on the enemy. This has impressively continued for nearly a year." He emphasized that "in the coming days, the public will need to demonstrate composure, discipline and full adherence to the Home Front Command's instructions."

Ahead of the anticipated offensive, Gallant noted, "We are intensifying our strikes in Lebanon. Our sequence of actions will continue until we achieve our objectives – returning the residents of the north safely to their homes. This success also depends on the proper conduct of the home front. Therefore, we are coordinating activities extensively. The difference between success and failure lies in citizens following the guidelines to enter protected rooms and spaces, which saves lives."

Following Home Front Command's assessment, new instructions were issued to residents of southern Hula Valley. The advisory said that "Movements in the area should be minimized, gatherings avoided, and residents should stay close to protected spaces and heed alerts from Home Front Command."

A message sent to residents of the Upper Galilee Regional Council stated: "We remind you to maintain heightened vigilance in all council communities during these tense days. The relative calm can be misleading. IDF is striking intensively in Lebanon and, from experience, we know Hezbollah doesn't remain idle. Therefore, educational systems remain closed, and gathering restrictions (in all council communities) are set to 10 people in open areas and 100 in concrete-roofed buildings. It is recommended that you stay attuned to guidelines and updates."

9.23. 24 – Mo

IDF reveals Hezbollah plans to fire cruise missile from Lebanon apartments

9.23. 24 – Mo

IDF reveals Hezbollah planned to fire cruise missile from Lebanon apartment

Chief military spokesperson reveals footage of Hezbollah terrorists who removed the front wall of a residential home in order to fire the missile at Israel; IDF calls on Lebanese civilians to distance themselves from terror group's weapon silos

Elisha Ben Kimon | 02:18

IDF Spokesperson Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari on Monday revealed that Hezbollah terrorists planned to fire a cruise missile at Israel from a residential home in Lebanon. Hagari called on Lebanese civilians to distance themselves from ammunition and equipment depots used by the terror group, warning the IDF will proceed to strike them in the country.

The structure Hagari revealed was attacked a few weeks ago as well, after the IDF noticed Hezbollah operatives had created an opening in the walls of the building's front, planning to launch a DR-3 cruise missile loaded with hundreds of kilograms of explosives. In footage released by the IDF, a terrorist is seen exiting the structure followed by the building being struck.

"Here we are exposing Hezbollah's method of hiding a cruise missile inside a home. The terrorists create a designated opening for the missile launch. Here you can see how we identified the terrorists making an opening in the building that exposed the missile. In a precise strike, the IDF eliminated the terrorists and this missile launching infrastructure,

The removal of Lebanese residents from the border with Israel is a major blow to Hezbollah and Lebanon. Simultaneously, the IDF aims to deny Hezbollah the ability to launch rockets from villages and homes where their weapons are stored.

Amid increasing threats from Israeli officials, Hagari was asked if the IDF is prepared and considering a ground operation in Lebanon and whether, in his view, such an operation is essential for Israel's security. "We will do whatever is necessary to return the northern residents to their homes. We have detailed plans and we have presented them to decision-makers," he responded.

Following criticism that the IDF acted with full force only when the threat was directed at Tel Aviv, Hagari was asked if the IDF had diminished Hezbollah's ability to launch missiles toward central Israel. "Our strikes yesterday were also part of the effort to prevent fire aimed at northern residents and other areas," he said.

In the past 24 hours, alongside Hezbollah's fire toward Israel, drones and cruise missiles were launched at Israel from Iraq by Shiite militias. Hagari was asked if Israel would retaliate against the militias operating on Iran's incentive. "We have been acting against all fronts since the start of the war. We will act to neutralize threats from any location necessary," he answered.

The extensive strikes in Lebanon came about 24 hours after Hezbollah's massive barrage into Israel which reached communities untouched by the conflict so far. The targets included not only launch sites but also Hezbollah weapons silos found in populated areas. Saudi outlet Al-Hadath reported that over 100 strikes were carried out in Lebanon by dozens of IDF fighter jets. Hezbollah's Al-Manar network reported strikes across all border towns in Lebanon, and over 80 strikes took place in the Nabatieh region within half an hour according to the Lebanese news agency.

