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US officials believe Sinwar is still alive and making critical decisions with Qatar

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Knesset push for specialized genocide court to prosecute October 7 culprits

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Over 135 rockets from Lebanon on Monday; IAF struck over 120 Hezbollah sites

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Massive prison raids uncover PA inmates terror plot to riot on October 7 anniversary

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347 Irish UN fighters of UNIFIL's 10,000 troops refuse IDF demand to move north

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Statistics of One Year: 728 fallen troops, over 25,000 rockets fired at Israel

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PM hostage meeting discuss Hamas figures abroad may negotiate instead of Sinwar

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New footage released from Oct. 7 massacre, fought in several areas of southern Israel

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Israel haters UNRWA, the ICC, and UN among 2024 Nobel Peace Prize contenders

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A year into war statistics, the shocking civilian toll since October 7 revealed

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UN appeal; Knesset bill could cease Hamas ties with UNRWA starting on Monday

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Under massive fire: IDF encircled center of Gaza & dismantle weapons depots

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Trojan horse inside Hezbollah: New details on Lebanon pager attack

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IAF targets dozens of north Gaza terrorist cells & underground weapons storage sites

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France desires Israel cease-fire to ensure stability; PM overreacting to arms embargo

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Navy intercepts two north Mediterranean UAVs; IDF strikes Beirut for 30 minutes

10.06.24 – Su - - News – Sunday 5

Iran used criminals and drug dealers in Europe to target Israelis and Jews

10.05.24 – Sa - - News – Saturday 4

IDF dismantles Hezbollah tunnel 300 meters (984 feet) away from border

10.05.24 – Sa - - News Placed in October 05 spot – Saturday 4

Macron urges halt to arms deliveries to Israel for use in Gaza & escalation in Lebanon

10.12.24 – Sa

Hamas' chilling blueprint: Tel Aviv skyscrapers targeted for 9/11-style attack

10.12.24 – Sa

Hamas' chilling blueprint: Tel Aviv skyscrapers targeted for 9/11-style attack

Sinwar reportedly requested hundreds of millions from Iran and training for 12,000 operatives, claiming it would enable them to destroy Israel within two years; documents revealed in Washington Post also outline multi-front attack scenarios

Ynet|16:51

Hamas leaders had plans for large-scale assaults on Israel, including a 9/11-style attack on skyscrapers in Tel Aviv, even before launching their deadly incursion into Israeli border communities on October 7 of last year, The Washington Post reported on Saturday, citing both digital files and paper records recovered from Hamas command centers by IDF forces in Gaza.

The documents outline a broad attack strategy involving the use of railways, boats, and even chariots, according to the Washington Post report. However, terrorism experts noted that many of these plans were not practical.

The 59-page trove of documents also details a 2021 request from Hamas to Iran for \$500 million in funding, along with training for 12,000 additional Hamas operatives.

Letters from Sinwar to Khamenei and Qaani

Documents from 2021 indicate that Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar reached out to senior Iranian officials, including Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, seeking additional financial and military support.

In a letter, Sinwar claimed that with Iran's backing, Hamas could achieve the total destruction of Israel within two years. "We promise you that we will not waste a minute or a penny unless it takes us toward achieving this sacred goal," Sinwar wrote in June 2021.

While the letter did not provide details on how Hamas planned to destroy Israel, it was also addressed to Esmail Qaani, commander of Iran's Quds Force, who has been out of the public eye for two weeks amid reports of his investigation over alleged ties to Israel and a subsequent heart attack.

Months before the October 2023 assault, Hamas had considered an even broader attack plan. A 36-page presentation, discovered at a Hamas outpost in northern Gaza on November 10, outlined potential scenarios for a multi-front assault on Israel, targeting military bases and civilian locations such as shopping malls.

The Arabic document, titled "Strategy to build an appropriate plan to Liberate Palestine," contains dozens of maps, photographs and schematics showing Hamas movements and follow-up attack strategies across Israel.

A vast database of over 17,000 images

According to the presentation, Hamas' attack plans were based on a vast database of over 17,000 images, including satellite photos and drone-captured footage of Israeli cities. The database also featured imagery from social media, covering key military and civilian sites such as Israeli Air Force bases and diagrams of civilian flight paths to Ben Gurion Airport.

The presentation outlined three attack scenarios, with tactics for deceiving Israeli defenses. Some of the planned operations were "low-tech," similar to methods used in the October 7 attacks, while others were far more ambitious.

One such goal was to bring down prominent skyscrapers in Tel Aviv, including the 68-story Moshe Aviv Tower in Ramat Gan and the Azrieli Towers complex, which comprises three skyscrapers, a large shopping mall, a train station and a cinema.

"If this tower is destroyed in one way or another, an unprecedented crisis will occur for the enemy, similar to the crisis of the World Trade Center towers in New York," the document noted, though Hamas had not yet devised a method to achieve this. "Working to find a mechanism to destroy the tower."

Last week, Israeli prosecutors charged several residents of the central Israeli town of Taibeh with plotting to attack the Azrieli Towers and bring about its collapse.

A more practical target, according to the documents, was Israel's railway system. Hamas outlined various scenarios for using trains to transport fighters and powerful explosives.

"The railway line is designated for transporting fuel, which is a weak point in the event of

a train explosion after moving inside one of the cities (a moving bomb),” the document read.

Explosive-laden boats and chariots

Other documents showed Hamas planned to modify vehicles to travel on rails and convert fishing vessels into fast-attack boats capable of carrying fighters and explosives to infiltrate Israeli ports. Regarding the boat-bombing plan, the documents state that Hamas had "found a working mechanism."

One of the most unconventional proposals outlined in the documents involved using horse-drawn chariots, reminiscent of ancient times, as a "modern" transport method for terrorists and weapons.

The presentation included photos and descriptions of a chariot that could carry three people, traverse rough terrain with ease and operate more quietly than a motorcycle while emitting less heat.

Meanwhile, a New York Times report revealed minutes from ten meetings held by Sinwar with the Hamas' high command. The meeting summaries, found on a computer in Khan Younis and obtained by the Times, provided new insight into Hamas' preparations for the October 7 attack, code-named "The Big Project."

The report also highlighted Hamas' deception strategy, which emphasized maintaining silence, even during Ramadan, and instructed members not to join the fighting alongside Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

The documents further revealed that Hamas aimed to launch its attack before Israel completed its laser weapon development and requested Iran to target sensitive sites with missile strikes during the first hour of the assault.

10.12.24 – Sa

IDF: 320 Hezbollah rockets fired Into Israel over Yom Kippur weekend

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IDF: 320 Hezbollah rockets fired Into Israel over Yom Kippur weekend

Herzliya sheltered housing facility hit by Hezbollah drone; IDF begins evacuating 23 more southern Lebanon communities; US announces expanded sanctions on Iran's oil industry following ballistic missile attack

Ynet|11:12

The IDF reported Saturday evening that approximately 320 rockets and projectiles were fired from Lebanon into Israel by the Hezbollah terrorist group over the Yom Kippur weekend.

Incoming air raid sirens were triggered in towns in the Galilee, Acre, Safed, Haifa and the surrounding bay area, sending over a million Israelis to seek shelter over the holiday.

In addition, a drone from Syria exploded over the Golan Heights. On the eve of Yom Kippur, two drones penetrated Israeli airspace from central Lebanon, with one hitting a sheltered housing facility in Herzliya. Two more rockets were fired Saturday from northern Gaza, hitting Ashkelon.

Israeli airstrikes in Lebanon killed 22 people on Friday, and the IDF began evacuating 23 additional communities in southern Lebanon. Two UNIFIL peacekeepers were injured by Israeli fire, sparking international condemnation, with global leaders calling it a "serious violation by Israel." U.S. President Joe Biden urged Israel to cease actions that harm UN personnel. In separate incidents, two Lebanese soldiers were killed in Israeli strikes. U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin pressed Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to shift from military operations in Lebanon to a diplomatic path. Meanwhile, fighting continues in northern Gaza, where dozens were killed in Jabaliya. The IDF has called on residents of neighboring Gaza City to evacuate their homes. The U.S. announced expanded sanctions on Iran's oil industry following the Islamic Republic's ballistic missile strike on Israel at the beginning of the month. Reports suggest Iran is "extremely concerned" about Israel's potential response. U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris reiterated her stance, saying, "I will never allow Iran to obtain nuclear weapons."

Iran announced on Saturday that the body of the Quds Force commander for Lebanon and Syria, Abbas Nilforoushan, who was killed alongside Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in Beirut's Dahieh district, was found.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan criticized Israeli strikes on Damascus, calling for intervention from Russia, Syria and Iran. French President Emmanuel Macron repeated his call for halting arms exports to Israel, saying, "It's the only way to end this."

Nicaragua has cut diplomatic ties with Israel, accusing it of running a "fascist government committing genocide." Meanwhile, Mexico's president urged recognition of a Palestinian state, saying it is the path to peace in the Middle East.

In other news, a resident of East Jerusalem was shot dead in a suspected murder. The U.S. military confirmed a series of strikes targeting Islamic State sites in Syria.

10.11.24 – Fr

Hezbollah appoints new leaders to use its considerable stockpile

10.11.24 – Fr

Hezbollah appoints new leadership to fight war, report, terror group denies
Just 72 hours after the assassination of Hassan Nasrallah a new command was constructed to run the war, sources said adding Hezbollah forces fighting IDF in the South take orders from new commanders, precision missiles kept for later use against Israel

Yoav Zitun, Reuters|Yesterday | 07:49

Hezbollah appointed a new military command in preparation for a long war of attrition in South Lebanon 72 hours after Israel wiped out its top leadership, Reuters reported on Friday citing two sources familiar with its operations. Hezbollah denied the report.

According to the report, the Iran-backed group still has a considerable stockpile of weapons, including its most powerful precision missiles which it has yet to use, four sources familiar with its operations said, despite waves of airstrikes that Israel says has severely depleted its arsenal.

The new command center has kept functioning despite subsequent Israeli attacks, meaning fighters in the south were able to fire rockets and fight according to centrally issued orders, according to the sources, who asked not to be named in order to discuss sensitive matters. A third source, a senior official close to Hezbollah, said the group was now waging a war of attrition.

Another source familiar with Hezbollah's operations said the group's dedicated, fixed-line phone network was "essential" to current communications. Sources have said the network survived attacks on the group's communications in September.

Tunnel warfare

Hezbollah possesses an extensive tunnel network in southern Lebanon, constructed for the fighting force against Israeli troops and is estimated to be hundreds of kilometers long. The Hezbollah field commander told the news agency that the tunnels "are the foundation of the battle". Hezbollah had toiled for years to build them, he added. "Their time has come," he said adding that the tunnels found and destroyed by the IDF were built for the Radwan special forces units to one day enter the Galilee region of northern Israel. The source said Israel did not know the full extent of the tunnels.

The source close to Hezbollah said the tunnels detected by Israel were built for its Radwan special forces units to one day enter the Galilee region of northern Israel. The source said Israel did not know the full extent of the tunnels.

Hezbollah says it has stepped up fire in recent days but some Israelis wonder why they launch hundreds and not thousands of rockets and missiles at Israel including their arsenal of power precision missiles. Israeli officials said it indicates the Iran-backed group's difficulty after the devastating blows inflicted on it.

Prior to the latest conflict, the World Factbook of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said Hezbollah possessed upwards of 150,000 missiles and rockets.

The two sources said Hezbollah had chosen not to use its most potent rockets - including precision-guided missiles - to keep something in reserve for a long war and to avoid giving Israel a pretext to widen its strikes to Lebanese infrastructure, such as Beirut airport, roads and bridges.

The third source said the group had not targeted Israel's cities, such as Tel Aviv, with its most powerful weapons because such a move would give Israel a reason to hit Lebanon even harder.

Chief of Staff Herzi Halevi and Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar visited the troops operating in South Lebanon on Thursday. "We are fighting not just to bring security to the north now but also with a look toward the future," Halevi said. "If someone tries to rebuild these

villages, he may consider it wrong to build terror infrastructure that would only be destroyed by the IDF."

Bar said Israel cannot defend its citizens by building shelters and must fight where the terrorists are. "In a peaceful border, you guard your side of the frontier. Where there is war, you operate on both sides," he said. "We've observed Hamas entrenching in Lebanon and they will grow in number when terrorists leave Gaza. We will keep hunting them wherever they are," he said.

10.11.24 – Fr

Islamists plot to car bomb Tel Aviv towers then shoot bystanders after the explosion

10.11.24 – Fr

Suspects plotting to bring down Tel Aviv towers aimed to melt support beams
Prosecutors indict 5 suspected members of Islamic State cell accused of plotting to bomb Tel Aviv's Azrieli Towers; suspects allegedly learned how to build car bombs and identified where to park beneath towers for maximum damage
Gilad Morag | Yesterday | 06:42

The State Attorney's Office has indicted five Israeli men from the Arab city of Taibeh, accusing them of plotting to bomb Tel Aviv's iconic Azrieli Towers in a car bomb attack inspired by the Islamic State group (IS).

The suspects, identified as Sajed Masarwa, 27; Abdullah Baransi, 26; Abed al-Karim Baransi, 27; Mahmoud Azzam, 24; and Ibrahim Sheikh Youssef, 34, allegedly swore allegiance to IS and conducted activities in its name since the war began last October.

According to the indictment, the men consumed Islamic State propaganda on social media, expressed support for the terror group and studied materials on how to construct explosives. Ibrahim Sheikh Youssef, reportedly the plot's mastermind, declared his intent to target the Azrieli Towers after National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir suggested building a synagogue on the Temple Mount, a site sacred to Muslims as well.

The men are alleged to have communicated with IS supporters abroad and discussed their plans for a shooting attack against Israeli citizens, as well as their desire to die as martyrs. In June 2024, Sheikh Youssef decided to form a cell disguised as a religious study group, with the goal of executing terror attacks in Israel. Two of the accused reportedly concluded that a car bomb was the best method for attacking the Tel Aviv towers, based on IS video tutorials on bomb-making.

The indictment details that the men planned to park the car bomb in the underground garage of the Azrieli complex to cause maximum damage, with the blast intended to melt the building's support beams. Additionally, the group allegedly planned to film a claim of responsibility for the attack in IS's name and to acquire weapons to open fire on bystanders following the explosion.

In discussions between Azzam and Sheikh Youssef, they talked about building an explosive device containing 150 to 200 kilograms (330-440 pounds) of material, including hydrogen peroxide, to create a powerful blast. They also planned to use cooking gas canisters to increase the explosion's intensity, with Sheikh Youssef claiming he had already obtained the necessary explosives.

The prosecution has requested that the suspects, all Israeli citizens, remain in custody for the duration of the legal proceedings. The indictment describes the five men as holding an extreme religious ideology aligned with IS, and accuses them of actively working toward violent attacks against Israeli civilians.

Allah Talawi, defense attorney for one of the suspects, Karim Baransi, argued that the indictment reflects only "a wish or a dream," and not a concrete plan for an attack.

10.11.24 – Fr

Report details damage from over 1,600 rockets to northern Israel

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Report details damage from over 1,600 rockets to northern Israel

Over 103 incidents of direct hits and collateral property damage have been reported since the start of the war on October 7; 61 incidents of damage to private and public infrastructure and property; Kiryat Shmona hit hardest

Yair Kraus | Yesterday | 01:11

The Defense Ministry's Northern Horizon Directorate published on Thursday a detailed report covering the damages done to areas in northern Israel amid Hezbollah's increasing fire toward the country and the IDF's entry into Lebanon.

The ministerial body coordinates the activities of various ministry bodies and collaborates with other government agencies near the Lebanese border, covering 124 towns, cities, and regional councils located up to nine kilometers (5.5 miles) from the border.

According to the directorate, over 103 incidents of direct hits and collateral property damage have been reported since the start of the war on October 7. In the 10 days preceding the IDF's ground operation, 61 incidents of damage to private and public infrastructure and property were reported.

The data collected so far shows approximately 1,645 reports of damage, affecting private homes, apartment buildings, public facilities, businesses, agriculture, and more.

Of these, 54% of the damage caused by Hezbollah's attacks targeted private residences, 11% impacted public buildings, 4% hit chicken coops or cowsheds, 3% affected infrastructure, 2% struck agricultural land, pastures or orchards and 2% damaged businesses. Another 19% have yet to be classified due to difficulties in accessing the impact area and risks to professional personnel.