9.22. 24 – Su

Shiite 15 drone swarm targeted south Golan Heights, along the border with Jordan

9.22. 24 – Su

Swarms of drones target Golan Heights, Beit She'an area

Sirens sound for the first time since the war in the Beit She'an Valley along the border with Jordan; Saudi media says 15 drones were launched; pro-Iran militias in Iraq claim responsibility for the attack

Lior El-Hai, Israel Moskovitz, Lior Ben-Ari, Elish Ben Kimon, Alexandra Lukash|Updated:09:26

Sirens sounded in the southern Golan Heights and along the border with Jordan in the Beit She'an Valley late on Sunday warning of hostile aircraft nearing the area. Middle East media outlets reported a swarm of drones making its way from Iraq and Syria to attack Israel.

According to reports in Saudi Arabia, there were 15 drones launched presumably by Shiite militia groups. the IDF confirmed that one drone had crossed into Israel's airspace but could not confirm where it had come from. No injuries or damage were reported.

The Islamic Resistance Group, that includes all pro-Iran militias in Iraq claimed responsibility for the attack they said was aimed at a target in the northern Jordan Valley region.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said earlier on Sunday that the past week has been the hardest ever for Hezbollah. Gallant was on a visit to the northern command where he said that returning the residents of the north to their homes was a primary goal.

"The consecutive operations serve this purpose and we will continue to use all means at our disposal to achieve our objective as was decided by the government and as is deserving for our civilians."

Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi said earlier that Hezbollah was planning an attack to kill Israeli civilians and abduct soldiers and that their intentions were disrupted by the attack on Beirut on Friday. "We beat them to it," he said speaking at an Air Force base in central Israel.

The assault on Hezbollah's chain of command is a clear message to the entire region. We are attacking and destroying all of the Radwan force's infrastructure, and are working ceaselessly to remove them from our border.

The military chief said that despite the focus appearing to be currently on the northern front, the return of the hostages from Hamas captivity is an objective of the war that must be achieved quickly because their time is running out.

Hezbollah deputy secretary-general Naim Qassem said that the group had entered a new phase of its battle with Israel which he described as an "open-ended battle of reckoning," in comments made on Sunday during a funeral for a top commander killed in an Israeli strike on Beirut's southern suburbs on Friday.

"Israel committed three painful crimes in cruelty never before seen," Qassem said. "it wanted to kill 5,000 people in the pager massacre but failed. In its attack on the senior commanders of the Radwan force, it tried to incapacitate Hezbollah, turn others against the group and stop the support for the Palestinians but Hezbollah operatives prevented that."

The Homefront Command said on Sunday that schools will remain closed in the north again on Monday, out of security concerns. The restrictions on schools extend to the northern part of the country from Haifa in the South to the border including the Jezreel Valley, Lower Galilee Upper and Western Galilee and the Golan Heights. communities around the Sea of Galilee will also conduct distance learning only.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Sunday that according to Israel's intelligence, at least half of the 101 hostages held by Hamas in Gaza, are alive.

The IDF was asked to present to the government options for control of food and aid distribution to the residents of the Gaza Strip after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was mulling a plan presented by former senior IDF commanders, to prevent Hamas from controlling the aid and retaining its rule on the area.

More than half a million residents across northern Israel spent a tense night in bomb shelters overnight Sunday as Hezbollah rocket barrages targeted the Haifa Bay area and the Jezreel Valley, causing significant damage to property and leaving several injured.

Alarms were sounded in cities and towns including Nazareth, Nof Hagalil, Migdal HaEmek, Acre, Shfar'am, Yarka, Dalijat al-Karme and Isfiya, as well as in numerous kibbutzim and villages, most of which had been largely untouched by the war until now.

Early Sunday, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people. In total, over 115 rockets have been fired from Lebanon since midnight.

Moment Hezbollah rocket hit residential area in Kiryat Bialik

A rocket struck a two-story residential building and several cars in Kiryat Bialik in one of the attacks, causing extensive damage. Four people were injured from shrapnel in the attack—a man in his seventies who was moderately wounded and another three who sustained light injuries, including a 16-year-old girl. Several others suffered from shock.

“I was at home with my granddaughter when we heard the explosion. The blast was so powerful it ripped the metal window frame out,” said one Kiryat Bialik resident who was hospitalized along with his granddaughter. “The shrapnel flew into the room, injuring her, but if we hadn’t been in the safe room, we would have been killed. When I went outside, I saw the house was gone, and the cars too.”

Twelve additional people were treated at hospitals in Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya and Emek Medical Center in Afula for light injuries sustained while rushing to shelters or due to shock.

Following an assessment, hospitals across the region, including Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa, moved their operations to protected areas.

Hezbollah claimed it had targeted the Ramat David Air Base and a Rafael Advanced Defense Systems facility in Haifa Bay in what it described as an "initial response" to last week's attacks involving pagers and walkie-talkies.

Early Sunday, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people. In total, over 115 rockets have been fired from Lebanon since midnight.

A Hezbollah rocket struck a cowshed in the small farming community of Moshav Beit She'arim in northern Israel's Jezreel Valley early Sunday, killing 15 cows and causing significant damage to agricultural infrastructure.

First published: 13:17, 09.22.24

9.22. 24 – Su

Hezbollah deputy says there is an 'open-ended battle of reckoning'

9.22. 24 – Su

Nasrallah deputy says there is an 'open-ended battle of reckoning'

The Senior member of the terror group says Israel wanted to kill 5,000 Hezbollah members and incapacitate the organization and its support for Palestinians but failed Lior El-Hai, Israel Moskovitz, Lior Ben-Ari, Elish Ben Kimon, Alexandra

Lukash|Updated:09:26

Hezbollah deputy secretary-general Naim Qassem said that the group had entered a new phase of its battle with Israel which he described as an "open-ended battle of reckoning," in comments made on Sunday during a funeral for a top commander killed in an Israeli strike on Beirut's southern suburbs on Friday.

"Israel committed three painful crimes in cruelty never before seen," Qassem said. "it wanted to kill 5,000 people in the pager massacre but failed. In its attack on the senior commanders of the Radwan force, it tried to incapacitate Hezbollah, turn others against the group and stop the support for the Palestinians but Hezbollah operatives prevented that."

The Homefront Command said on Sunday that schools will remain closed in the north again on Monday, out of security concerns. The restrictions on schools extend to the northern part of the country from Haifa in the South to the border including the Jezreel Valley, Lower Galilee Upper and Western Galilee and the Golan Heights, communities around the Sea of Galilee will also conduct distance learning only.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Sunday that according to Israel's intelligence, at least half of the 101 hostages held by Hamas in Gaza, are alive.

The IDF was asked to present to the government options for control of food and aid distribution to the residents of the Gaza Strip after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he was mulling a plan presented by former senior IDF commanders, to prevent Hamas from controlling the aid and retaining its rule on the area.

More than half a million residents across northern Israel spent a tense night in bomb shelters overnight Sunday as Hezbollah rocket barrages targeted the Haifa Bay area and the Jezreel Valley, causing significant damage to property and leaving several injured.

Alarms were sounded in cities and towns including Nazareth, Nof Hagalil, Migdal HaEmek, Acre, Shfar'am, Yarka, Daliyat al-Karme and Isfiya, as well as in numerous kibbutzim and villages, most of which had been largely untouched by the war until now.

Early Sunday, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people. In total, over 115 rockets have been fired from Lebanon since midnight.

Moment Hezbollah rocket hit residential area in Kiryat Bialik

A rocket struck a two-story residential building and several cars in Kiryat Bialik in one of the attacks, causing extensive damage. Four people were injured from shrapnel in the attack—a man in his seventies who was moderately wounded and another three who sustained light injuries, including a 16-year-old girl. Several others suffered from shock. “I was at home with my granddaughter when we heard the explosion. The blast was so powerful it ripped the metal window frame out,” said one Kiryat Bialik resident who was hospitalized along with his granddaughter. “The shrapnel flew into the room, injuring her, but if we hadn’t been in the safe room, we would have been killed. When I went outside, I saw the house was gone, and the cars too.”

Twelve additional people were treated at hospitals in Galilee Medical Center in Nahariya and Emek Medical Center in Afula for light injuries sustained while rushing to shelters or due to shock.

Following an assessment, hospitals across the region, including Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa, moved their operations to protected areas.

Hezbollah claimed it had targeted the Ramat David Air Base and a Rafael Advanced Defense Systems facility in Haifa Bay in what it described as an "initial response" to last week's attacks involving pagers and walkie-talkies.

Early Sunday, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people. In total, over 115 rockets have been fired from Lebanon since midnight.

A Hezbollah rocket struck a cowshed in the small farming community of Moshav Beit She'arim in northern Israel's Jezreel Valley early Sunday, killing 15 cows and causing significant damage to agricultural infrastructure.

First published: 13:17, 09.22.24

9.22. 24 – Su

PM "generals' plan" proposes actions in Gaza, reducing aid & a new strategy for Hamas

9.22. 24 – Su

Netanyahu on Hezbollah: 'If they didn't get the message, I assure you—they will' 'No country can accept wanton rocketing of its cities. We can't accept it either,' PM says, vowing further blows to terror group if strikes on Israel persist

Shilo Freid|07:31

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu issued a stark warning to Hezbollah in a video message on Sunday, declaring that Israel had dealt the group a series of blows "it never imagined" and vowing further action if necessary.