In terms of the source of the damage, 79% of the incidents were caused by Hezbollah fire while 21% resulted from IDF activity, mainly during the early stages of the war when large numbers of forces reached the front lines before the military established more organized control over the area.

Brigadier General (Res.) David Suissa, head of the Defense Ministry's Rehabilitation Department, explained the data collection method treats each damage report as a single case, without adding the total number of affected assets.

For example, an attack on a residential building that damages five apartments and five vehicles would be recorded as one incident. A minor event is defined as one where the damage can be locally repaired, while major incidents involve buildings that were either heavily damaged or are beyond repair.

When dividing the incidents by local councils, municipalities and cities in the northern region, Kiryat Shemona experienced the highest number of incidents, with 218 reports of damage. Most of the damage, 117 cases, was classified as minor.

At least 14 damage sites were identified in the city in the rocket barrages that took place on Wednesday alone. Kibbutz Manara sustained the highest number of severe impacts, with nine out of 73 incidents classified as very serious. Shetula in the Western Galilee saw 68 reports, 19 of which were considered severe.

10.10.24 – Th

Israel targets Nasrallah's special negotiator, in charge of Beirut International Airport

10.10.24 – Th

Israel targets Nasrallah's special negotiator in Beirut strike

Wafiq Safa is under U.S. sanctions for exploiting Lebanese ports, border crossings to facilitate Hezbollah terrorists' travel; known as Beirut Airport strongman overseeing weapons arrival from Iran that is stored in great amounts at the airport

Lior Ben Ari|10.10.24 | 15:23

IDF carried out two airstrikes on central Beirut on Thursday, targeting areas outside Hezbollah's stronghold the Dahieh, for the third time in the war. According to some reports, the attacks were an attempt to assassinate Hezbollah's Liaison and Coordination Unit head Wafiq Safa, a close ally of slain Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah who was killed in an Israeli attack last month.

Lebanese health officials said 18 people were killed and 92 injured in the strikes. Safa's fate was unknown, security sources told Sky News Arabic while other sources said he survived the attempt on his life.

According to the U.S. Treasury Department's website, Safa exploits Lebanese ports and border crossings to facilitate Hezbollah terrorists' travel. The site adds that, together with senior Hezbollah member Mohammad Raad, Safa was involved in attempting to secure

foreign citizenships for 100 Hezbollah operatives who were to be sent on "long missions" in Western or Arab countries.

Safa is a well-known figure in Beirut and his position in Hezbollah gave him incredible power. He was known as the man who was actually in charge of Beirut's Rafic Al Hariri International Airport, the main gateway into Lebanon.

An airport employee told the newspaper Safa maintained close ties with customs control. "Wafiq Safa is always showing up at customs," one whistleblower claimed, citing close relationships with the customs managers. "I feel like if we don't do what they say, our families will be in danger."

According to an investigative report in the UK's Telegraph newspaper last June, Hezbollah was hiding a significant weapons stockpile at the airport. Officials there said the terror group receives weapons on flights from Iran that are then stored. According to the same sources, Hezbollah stores huge amounts of Iranian weapons, missiles and explosives inside the civilian airport.

"This is extremely serious, mysterious large boxes arriving on direct flights from Iran are a sign that things got worse. When they started to come through the airport, my friends and I were scared because we knew that there was something strange going on," one source at the airport said.

The paper reported that a Lebanese official rejected the claims and Transport Minister Ali Hamie called the information incorrect. He has invited media and ambassadors to visit the airport to see for themselves. Lebanese caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati said he would be suing the publication.

As a member of Nasrallah's close circle, Safa was part of the negotiation committee Hezbollah established in 2000 during the kidnapping of three IDF soldiers on Mount Dov – Benjamin Avraham, Adi Avitan, and Omar Sawaid. The three bodies were returned to Israel in 2004 in a prisoner exchange deal.

He also participated in negotiations for the return of soldiers Ehud Goldwasser and Eldad Regev, who were kidnapped by the terror group shortly before the Second Lebanon War in 2006.

10.10.24 – Th

Every Lebanon house is a terror base, waiting for an invasion to Conquer the Galilee

10.10.24 – Th

Every house is a terror base, IDF says of southern Lebanon village
Hezbollah's elite Radwar force planned an invasion of northern Israel carried out by thousands of terrorists breaching the border in six points to overrun bases and communities; terrorists embedded in villages, their equipment stored, waiting for the order to attack

Ynetnews|10.10.24 | 14:11

IDF troops operating in southern Lebanon found Hezbollah's preparation for an invasion into Israel, the military spokesperson said on Thursday. Every house here was a base for terror, Daniel Hagari said in a video filmed inside a Shi'ite village near the Lebanon border with Israel.

Hagari said Hezbollah's Radwan forces were embedded in the village, appearing as regular villagers while their military equipment, including rifles, grenades and more, were stored in the houses waiting for the order to be given to launch the assault. "It would have been bigger than the one on October 7," Hagari said.

Hezbollah's elite Radwan force was to number 4,000 to 6,000 men in six brigades and 16 battalions that were to breach the border at the same time through six points, and overrun military bases and communities on the Israeli side.

According to the military, the terrorists would arrive from elsewhere in Lebanon, mostly the Bekaa Valley, where Hezbollah has bases, to live in the villages where they walked in civilian clothes, pretending to be innocent residents, while they awaiting the order.

According to their plan, named Conquering the Galilee, when the word was given, they were to emerge with their weapons and attack. The terrain around the villages which is dense with vegetation was full of dugouts and rocket and missile launchers, that would provide cover for the assaulting force.

Israeli forces were working to clear the area that overlooks the Israeli border communities, from the Hezbollah terrorists and to destroy their capabilities to launch attacks, thereby enabling residents of Israel's north to return safely to their homes.

10.10.24 – Th

Judges slammed Tel Aviv municipality for refusing Orthodox worship on Yom Kippur

10.10.24 – Th

There will be public segregated prayer for Yom Kippur in Tel Aviv, High Court rules
The Supreme Court responded to a petition by the Rosh Yehudi organization and ordered the Tel Aviv municipality to allow the outdoor, public service to be held in Meir Garden instead of the more central, secular Dizengoff Square, a compromise the city had rejected
Netael Bandel, Shilo Freid|18:06

The Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that the Rosh Yehudi organization can hold a gender-segregated prayer in the public space in Tel Aviv for the upcoming Yom Kippur holiday, including placing a mechitza or partition, between men and women. The judges in a compromise proposal ordered the organization to set up its prayer service in Meir Garden, a less central location in the city, and not in Dizengoff Square where it had requested.

The court said the municipality must enable Rosh Yehudi to hold the Kol Nidrei and Neilah prayers in the park, at the beginning and end of the holiday.

The Tel Aviv District Court, which heard the organization's petition against the Tel Aviv Municipality, did not find it appropriate to intervene in the municipality's decision prohibiting the holding of gender-segregated prayers and events in the public space - and therefore the petitioners appealed to the Supreme Court. The appellants, Rosh Yehudi and residents of Tel Aviv who joined the petition, were represented by attorneys Uri Paz and Harel Arnon.

At the opening of Wednesday's hearing, Judge David Mintz said: "These are difficult days. In any case, the issue should not have come to court. Certainly not a topic of prayer on Yom Kippur. With good will, it can be resolved outside the court's walls."

Judge Grosskopf said during the hearing: "I don't understand, a municipality can't allow prayer in the public space according to accepted customs?! You say: when the place is closed, in a synagogue, gender segregation is allowed - but under the open sky in the space, then it is not allowed? Who wants an Orthodox prayer He will go there and those who don't, shouldn't go. Why should a municipality prevent prayer?"

The judges slammed the Tel Aviv municipality: "What is emerging is that a municipality in the State of Israel seeks to discriminate against Orthodox worshippers." The representative of the township said: "We do not discriminate", and the judges replied: "Certainly yes." Grosskopf added: "The Tel Aviv Municipality will determine which prayer is legitimate? The public will decide that for itself."