Netanyahu's message came just before he delivered a rare security update to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, his first in nearly four months, amid rising tensions with Hezbollah.

"No country can accept the wanton rocketing of its cities. We can't accept it either. We will take whatever action is necessary to restore security and to bring our people safely back to their homes," he said in a video, which was later released in English with a watered-down text.

Netanyahu's briefing to the committee followed his last appearance on June 3, during high-stakes negotiations over a potential hostage deal and the unveiling of a cease-fire proposal by U.S. President Joe Biden.

Committee chair Yuli Edelstein indicated he would seek answers from Netanyahu regarding the so-called "generals' plan" which proposes potential military actions in Gaza, reductions in humanitarian aid and a new strategy toward Hamas.

9.22. 24 – Su

IDF raids Al Jazeera Ramallah office, over decision to shut network in Israel

9.22. 24 – Su

DF raids Al Jazeera's Ramallah office, disrupts live broadcast

Soldiers present Qatari-owned network with 45-day military closure order, confiscate equipment and documents from offices and prevent senior reporters from broadcasting outside; Hamas condemns move
Einav Halabi|06:37

Israeli forces raided Al Jazeera's offices in the West Bank city of Ramallah overnight Sunday, enforcing a 45-day military closure order, just months after the network's Jerusalem bureau was shut down.

The raid, which was broadcast live, showed an Israeli soldier delivering the closure order to Walid al-Omari, the Qatari-owned network's bureau chief who had relocated from Jerusalem to Ramallah. "There is a court order to close Al Jazeera for 45 days. I ask that you take the cameras and leave immediately," the soldier told al-Omari.

Al Jazeera reported that the IDF confiscated equipment and documents from the offices and prevented senior reporters, including al-Omari and Givara Budeiri, from broadcasting outside. The building's surroundings were declared a closed military zone, and trucks were brought in to remove the confiscated items.

Footage from the scene also showed soldiers removing a poster of Shireen Abu Akleh, an Al Jazeera journalist who was killed during an IDF operation in Jenin in May 2022. The Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate condemned the raid, calling it "a new aggression against journalistic work and the media."

Hamas' government media office in Gaza labeled the closure "a crime and a violation of the laws." Al Jazeera continues to operate in Gaza with one reporter, despite the closures.

In May, Israeli police raided Al Jazeera's offices in East Jerusalem, following a government decision to shut down the network in Israel.

Last month, the Israeli government also approved a proposal to block the Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese Al Mayadeen network, and ordered the confiscation of its equipment and the blocking of its websites.

9.22. 24 – Su

A look at the Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 rockets Hezbollah fired deep into Israeli territory

9.22. 24 – Su

A look at the rockets Hezbollah fired deep into Israeli territory

Despite heavy damage to residential areas in 3 different locations across northern Israel, terror group claims targeted military sites, using Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 rockets, with range of up to 65 miles

Lior Ben Ari|04:31

Hezbollah launched a series of rocket barrages into northern Israel, causing significant damage to residential and agricultural areas in Kiryat Bialik, Beit She'arim in the Jezreel Valley and Moshav Moreshet in the Misgav Regional Council in the Galilee.

The group said it used new long-range Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 rockets, along with Katyusha rockets. The Beirut-based Al Mayadeen news channel reported that the Fadi-1 rocket has a 220 mm caliber and an 80-kilometer (37-mile) range, while the Fadi-2 has a 302 mm caliber and a 105-kilometer (65-mile) range.

According to sources quoted by Al Mayadeen, "this is the first time these rockets have been used since October 8," when fighting on the northern front began. The sources said that in this attack, Hezbollah did not use precision-guided missiles. The rockets originated from one of the group's underground Imad facilities used for storing precision missiles and heavy rockets, which were reportedly unaffected by Israeli attacks.

A recently released Hezbollah video showed missile launch platforms emerging from underground and identified one of the facilities as "Imad 4," which may have been used to store the Fadi rockets. The video, shared by Al Mayadeen, highlighted the secrecy and protection surrounding the facility, which is located deep underground and far from hostile intelligence capabilities.

Following the rocket attacks, Hezbollah issued a statement describing the barrages as a response to the pager and walkie-talkie incidents, but did not mention the assassination of Ibrahim Aqil, head of Hezbollah's operations unit, or other commanders from the Radwan force.

Early Sunday, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people. In total, over 115 rockets have been fired from Lebanon since midnight.

A rocket struck a two-story residential building and several cars in Kiryat Bialik in one of the attacks, causing extensive damage. Three people were injured from shrapnel in the attack—a man in his seventies who was moderately wounded and another two who sustained light injuries, including a 16-year-old girl. Several others suffered from shock. Rocket fragments were found in Tsur Shalom and Moreshet, where a house yard was also hit.

In response, the IDF launched a new wave of strikes on Hezbollah targets in Lebanon. Home Front Command updated its guidelines beginning at 6:00 a.m., canceling classes from Haifa to the northern border.

Meanwhile, alarms were sounded in communities east of the Sea of Galilee. A fire broke out near Moshav Ramot in the southern Golan Heights following a rocket strike, and one person was treated for shock. In the Arava region in southern Israel, an alarm was triggered by a suspected infiltrating drone which was intercepted before crossing into Israeli territory.

9.21. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah fires 110 rockets in 4 volleys deep into northern Israel

9.21. 24 – Sa

Hezbollah fires 110 rockets in 4 volleys deep into northern Israel

Terror group extends its reach deeper into Israeli territory, attacking Jezreel Valley and Haifa Bay region; 3 people lightly to moderately injured in Kiryat Bialik; Hezbollah claims targeted Ramat David Air Base; sirens in south

Ynet | 22:56

Hezbollah fired four rocket barrages into northern Israel early Sunday, claiming it had targeted the Ramat David Air Base with “dozens of rockets” in the first wave. The IDF reported that 110 rockets were launched in total since 1 a.m., most of which were intercepted by air defenses.

Hezbollah claimed to have targeted the air base and a facility of Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, a major defense contractor, in the Haifa Bay area, using Fadi-1 and Fadi-2 rockets. According to the pro-Hezbollah Lebanese network AlMayadeen, it was the first use of these rockets since the Iran-backed terrorist group joined the war on October 8.

A 17-year-old boy was killed and four others were injured in a car accident near Ramat Yishai, reportedly during a siren alert. A separate rocket barrage struck a cowshed in Beit She’arim, killing several cows.

Later, around 6:30 a.m., the IDF reported 85 rockets were fired within a half hour, hitting communities from Kiryat Bialik to the Jezreel Valley, causing extensive damage and injuring several people.

A rocket struck a two-story residential building and several cars in Kiryat Bialik in one of the attacks, causing extensive damage. Three people were injured from shrapnel in the attack—a man in his seventies who was moderately wounded and another two who sustained light injuries, including a 16-year-old girl. Several others suffered from shock. Rocket fragments were found in Tsur Shalom and Moreshet, where a house yard was also hit.

On Saturday, the Israeli Air Force launched strikes on approximately 300 Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon, including launchers and terror infrastructure. The IDF announced changes to Home Front Command guidelines, canceling classes from Haifa northward and placing workplaces under restrictions.

Hezbollah said the attack was in retaliation for Israeli airstrikes that killed civilians in Lebanon. Shortly before the initial attack, the IDF struck around 110 Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, sirens also sounded in Be'er Tuvia in southern Israel due to a suspected aerial threat, which the IDF said was intercepted. The IDF remains on high alert, urging the public to follow Home Front Command guidelines and official announcements.

IDF eliminated the two terrorists who murdered the six hostages found on August 31

9.21. 24 – Sa

IDF reports eliminated terrorists holding six slain hostages

Military confirms two Hamas terrorists who held six hostages in Gaza were eliminated by forces based on gathered DNA evidence from scene

Elisha Ben Kimon, Nina Fox | 14:15

IDF Spokesperson RADM Daniel Hagari reported on Saturday that forces have eliminated two Hamas terrorists who held the six hostages murdered in captivity in Gaza — Hersh Goldberg-Polin, Eden Yerushalmi, Uri Danino, Almog Sarusi, Carmel Gat and Alex Lobanov — in a tunnel near Rafah.

“This evening, we updated the families of Hersh, Eden, Ori, Alex, Almog, and Carmel, may their memories be a blessing, that we eliminated two terrorists who had held them hostage in a tunnel in the Rafah area,” Hagari said.

“The day after the hostages were murdered, troops from the 162nd Division identified two terrorists emerging from an underground tunnel shaft in the Tel al-Sultan area and eliminated them during an encounter. After investigating the findings from the tunnel and equipment on the terrorists, we found DNA evidence and several items belonging to the terrorists we eliminated,” he added.