10.09.24 – We

Rafael presents new Lite Beam system next week at a defense exhibit in the US

10.09.24 – We

IDF places hopes in new laser anti-rocket systems amid expanding war

As Hezbollah continues to target northern and central Israel with rocket and missile barrages, security officials hope to expedite laser system allowing for faster and cheaper interceptions

Yuval Azulay/Calcalist|13:38

Fighting along Israel's northern border is intensifying, with increased rocket fire aimed at the country. The IDF's operations in villages near the northern border focus on exposing and destroying Hezbollah infrastructure, supported by artillery and airstrikes. The Israeli Air Force continues its attacks on Hezbollah's weapon stockpiles and command centers across Lebanon, including in Beirut's Dahieh quarter.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant on Tuesday visited the IDF Northern Command to assess the army's progress in southern Lebanon. However, shortly before Gallant detailed the IDF's operational achievements in the north, Hezbollah launched a heavy barrage of over

100 rockets toward the Haifa Bay area and several towns in the Western Galilee, most of which were intercepted by Iron Dome batteries.

Frequent rocket barrages from Lebanon have caused damage to several factories in northern Israel over the past few days. Roy Israeli, northern region manager at the Manufacturers' Association of Israel (MAI), told Ynet's sister outlet Calcalist that production has continued as usual despite the damage, much of which was caused by rocket fragments.

According to the association, the recent expansion of rocket fire and the increase in launch volume haven't impacted worker attendance at the factories significantly. However, some northern industrialists, including those in factories located dozens of kilometers from the Lebanese border, reported receiving inquiries from overseas customers asking them to ensure future supply capabilities, even in scenarios of war escalation and increased rocket fire from Lebanon.

MAI President Ron Tomer noted that producers are facing increased demand to boost production for stockpiling for up to six months. This comes in addition to expanding their procurement of large quantities of raw materials.

Iron Dome interception in northern Israel

Tomer warned that this issue could significantly increase financing costs for industrialists as they work hard to maintain their business relationships with global customers.

Amid the escalation, the Economy Ministry has expanded its plan to establish shelters in factories in the north. The program's budget stands at NIS 10 million (\$2.6 million) and includes distributing shelters to factories located within 40 km (25 miles) of the Lebanese border. These areas include towns in the Jezreel Valley and Haifa, which have been increasingly exposed to rocket fire from Lebanon in recent weeks.

Accelerating deployment of laser defense systems

While Hezbollah's heavy rocket barrage toward Israel's coastal cities was largely intercepted by the Iron Dome defense system, security officials are placing high hopes on Rafael Advanced Defense Systems' "Iron Beam" laser defense system, which is expected to be operational in the coming months. The air defense system is expected to dramatically improve and reduce the cost of intercepting rockets and drones launched at Israel.

There has been progress in innovative development programs over the past year, and Rafael intends to present its new Lite Beam system next week at a defense exhibition in the U.S. The system is based on laser technology and provides mobile defense for maneuvering forces against drones and UAVs.

The system is mounted on a Plasan Stormer vehicle and carries the Samson 30mm gun in addition to its laser targeting system as a complementary interception solution if a laser can't be used to target the threat.

The larger Iron Beam system is designed to intercept targets at short range and will initially be integrated into the Iron Dome system. With the incorporation of the laser system into Iron Dome, interceptions will be carried out using either a high-powered laser beam or an interception missile, depending on the circumstances. This dual capability

addresses the limitations of laser use under conditions such as cloud cover, fog or dust storms.

A special U.S. grant of approximately \$8.7 billion from President Joe Biden is set to allow Israel to expand its interceptor stockpiles and munitions inventory, including allocating budgets to accelerate the development of laser-based defense systems at Rafael. Elbit Systems is also involved in these programs, working on airborne laser products that would enable fighter jets and UAVs to intercept threats far from Israel's borders. The Israel Aerospace Industries has its own laser program, which has been significantly accelerated over the past year.

In addition to the mobile laser system Rafael plans to unveil next week in Washington, it will also showcase enhanced capabilities in its Trophy active defense system for tanks and armored personnel carriers. The system is already operational in the IDF and installed on vehicles used in the wars in Gaza and Lebanon.

The system provides protection against anti-tank missiles and rockets fired at moving forces. According to Rafael, variations of the Trophy system have been adapted in recent years for numerous platforms used by armies worldwide, offering comprehensive protection for the crews operating them.

10.09.24 – We

Netanyahu and Biden talk, joined by Harris, as IDF prepares to respond to Iran

10.09.24 – We

Netanyahu and Biden, joined by Harris, talk for 50 minutes

It's been six weeks since the president and PM last spoke; They discussed Israel's plans for a retaliatory attack against Iran; After conversation Defense Minister Yoav Gallant says that 'Our attack will be deadly, precise and, above all, surprising'

Itamar Eichner|12:25

U.S. President Joe Biden spoke Wednesday with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for 50 minutes, a day after the prime minister's decision to postpone Defense Minister Yoav Galant's scheduled visit to Washington until he had a conversation with Biden. Democratic presidential candidate and Vice President Kamala Harris also joined the conversation, according to the White House.

According to officials in Jerusalem cited by Reuters, the conversation between the two leaders was intended, among other things, to discuss Israel's plans for a retaliatory attack against Iran, in response to the latest barrage it launched into Israel. Also present in Netanyahu's office during the conversation were the Minister of Strategic Affairs Ron Dermer; the prime minister's political advisor Ophir Falk; National Security Council Deputy Director Gil Reich, Head of the National Security Council Foreign Policy Division, Dr. Joseph Drazanin; and prime minister's military secretary, Maj. Roman Goffman.

Shortly after the conversation, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant - who visited Unit 9900 of the Intelligence Division, which is used to collect visual intelligence - said that "the Iranian attack was aggressive but inaccurate. Whoever attacks us will be hurt and will pay a price. Our attack will be deadly, precise and above all surprising, they will not understand what happened and how it happened, they will see the results."

Gallant received a briefing from unit 9900 on the preparation for the latest attacks in Lebanon, and also for attacks that are expected in other arenas. "Thanks to you, we see the entire Middle East - Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Iraq and everywhere else," he said. "We see exactly and in a very, very focused way any place we want."

Gallant's flight to the U.S., now postponed until after a potential discussion between Biden and Netanyahu on Wednesday, was aimed at enhancing coordination between Jerusalem and Washington as the IDF prepares to respond to Iran's second ballistic missile attack within a year.

Gallant, as noted, delayed his planned night flight partly because the government had not yet approved his trip. It is believed Netanyahu is actually wary of Gallant gaining more clout in the eyes of Biden and wants to demonstrate to his Likud base that he is preventing Gallant from coordinating with the U.S.

The Americans were utterly shocked on Tuesday, as this has gone from being a conflict between Netanyahu and Gallant to one also between Netanyahu and the Biden administration. The Defense Minister was invited by the Americans, who see him as "the war liaison," and he coordinated his trip with the Prime Minister's office. Until Tuesday night, despite lacking travel approval, Gallant's associates were confident the trip would proceed as planned.

Meanwhile, even before Netanyahu and Biden's conversation, the Prime Minister spoke with former U.S.; President Donald Trump, who is the Republican Party's current candidate for presidential elections next month. Netanyahu's office reported that Trump called the prime minister on his own initiative about a week ago, and congratulated him on the determined and powerful actions Israel took against Hezbollah. U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham also participated in the conversation.

An Israeli official told The Washington Post that Netanyahu had tried several times to reach Biden by phone but was unsuccessful. An American official denied these claims, calling them untrue.

"The administration consults with Israelis on a number of levels and we've always said the leaders will speak soon, following these consultations. That is what we agreed in recent weeks," he said, adding that a call on Tuesday was not possible because Biden was traveling to Wisconsin and Pennsylvania to address the hurricane response.

According to The Wall Street Journal, Israel has refused to provide the Biden administration with details of its planned attack on Iran after Iran launched its missile strike on Israel earlier this month.

Hours after news broke of Netanyahu delaying Gallant's visit, U.S. officials told the Journal there was growing frustration in the administration over being repeatedly surprised by Israeli military operations in Lebanon and Gaza.

Sources detailed a conversation between Gallant and his U.S. counterpart, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, shortly after the assassination of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah in a bombing of his bunker in Beirut last month. "Sorry, what did you say?" Austin reportedly asked, according to officials with knowledge of the exchange. Austin also questioned whether Israel intended to defend itself on its own, given the lack of communication with the administration.