“Based on the findings and the information available to us, these terrorists that were eliminated were the same terrorists who were in the tunnel where the bodies of the six hostages were discovered. The findings show they were there when they were murdered and we are investigating their involvement in the murder.

“Should we obtain further information, we will first update the families and then the public. We will pursue and reach everyone responsible for this heinous murder, and we will not stop until we reach them all,” Hagari noted.

Liel Avraham, Uri Danino’s partner, said, “We had no doubt that the IDF would hold the murderers accountable. This closure doesn’t bring satisfaction or comfort. They were supposed to come back alive. Their elimination is a moral and obvious duty.”

The bodies of the six were found on August 31. According to the IDF investigation, Hamas lookouts noticed soldiers approaching the tunnel and ordered the terrorists to murder the six hostages a day or two before their deaths. The terrorists shot the hostages at close range.

9.21. 24 – Sa

US shocked at pager attack, ending 18 years of deterrence & efforts to a cease-fire

9.21. 24 – Sa

'Admiration' and 'anxiety': U.S. officials' shocked response to pager attack

While U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan commended pager attack attributed to Israel, other White House officials fear escalation behind U.S.'s back could launch all-out war in the Middle East

Itamar Eichner | 12:14

The world and specifically the U.S. were impressed with Israel's intelligence capabilities after the pager detonations in Lebanon and Syria attributed to it injured hundreds of Hezbollah terrorists and senior Radwan Force operatives in precise airstrikes.

However, these developments reignited worries about an all-out war taking place in the Middle East. While the U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said the eliminations in Beirut were a "good result", others in U.S. President Joe Biden's administration think otherwise.

Researcher Lina Khatib told the New York Times that the last week marked the end of "18 years of mutual deterrence," between Israel and Hezbollah, during which both sides refrained from actions that could lead to war. She noted that this balance has now been replaced by "a new phase of unilateral Israeli dominance."

According to the Washington Post, Israel didn't inform the U.S. in advance about the attack involving the pagers and walkie-talkies attributed to it. "Privately," it was reported, "some of them [U.S. officials] had expressed a range of responses, from 'awestruck admiration' that Israel's could pull off such an 'ingenious plan,' to 'anxiety' that the brazen operation risks provoking a wide regional war."

Reuters reported that Hezbollah began distributing the pagers to its members starting in 2022, continuing until just days ago. At least one device exploded while still in the mailbox of the terrorist to whom it was addressed.

Each device contained "up to 3 grams" of explosives which Hezbollah failed to detect for months, despite testing the devices upon their arrival. As part of its inspections, Hezbollah even passed the devices through airport security to ensure they didn't trigger explosive alerts. However, a security source told Reuters that "it's very hard to detect it through any means. Even with any device or scanner."

Former CIA officer Marc Polymeropoulos, who served in counterterrorism roles in the Middle East, told the Washington Post the operation was "the most impressive kinetic operation I can recall in my career. Israeli intelligence is living in [Hasan] Nasrallah's brain."

A senior Biden administration official noted that while the White House was impressed by the Israeli operation, it still doesn't fully understand Israel's broader strategy in Lebanon. According to the Washington Post, some expressed frustration that "Israel acted against the backdrop of months of painstaking U.S. efforts to secure a cease-fire in Gaza, which would have also led to the release of hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners and humanitarian aid to the Strip."

The Washington Post added that American officials "expressed frustration," the U.S. and its allies had worked to reduce tensions in Lebanon for nearly a year before the operation.

They pointed out that, up until now, Hezbollah's attacks on Israel, though deadly, had been "sporadic."

Now, the conflict could escalate into a broader war, according to the officials. "The U.S. will have to decide how much they want to do to help Israel, and I don't know what the answer to that is," an American advisor told the Washington Post.

"They'll likely continue to supply Israel with whatever it needs to defend itself, but there are serious voices in the administration who wonder, 'Israel did this to themselves — why should we help them?'" he added.

National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, who praised Ibrahim Aqil's elimination in Lebanon, also warned of an "acute risk of escalation" on the Israel-Lebanon border.

9.21. 24 – Sa

IDF strike 180 targets in southern Lebanon, dismantles thousands of launchers

9.21. 24 – Sa

IDF strikes 180 targets in southern Lebanon, dismantles launchers

Military reports Israeli Air Force strikes in southern Lebanon hit 180 targets in the area and eliminate capabilities of thousands of munition launchers

Matan Tzuri | 10:31

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit on Saturday reported that a number of strikes in Lebanon managed to hit over 180 targets and dismantle thousands of munition launchers throughout the country's south.

"Following the sirens that sounded throughout the past day in the areas of the Upper Galilee, Golan Heights and Safed area, approximately 90 projectile launches were identified crossing from Lebanon into Israeli territory," the military said in a statement.

The IDF added that "the IAF struck thousands of launcher barrels that were ready for immediate use to fire toward Israeli territory. Additionally, IDF artillery struck a number of areas in southern Lebanon. The IDF will continue operating to dismantle and degrade Hezbollah's capabilities and terror infrastructure."

In addition, the military said Israeli Air Force Commander Maj. Gen. Tomer Bar held a situation assessment with senior commanders following development across the northern border.

"We continue to keep the Air Force at the highest level of readiness especially in defense, and it has been going on for a while," Maj. Gen. Bar said during the briefing. "On the offensive side, we've placed all of the Air Force's capabilities on standby."

Maj. Gen. Bar's words come following an airstrike in Lebanon's capital of Beirut executed on Friday in which a significant number of senior Hezbollah commanders have been eliminated.

9.21. 24 – Sa

IAF with F-35 fighter jet kills 1983 bomber of 241 US Marines in Beirut barracks

9.21. 24 – Sa

IAF kills Aqil with F-35 fighter jet and four missiles two stories underground

Hezbollah remains silent after the assassination of the head of the operations array while rescues are still underway; 'No matter how much Israel escalates, the support for Gaza will remain'

Lior Ben Ari, Itamar Eichner, Dan Raban|16:03

Hours after the attack in the Dahieh district in Beirut, where, according to the IDF, the head of Hezbollah's operations array, Ibrahim Aqil, was assassinated with about 10 other Radwan Force commanders. The Lebanese Interior Minister ordered a blockade around the building that was attacked and collapsed to facilitate the rescue efforts of the injured and the dead. According to the IDF spokesperson, Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari, Aqil and the Hezbollah commanders gathered underground under residential buildings.

According to the IDF, the attack was carried out by F-35 fighter jets, which launched missiles at the building. The Al-Jazeera network reported that four missiles were fired at the location of the Radwan Force meeting, two stories underground.

More than 20 people took part in the meeting and Al-Jazeera quoted a Lebanese security source who said several members of the Radwan Force came out injured. According to the Lebanese MTV news network, the families of three senior Radwan Force operatives were informed that more bodies are expected to be uncovered, increasing the death toll. According to the figures published in Lebanon, at least 14 people were killed in the attack, and another 66 were injured, including nine who were critically injured. Footage of the attack shows heavy damage to the targeted structure and to dozens of adjacent cars. Parked cars were overturned, and windows were shattered. According to the Hezbollah-affiliated Al-Mayadeen network, dozens of shops were also damaged in the attack.

An eyewitness who spoke to the New York Times said that he did not hear the sound of a missile coming at all before the attack: "It was more like an earthquake. Our building shook for a bit." Other residents reported chaos, and one of them, Mortada Smaoui, testified that when he arrived at the scene he found a building completely destroyed and a car overturned on its side. He said that he tried to help a woman who was looking for her child, but the rescue forces demanded that he leave: "The building was destroyed completely, I am shaking."

The attack in Dahieh was the third one carried out by the Air Force since the beginning of the war. In the first attack, senior Hamas official Saleh al-Aroui was eliminated, and in the second, Fuad Shukr, known in Israel as Hezbollah's chief of staff. The Iranian

embassy in Lebanon condemned the attack and said that the "Israeli madness has crossed all borders."

According to the IDF, Aqil and the commanders who were eliminated were among the architects of the "plan to occupy the Galilee", in the Shiite terrorist organization's plan to raid Israel, occupy the Galilee settlements, and murder innocent civilians, similar to the massacre carried out by Hamas on October 7.

At the same time, the Qatari Al-Araby Al-Jadeed quoted a Hezbollah parliamentary source who said: "The attack in Dahieh follows Israel's extermination war that Israel is waging in the region. No matter how much Israel escalates the operations, the Lebanese front will remain open to support Gaza. The reckoning will come, and the retribution will be just, time will tell. Every Israeli violation will be answered accordingly."

A diplomatic source, whose identity was not reported, told the Saudi Al-Hadath network that "the assassination of Aqil carries a political and military message according to which Hezbollah's escalation will be met with an escalation in Dahieh."