Sources said Austin was frustrated because the U.S. had insufficient time to organize its forces to assist Israel or protect American troops in the Middle East. Washington officials expressed hope that in the future, they would have more advance notice of attacks that could lead to greater American involvement, as Israel continues to vow retaliation against Iran.

American officials believe Israel will target Iranian military and intelligence assets. A conversation between Biden and Netanyahu, details of which were revealed on Tuesday in excerpts from a new book by journalist Bob Woodward, reportedly led to a tempered Israeli response to an Iranian attack in April. Biden is said to have told Netanyahu to "take the win" after the Iranian attack failed, advising that no further action was necessary. Israel may be withholding information from the administration due to concerns over leaks. Shortly before the Israeli ground offensive in southern Lebanon began last week, U.S. officials leaked details of the IDF's operational plans to the media, likely in an effort to prevent any miscalculations by Iran, which has since launched over 180 ballistic missiles at Israel.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday conversations between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and U.S. President Joe Biden were publicly revealed that resulted in Israel's moderate reaction in Iran. Biden asked Netanyahu to "take the victory" of the failure of the Iranian attack, telling him, according to a book by journalist Bob Woodward: "You should not take on step further. Don't do anything."

In the end, as mentioned, Israel reacted in a targeted and limited manner to Iran, when according to reports outside of Israel, it attacked the radar of an advanced air defense battery that protects the reactor in Natanz.

It was revealed by Ynet on Tuesday night that this wasn't the first such incident between the two. Prior to the incident barring Gallant from traveling to the U.S. and imposing conditions, which included "decisions on Israel's next actions," the prime minister previously demanded amid wartime to talk with a leader of a nation maintaining diplomatic relations with Israel, to which Gallant had discreetly traveled. The conversation occurred, and negotiations with Netanyahu allowed the flight to proceed.

10.09.24 – We

West Bank terror rampage: 4 scenes, attempts motorcycle getaway

10.09.24 – We

Hadera terrorist's rampage: 4 scenes, attempts motorcycle getaway

Assailant identified as 36-year-old Israeli-Arab from Umm al-Fahm; 'I shouted at him to lie down and shot him in the leg,' says security guard who helped subdue attacker

Eitan Glikman|07:51

The assailant behind Wednesday's terror attack in Hadera, which left one victim critically injured, has been identified as a 36-year-old Israeli citizen from Umm al-Fahm.

The attacker was shot and subdued by armed civilians on Herbert Samuel Street after attempting to flee. Initially treated as a criminal incident, police later confirmed it was a terror attack.

Doctors are fighting to save the life of one victim, while another remains in serious condition, and four others sustained moderate injuries.

The Arab municipality of Umm al-Fahm condemned the attack shortly after the assailant's identity was revealed.

"We rushed from site to site," said local security officer Adi Nataf. "At first, we thought there were two terrorists and then we heard a call to come to Herber Samuel Street. I saw him wounded and then he stood up, with a coat on, we shouted 'lie down' so that he would not shoot at us, and a reservist fired two shots in the air. I shouted 'lie down' again and shot him in the leg."

Police Commissioner Daniel Levy, who arrived at the scene, acknowledged the strain on police resources amid ongoing rocket fire and terror attacks. "This is our fate at this time," he said.

Levy vowed to investigate anyone connected to the attack and criticized gaps in intelligence, noting the responsibility of the Shin Bet for preventing such incidents from the West Bank.

10.09.24 – We

IDF hoists Israeli flag over Lebanon's Shi'ite village 'Iran Garden'

10.09.24 – We

IDF hoists Israeli flag over Lebanon's 'Iran Garden'

Troops take operational control over the Shi'ite village of Maroun al-Ras where Iran decided to commemorate its presence in a lavish viewpoint over Israeli border towns

Lior Ben Ari|06:33

IDF footage released on Tuesday revealed forces destroyed southern Lebanon's "Iran Garden," which included a model of the Dome of the Rock in Maroun al-Ras. The garden, located in the Shi'ite village overlooking the Israeli towns of Avivim and Yiron in the Upper Galilee, had an Israeli flag raised at the site.

It was inaugurated in 2010 by former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and served as a vantage point for other Iranian officials to observe Israel and make various commitments regarding Tehran's support for Lebanon over the years.

The park was established in a festive ceremony attended by Ahmadinejad who visited southern Lebanon at the time. The former Iranian president even considered throwing a stone toward Israel during that visit.

The "Iran Garden" was an Iranian historical center, but also a Lebanese one. Lebanese tourism sites described it as "a place that commemorates Hezbollah's resilience against the Israeli invasion in 2006."

Over the years, it became a pilgrimage site for senior Iranian officials. The most recent visitor was former Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian who visited the Lebanese village in April 2023, observed Israel and declared, "We're here in Maroun al-Ras to loudly proclaim our support for the resistance against the occupation."

Three weeks earlier, during Passover, 34 rockets were fired from Lebanon toward towns in the Galilee — described as the heaviest barrage from Lebanon since the Second Lebanon War in 2006.

This marked the beginning of a gradual escalation along the northern border, which intensified significantly in June 2023 when armed Hezbollah terrorists set up a post with two tents on the Israeli side of the border at Mount Dov, eventually reaching a head with the outbreak of war on the northern border following the October 7 massacre.

The garden was well-maintained with tables for hosting visitors, a green plaza with seating areas, a cafeteria and an amphitheater overlooking Avivim. It also featured a playground for children, guard towers facing Israel, stone arches, a parking lot and a water well.

Its centerpiece was a model of the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount, and a cutout of the former Quds Force commander Qasem Soleimani, pointing toward Israel was also present at the site.

"Iran Garden welcomes you to the most beautiful spot in the south, with a unique view and many activities," read an invitation to the park circulated online in 2019.

In the video, one could notice the Iranian flag flying on Lebanese soil near the children's playground, in the same village where the Israeli flag was raised in recent days. The park was filled with Iranian symbols and signs in Persian.

Stopping points in the complex were named after Iranian provinces, giving the impression of a small Iranian enclave in the Shiite village — from which Israel was clearly visible. Judging by its design, this was undoubtedly the goal.

Golani Brigade soldiers reached Maroun al-Ras, which became a Shiite symbol during the Second Lebanon War, about a week ago. The IDF quickly gained operational control of the village, enabling relatively free movement in the hostile area. Some commanders can move back and forth to Israeli territory due to its proximity — only 2 aerial km (1.2 miles).

10.08.24 – Tu

PM blocked Gallant trip to US; Likud base shuns Gallant's secrecy with Pentagon

10.08.24 – Tu

Netanyahu blocks Gallant's trip to US, after setting conditions for departure

Prime minister prevents defense minister from traveling to Washington to coordinate retaliation against Iran with Pentagon unless he can speak with Biden and Cabinet first approves next steps in war; Gallant was to meet with counterpart to ask for assistance in case of further Iranian assaults

Itamar Eichner|16:07

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant was set to leave Israel for Washington Tuesday night for a visit expected to tighten coordination between Israel and the U.S. amid preparations for an Israeli retaliation for the Iranian ballistic missile attack. However, as of late Tuesday night the flight was not yet approved, the trip is in danger of being canceled and U.S. officials are reportedly shocked over the issue.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has set two conditions before approving Gallant's flight: a conversation to be held between the prime minister and U.S. President Joe Biden, after weeks of no communication between the two leaders, and a Security Cabinet approval of Israel's next steps.

The government had not approved Gallant's trip as of very late Tuesday night, leading to the announcement that it had being postponed.

The Pentagon announced that Gallant would not be arriving in the U.S. as scheduled.

"We were just informed that Minister Gallant will be postponing his trip to Washington," Pentagon spokesperson Sabrina Singh told a news briefing, referring questions about why Gallant canceled to Israel's government.

Biden has avoided speaking with Netanyahu for several weeks, though he has had conversations with President Isaac Herzog, including this week for the anniversary of the October 7 Hamas attack.

Netanyahu reportedly fears giving Gallant more clout with Biden and wants to show his Likud voter base that he's preventing Gallant from coordinating with the Americans. U.S. officials are reportedly stunned – as this has gone from being a conflict between Netanyahu and Gallant to one also between Netanyahu and the Biden administration.

The Americans were the ones who invited the defense minister, who is seen as their "point of contact for the war," and Gallant had coordinated his trip with the Prime Minister's Office beforehand. Up until hours before the scheduled departure, those close to Gallant were confident the trip would proceed as planned.