Netanyahu urges France to pressure Hezbollah

Meanwhile, in the diplomatic aspect, Several countries attempt to avoid escalation into an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke on Friday with French President Emmanuel Macron. Macron accused Israel of pushing the region into war, and Netanyahu responded that instead of pressuring Israel, it's time for France to increase the pressure on Hezbollah.

A French diplomat said that it is clear there are differences of opinion between the two sides going forward. France called on all parties in the region to exercise maximum restraint to close the negotiations for a cease-fire in Gaza and to facilitate a diplomatic settlement on Israel's northern border. He added that recent security developments in Lebanon have further increased the likelihood of war, while convinced that a diplomatic path still exists.

Last year, to mark the 40th anniversary of the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, the White House announced a \$7 million reward for information on Aqil, who was one of the masterminds of the attack that killed 63 people. Alongside Aqil, Imad Mughniyeh, a former Hezbollah military chief who was killed in a strike attributed to Israel, was also considered responsible for the attack.

Aqil was also involved in the October 1983 bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, which killed 241 U.S. service members. In addition, he oversaw the abduction of American and German hostages in Lebanon and was considered a potential successor to Hezbollah's military leadership long before Shukr's assassination, also in Dahieh.

Aqil survived several assassination attempts, including one in February 2000 when Israeli Apache helicopters fired missiles at his car, leaving him lightly wounded.

==== ==== ==== ====
==== ==== ==== ====

9.20. 24 – Fr- - - News Placed in September 20 spot – Friday
IDF confirms Hezbollah head of operations & others eliminated in Beirut strike

9.20. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
Owner of Bulgarian company selling pagers to Hezbollah, missing several months

9.20. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
Hezbollah fired 150 rockets in barrages targeting Galilee, Golan

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
Iran-Hezbollah forces in tatters; Lebanon hides death toll from exploding devices

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in September 19 spot – Thursday
UN approves PA proposal for arms embargo & Hage sanctions on Israel

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
IDF prepared for response after Lebanon dealt a defeat by pagers and walkie-talkies

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
Hezbollah leader Nasrallah Thursday calls coordinated explosions a declaration of war

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
Israeli businessman indicted in Iranian plot to assassinate 4-Israeli leaders

9.19. 24 – Th- - - News – Thursday
Hezbollah hides numbers killed in attacks, forces lost large parts of its command

9.18. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
IDF has not forgotten hostages & to bring northern residents back to their homes

9.18. 24 – We- - - News Placed in September 18 spot – Wednesday
Explosions in Beirut suburbs and other areas from hand-held radios
Shortened to; Explosions in Beirut areas from hand-held radios

9.18. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
Israel triggered pagers when Hezbollah operatives grew suspicious of the devices

9.18. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
IDF potential ground incursion into Lebanon after Hezbollah pager blasts

9.17. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday Full Moon 9:36pm
Mossad placed board inside Hezbollah's 5,000 Taiwan pagers, coded to explode

9.17. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in September 17 spot – Tuesday Full Moon 9:36pm
Pager blasts injured around 3,000 in Lebanon and Syria; PM to address UN next week

9.17. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday Full Moon 9:36pm
Eight killed, 2,750 wounded in pager detonations across Lebanon; IDF strike border

9.17. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday Full Moon 9:36pm
US to withdrawal from Iraq in 2026 will remove smuggling buffer Iran to Jordan

9.16. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in September 16 spot – Monday
US sanction Intellexa Israel spyware for phone photos, location, messages, & microphone

9.16. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
Settlers enter Jericho PA school after Jewish herder attacked; teachers threw stones

9.16. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday
PM deal with Gideon Saar to pass bill exempting Haredi from military service

9.15. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
Launch by Yemen Houthis, missile intercepted but not destroyed, scattering debris

9.15. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
Germany refused Israel requests for arms but sells weapons systems to Qatar

9.15. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday
Israeli strategy in question as war with Iranian proxies expands

9.15. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in September 15 spot – Sunday
IDF prepare for Lebanon campaign; Qatar & Egypt no longer mediators, demand border

9.14. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in September 14 spot – Saturday
IDF strikes 100 miles into Lebanon, PM pushing to prioritize the northern front

9.14. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday
Yemen Houthis turn 2023 hijacked Israeli ship into attraction for Muslim holiday

9.14. 24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday
Political Police arrest three women for handing hostage pamphlets in synagogue