"Ultimately, decisions about cabinet members' trips to Washington are up to the Israeli government," U.S. State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said on the issue in a briefing. Gallant's main goal in his trip was to project a show of power from Washington in a play to deter possible Iranian attacks against Jerusalem following a possible retaliation.

Iranian ballistic missile attack against Israel

NBC reported on Tuesday, citing two U.S. officials, that Israel hadn't provided the U.S. with details regarding its response to the Iranian missile attack even after senior U.S. military officials publicly discussed the possibility of supporting an Israeli response.

According to the officials, Gallant and U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin discussed potential response options, but Israel's final decision wasn't shared. American officials believe that Israel has yet to make a definitive decision on how to act. The potential targets for the attack, according to the sources, include military and intelligence complexes, air defense systems and energy infrastructure. "Gallant and Austin did not discuss nuclear facilities as possible targets," NBC reported. Gallant and Israeli defense officials have been advocating for a strike on Iran and have presented plans to lawmakers, although no decision appears to have been made yet. Gallant was expected to meet with Austin to discuss the matter.

In addition to Austin, Gallant was also scheduled to meet with President Biden's advisors amid a severe crisis of trust between Netanyahu and Biden. Gallant was set to arrive in Washington with a clear message for the U.S. administration: Israel needs to strike Iran, but it should be done in the most effective way with maximum coordination with the U.S.

Gallant believes the U.S. must project its strength in the region, from sending aircraft carriers to the region to displaying the joint cooperation between Israel and the U.S. While Israel doesn't expect the U.S. to join in any strike, it looks for American support if and when Iran responds with another missile attack, as part of the international coalition formed during the war.

"We have the ability to cause significant damage to Iran, but the working assumption is that Iran will retaliate, which is why coordination with the U.S. is crucial. Iran is left without Hamas or Hezbollah as effective forces, but that doesn't mean Israel shouldn't prepare for a direct Iranian attack." American officials visiting Israel said on Tuesday. "It's important Tehran understands the U.S. is with us in such a case."

Gallant also planned to ask Austin during his visit for aid in the form of various types of weaponry, particularly additional missile defense batteries against Iranian missiles and systems that can support Israel's Arrow batteries both at sea and on land. Israel also intends to ask for heavy munitions, whose shipment has been delayed for months due to the ongoing war in Gaza.

At present, Israel doesn't face a shortage of munitions, but defense officials wish to prepare for future gaps that could arise in the event of a broader, all-out war.

Bibi-Biden relationship revealed in Bob Woodward's new book

Also on Tuesday, excerpts of veteran journalist Bob Woodward's new books were released that shed light on Biden's relationships with other world leaders, including Netanyahu.

"That son of a bitch, Bibi Netanyahu, he's a bad guy. He's a bad f***ing guy!" Biden said privately about the Netanyahu to one of his associates in the spring of 2024 against the backdrop of the Gaza war, Woodward writes.

Following Israel's entry into Rafah, Biden reportedly called Netanyahu a "f***ing liar." After the Israeli airstrike on Beirut in July that killed Fuad Shukur, Biden said, according to the book, "Bibi, what the hell?" and adding "You know, the perception of Israel around the world increasingly is that you're a rogue state, a rogue actor."

10.08.24 – Tu

Hostages Families met Qatari mediators, chances of returning alive diminishes

10.08.24 – Tu

Families of hostages met with Qatari representatives, Israel's UN envoy says
Danny Danon said that mediators are eager to reach a deal, adding: 'Every day the hostages remain in the tunnels, their chances of returning alive diminishes'
Sharon Kidon|12:27

Israel's ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, addressed ongoing negotiations for the release of hostages on Tuesday. "There was an important meeting between the families of the hostages and the Qatari ambassador," he said.

While Danon didn't attend the meeting, his comments followed a report from the Saudi network Al Arabiya that Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar had recently contacted Qatar after a prolonged period of silence, during which his status was uncertain.

Danon noted that "mediators, including Qatar, Egypt and especially the U.S., are working to advance the process. I hope this will gain momentum. We believe it will; we want negotiations and progress on a new deal. But military pressure is also important – the combination of both is crucial."

When asked about the meeting's content, Danon didn't share specifics. "I will just say that the mediators are eager to see some progress and are using their influence and capabilities. We should welcome that," he said. "As much as we despise Hamas and are determined to destroy it, we know that every day the hostages remain in the tunnels, their chances of survival diminish. That's why we must act as quickly as possible on all fronts."

Danon also discussed a UN ceremony marking the anniversary of October 7, which was attended by hundreds of ambassadors, diplomats and Jewish leaders. He emphasized its significance. "At the UN, people constantly speak against Israel, forgetting October 7 and focusing only on the suffering of the Gazans and Lebanese. Even ambassadors who aren't particularly supportive of us, when faced with a bereaved mother speaking about her two daughters murdered at the Nova music festival, or Rabbi Doron Peretz recounting how his son Daniel's body is being held by Hamas, it's hard to remain indifferent. That's why the event was so important."

Danon also addressed the absence of UN Secretary-General António Guterres from the event, explaining, "We have a very complex relationship. I've known him for many years—he used to come to my house for Shabbat dinners. But something changed in him. Since October 7 he has become extremely antagonistic. I proposed a dialogue to de-escalate tensions, but it hasn't happened. In my opinion, the secretary-general needs to be far more objective."

10.08.24 – Tu

Ceremony by Hezbollah Deputy preceded 100+ rockets fired at Haifa

10.08.24 – Tu

IDF: Over 100 rockets fired toward north in two separate volleys

Dozens of interceptions seen over north shortly following Hezbollah deputy chief's speech; rockets reportedly launched from sector where IDF operations began overnight; woman in her 70s moderately hurt by shrapnel in Haifa

Yoav Zitun, Lior El-Hai, Yair Kraus|04:42

Dozens of rocket interceptions in two separate volleys were observed Monday afternoon in the skies over northern Israel, including Haifa, Acre and the surrounding areas, following a series of rocket sirens.

A woman in her 70s was lightly to moderately wounded by shrapnel in Haifa. Magen David Adom (MDA) paramedics evacuated her to Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa, while additional teams were dispatched to survey locations where reports of impacts were received.

The first barrage occurred shortly after a speech by Hezbollah Deputy Secretary-General Naim Qassem, following the assassination of the terrorist group's leader Hassan Nasrallah, by Israeli forces in Beirut.

"Attempts to pressure and intimidate us will fail. We are inspired by Nasrallah's strength, and we are his sons. He left behind a legacy of strong resistance across a wide front," Qassem said, with a second rocket salvo fired about 30 minutes later. "Israel aimed to eliminate the resistance and destroy the Palestinian people, but the Palestinian people cannot be defeated."

Qassem also remarked on Lebanon's role, saying that "the Lebanese front has exhausted the enemy" and indicated that Hezbollah would only consider a cease-fire if efforts by Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri for a 21-day truce were successful. "We support the political process led by Berri for a cease-fire. Until then, there will be no discussion," Qassem said.

The IDF reported that approximately 85 rockets were launched from Lebanon in the first salvo and an additional 20 projectiles in the second barrage. Some impacts have been reported. The army added that Israeli forces struck Hezbollah terror targets in the Dahieh district of Beirut.

The heavy rocket barrage on Haifa originated from a sector where IDF operations began Monday night.

Earlier in the day, rocket sirens were also triggered in Tiberias and several nearby communities, including Mitzpeh, Kfar Hittim and Lavi. The IDF reported that 25 rockets had been fired from Lebanon, some of which were intercepted, while others landed in

open areas. The Tiberias municipality confirmed that three rockets exploded in open fields, and no injuries were reported.

Meanwhile, Lebanon's official news agency reported that three people were killed in an airstrike in Suhmur, in the western Bekaa Valley. Earlier reports indicated airstrikes in several locations in southern Lebanon, including Sarfa, Arzoun, Alma al-Shaab and other areas near the Israeli border.

10.08.24 – Tu

Northern Command chief Gordin heckled; implying residents could return in a month

10.08.24 – Tu

IDF general promises swift return to evacuated north, local leaders push back

Amid intense airstrikes in Lebanon and rocket fire on central Israel, Northern Command chief Ori Gordin tells frontline leaders residents could start returning home in weeks; 'We aren't returning until there's full security,' Kiryat Shmona mayor insists

Yair Kraus|02:06

Northern Command head Maj. Gen. Ori Gordin told local leaders Monday evening that residents of frontline communities near the Lebanese border could begin returning to their homes in phases within a month, sparking backlash from participants who called the timeline unrealistic.

The meeting, which lasted about 90 minutes, was held amid escalating military operations. Earlier that day, the Israeli Air Force conducted a major strike on over 120 targets in southern Lebanon in just one hour. Additional airstrikes targeted Hezbollah positions in Beirut's Dahieh district, with about 200 targets hit in total by day's end. Explosions from southern Lebanon were visible from the northern Israeli city of Nahariya and echoed as far as the Greater Haifa region.

A few hours after the meeting, long-range rockets were fired from Lebanon toward central Israel, marking the fourth such attack on central Israel since the start of the war, which began on October 7.

The IDF also issued new restrictions on southern Lebanon, prohibiting vessel movement south of the Awali River and warning of potential naval operations against Hezbollah. Shlomi and other border communities in the Western Galilee were declared closed military zones.

Local leaders expressed frustration after the meeting, particularly regarding Gordin's comments on returning residents. "He talked about short timelines, suggesting it could happen within weeks to a month, but only for communities not right along the border," one participant said. "It sounded overly optimistic."

Kiryat Shmona Mayor Avichai Stern, who did not attend the meeting, dismissed the notion of an imminent return. "No one is coming home until the threat is fully eliminated," Stern said, urging the military to focus on winning the war and leaving

decisions about the return of residents to political and municipal leaders. "We are not returning until there is full security in Kiryat Shmona and a plan for the city's reconstruction is approved."

David Azulay, head of the Metula Council, attended the meeting and said that while the IDF presented significant military achievements, the timeline for residents' return seemed unrealistic. "In my opinion, it is still far off, especially for my community," he said. Municipal leaders also voiced concerns about confidentiality breaches. Moti Hatiel, head of the Rosh Pina Council, expressed disappointment that details from the meeting were leaked, calling it "irresponsible" and damaging to trust between military and civilian officials.

Meanwhile, the Fighting for the North movement, representing hundreds of displaced families, sharply criticized Gordin's focus on a return timeline. "We will not accept anything less than a complete security overhaul, including reaching the Litani River and establishing a buffer zone," the group said in a statement, warning against halting military operations prematurely.

The IDF, in response, said it is working to ensure the safe return of northern residents according to directives from the political leadership. The military emphasized that while Gordin mentioned preparations for the possibility of residents returning, no specific timeline was promised.

10.08.24 – Tu

IDF targeted Hussein in Beirut airstrike; key to Iran arms transfers of guided missiles

10.08.24 – Tu

IDF confirms killing of Hezbollah logistics chief in Beirut airstrike

Suheil Hussein Hussein played key role in coordinating arms transfers between Iran and Hezbollah, oversaw unit involved in production of precision-guided missiles

Yoav Zitun|01:08

The IDF confirmed Tuesday morning the targeted killing of Suheil Hussein Hussein, the head of Hezbollah's logistics network, in an airstrike in Beirut the day before. The strike was carried out by Israeli fighter jets with precise intelligence guidance.

According to the IDF, Israeli Air Force fighter jets carried out the operation using precise intelligence guidance provided by the military's Intelligence Directorate.

Hussein led Hezbollah's logistics unit, which manages the group's budget and organizes its various operational systems, the IDF said. He played a key role in facilitating arms transfers between Iran and Hezbollah, overseeing the distribution of smuggled weapons to different units within the terrorist group, and managing transportation and resource allocation. Hussein was also a member of Hezbollah's Jihad Council, its senior military forum.

The logistics unit under Hussein's command also included Hezbollah's research and development division, which is involved in the production of precision-guided missiles and the storage and transportation of weapons within Lebanon.

As part of his responsibilities, Hussein was in charge of funding and logistics for some of Hezbollah's most sensitive projects, including operational plans for war and other special programs, such as launching attacks against Israel from Lebanon and Syria.

Hussein's assassination is the latest in a series of targeted killings in Beirut and Hezbollah's stronghold in the southern suburbs, known as the Dahieh. These strikes have reportedly eliminated key figures, including the group's leader Hassan Nasrallah and his prospective successor, Hashem Safieddine, as well as the leadership of Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force and several senior figures referred to within the group as "great jihad commanders."

10.08.24 – Tu

Katz calls France to leverage new president in Lebanon, opportunity to shift the balance

10.08.24 – Tu

Katz threatens no cooperation on Lebanon if France pushes Palestinian agenda

After Macron's call for arms embargo on Israel, FM meets French counterpart, saying, 'Friends don't call for an embargo; they help in times of hardship'; Katz stresses no cease-fire in Lebanon without enforcing UN resolutions

Itamar Eichner | Yesterday | 16:58

Foreign Minister Israel Katz warned on Monday that if France takes unilateral actions regarding the Palestinian issue, Israel would be unable to cooperate with France on the Lebanese front.

The warning, issued to French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot during a solidarity visit to Israel marking the one-year anniversary of the October 7 massacre, came just days after French President Emmanuel Macron called for an arms embargo on weapons used by Israel in its war in Gaza, a move that Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, heavily criticized.

"Friends don't call for an embargo; they help in times of hardship," Katz told his French counterpart according to a statement issued by his office after the meeting.

He added that if Israel withdrew from the West Bank, it would leave Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas vulnerable to a swift takeover by Hamas and Iran, just as occurred in Gaza in 2007.

"There will be no cease-fire that doesn't serve Israeli and French interests," Katz added. "A cease-fire will only be possible when northern Israeli residents can safely return to their homes and only after Hezbollah withdraws north of the Litani River and disarms."

Katz also highlighted the need for effective enforcement of UN Security Council Resolutions 1701 and 1559 in Lebanon, warning that if such mechanisms aren't established, Israel would act independently to enforce them. He stressed that Israel's actions are solely focused on securing its citizens and are not intended to interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs.

Responding to a question from Barrot, Katz clarified that Israel does not intend to evacuate Beirut residents but will target Hezbollah's terror hubs within the city. He also called on France to leverage Hezbollah's recent setbacks and push for the election of a new president in Lebanon, seeing an opportunity to shift the balance of power in the country.

On the Iranian front, Katz vowed that Israel would respond forcefully to last week's Iranian ballistic missile attack, noting that Hezbollah, Iran's primary proxy in the region, has suffered significant blows. He urged the international community to seize the moment to halt Iran's nuclear ambitions and support for terrorism.

Katz's comments follow Macron's call for a halt to arms deliveries to Israel, a move that Prime Minister Netanyahu also criticized during a phone call with the French leader on Sunday. Netanyahu's office reiterated that Israel "expects its friends to stand behind it and not impose restrictions that will only strengthen the Iranian axis of evil."

Government officials were not surprised by Macron's words, which are a direct continuation of the French line, which already supported the non-binding resolution initiated by the Palestinians at the UN General Assembly on September 18, which called for the imposition of an arms embargo on Israel.

However, French defense exports to Israel have been minimal in comparison to its global defense sales, amounting to just 20 million euros annually over the past decade.

10.07.24 – Mo

US officials believe Sinwar is still alive and making critical decisions with Qatar

10.07.24 – Mo

Sinwar resurfaces after weeks of silence, report says

Hamas leader reportedly made contact with Qatar in recent days after a prolonged period of silence, confirming that he is alive

Lior Ben Ari | 15:35

After weeks of uncertainty regarding his fate, Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar has resurfaced, making contact with Qatar in recent days after a prolonged period of silence, confirming that he is alive, Saudi network Al Arabiya reported Monday.

Since last month, Israeli intelligence had been investigating whether Sinwar had been injured or killed in one of the IDF's strikes in Gaza, after he was once again going incommunicado. Last week, in a high-level meeting attended by IDF Chief of Staff Herzi

Halevi, a question mark was placed over Sinwar's photo, reflecting uncertainty about his status.

The New York Times reported over the weekend that U.S. officials believe that Sinwar, the mastermind behind the October 7 massacre, is still alive and making "critical decisions," even a year after the attack.

Washington officials assess that Sinwar is determined to draw Israel into a regional war, especially after the IDF had entered southern Lebanon for the first time since 2006, and has no intention of negotiating a hostage deal.

The report also suggests that Sinwar is likely encouraged by the direct exchanges of fire between Israel and Iran, amid expectations that Israel will soon respond to last week's barrage of ballistic missiles. However, the report notes that Sinwar is frustrated by the lack of sufficient support from Hezbollah and Iran.

10.07.24 – Mo

Knesset push for specialized genocide court to prosecute October 7 culprits

10.07.24 – Mo

Lawmakers push for specialized genocide court to prosecute October 7 atrocities
Knesset members Simcha Rothman and Yulia Malinovsky to table bill to prosecute planners and perpetrators of October 7 massacre; previous attempts stalled due to concerns over hostage negotiations and challenges in identifying individual culprits
Tova Zimuky|13:53

Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee Chairman MK Simcha Rothman (the Religious Zionist Party) and MK Yulia Malinovsky (Yisrael Beytenu) are set to introduce a bill after the High Holidays to enable the prosecution of those responsible for the October 7, 2023 massacre in the Gaza border communities, Ynet learned on Monday.

Despite efforts over the past year to push the government toward legal action via Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara, progress has been stalled. The Security Cabinet has reportedly delayed prosecutions, citing concerns that legal action could hinder ongoing negotiations for the return of hostages held by Hamas and impact their treatment.

Additionally, the Cabinet is evaluating the possibility that some captured terrorists may be released in a future prisoner exchange, complicating the legal process. There are also legal challenges in securing enough evidence to tie specific perpetrators to individual crimes in the level of detail required by criminal courts.

Rothman and Malinovsky, from both sides of the political aisle, have been working through the Constitution Committee to address these issues since the massacre, with Rothman forming a secretive subcommittee last December to explore legal pathways. This subcommittee, which included Justice Minister Yariv Levin and Attorney General Baharav-Miara, debated the establishment of a specialized tribunal versus utilizing the district court system.

Under the proposed law, a "specialized court for genocide" would be created to focus specifically on the events of October 7, which will be classified as "genocide acts initiated by Hamas." The court will have the authority to prosecute those involved in the planning, incitement, or execution of the massacre.

The bill would also establish an administrative tribunal to determine terrorist participation in the massacre based on administrative evidence, allowing for the designation of perpetrators as unlawful combatants. A prosecution committee, including representatives from the Ministries of Justice, Defense, and Foreign Affairs, would oversee who among the group will face genocide charges under the Genocide Convention. "The government had a whole year to prepare for prosecuting those involved, but failed to make it a priority," MK Malinovsky said, stressing the moral duty to the victims and their families.

Rothman added that the new court would provide the legal framework needed to deliver justice for the unprecedented October 7 massacre.

10.07.24 – Mo

Over 135 rockets from Lebanon on Monday; IAF struck over 120 Hezbollah sites

10.07.24 – Mo

Yemen surface-to-surface missile triggers sirens across central Israel
IDF says projectile successfully intercepted by air defenses; over 135 rockets fired from Lebanon on Monday as north takes heavy fire; 100 Air Force planes carry out massive southern Lebanon aerial assault, targeting more than 120 Hezbollah terror sites in over an hour

Ynet|10:03

A surface-to-surface ballistic missile fired from Yemen triggered sirens across central Israel, the IDF said Monday afternoon, adding that the projectile had been successfully intercepted by air defenses.

The interception was made using the Arrow 3 long-range missile defense system, designed to take out incoming ballistic missiles outside the atmosphere.

Warning alerts were issued for 132 localities across central Israel due to fear of rocket fragments. As a result, flights from Ben Gurion Airport were grounded but reinstated shortly after.

There were no immediate reports of casualties or property damage. Fire and Rescue Services reported that firefighting teams were dispatched to locations around Beit Shemesh and the Mateh Yehuda Regional Council to contain fires apparently caused by interception fragments.

After the missile launch, senior Houthi official Nasruddin Amer wrote on X, "To the shelters, Zionists, this is October 7, this is the Al-Aqsa flood."

During the sirens, preparations were underway for the National Memorial Ceremony in Yarkon Park, where footage showed over 100 international journalists, who had come to cover the ceremony, lying on the ground for protection.

In the past 24 hours, Israel has been attacked from Yemen, Iraq, Lebanon and Gaza. Some interception attempts missed their targets and are being investigated by the Air Force, though, across all fronts, 90% of launches have been intercepted over the past year. The missile launch from Yemen occurred a few hours after a large-scale IDF operation in southern Lebanon, which was followed by heavy rocket barrages aimed at the Haifa Bay area, the Galilee Panhandle and Kiryat Shmona. The strikes targeted Hezbollah command nodes in southern Lebanon to support forces fighting along front-line villages. In total, 100 Israeli Air Force planes carried out a massive aerial assault, targeting more than 120 Hezbollah terror sites in southern Lebanon for over an hour. The IDF said it hit key sites, including Hezbollah's Southern Front geographic units, the Radwan Force, rocket and missile capabilities and the terrorist group's intelligence headquarters in southern Lebanon.

These strikes continued the waves of attacks in Beirut, where Hezbollah's weapons factories and storage facilities were bombed, some located in basements, buildings and underground. The IDF identified that these large weapons stockpiles were moved by Hezbollah from the Bekaa Valley and other areas in Lebanon to Beirut's Dahieh district, hoping they would be protected.

"We have reason to believe our intelligence on the targets in Lebanon is better than what we had on Hamas over the years. But this is why we're not satisfied with just airstrikes, and we're also conducting ground operations in the front-line villages where Hezbollah has based its plan to invade the Galilee," IDF officials said.

"As for our performance against what the enemy has done, there were no operational surprises. The Air Force's functional continuity and operational activity have not been disrupted at any point."

Earlier, sirens were triggered in Kiryat Shmona, Manara, Margalioth and Kfar Blum in the Galilee Panhandle, with approximately 25 rockets launched from Lebanon as part of the volley.

Additional sirens were heard in the Haifa Bay area, Acre and Nahariya, with multiple interceptions documented over the Haifa Bay skies.

Since the morning, a total of 135 rocket launches from Lebanon have been recorded in the region.

Also on Monday, the IDF said five rockets were launched from the Gaza Strip's Khan Younis, setting off alarms in Tel Aviv and neighboring cities across central Israel. One rocket landed in the city of Holon and another in the ultra-Orthodox community of Kfar Chabad near Ben Gurion Airport, where 2 people were lightly hurt.

Meanwhile, the IDF launched a targeted strike in Beirut's Dahieh district, a Hezbollah stronghold, hitting the area where Hashem Safieddine, the designated successor to Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, was targeted.

Meanwhile, Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese newspaper Al Akhbar reported that three residents of the village of Khiam in southern Lebanon were killed in an Israeli drone

strike near the Jdeide-Marjayoun road. The victims were reportedly inside their vehicle at the time of the strike.

10.07.24 – Mo

Massive prison raids uncover PA inmates terror plot to riot on October 7 anniversary

10.07.24 – Mo

Massive prison raids uncover terror plot to riot on October 7 anniversary

Prison Service special forces carry out coordinated raids on prisons nationwide, targeting inmates, including Nukhba terrorists involved in October 7 massacre, uncovering makeshift weapons and foil plot to use hidden electrical wires to strangle guards
Liran Tamari|06:06

Israel Prison Service special forces raided cells housing convicted terrorists and security detainees on Monday, including members of Hamas' elite Nukhba forces, which were at the center of the October 7 massacre last year.

The pre-dawn raid saw officers using stun grenades and entering cells from all directions. After relocating the prisoners, security forces conducted searches and uncovered makeshift knives and other materials. Intelligence indicated that some inmates intended to use hidden electrical wires to attack guards, which was confirmed by the condition of electric sockets found in some cells.

Prison Service Chief Commissioner Kobi Yaakovi said the authority had prepared for any potential unrest and emphasized its zero-tolerance policy toward terrorist activity. National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir visited Ofer Prison near Jerusalem to observe the operation.

10.07.24 – Mo

347 Irish UN fighters of UNIFIL's 10,000 troops refuse IDF demand to move north

10.07.24 – Mo

UNIFIL rejects IDF demand to move north of fighting

Military urges peacekeepers to move 5 kilometers north to avoid the fighting; Irish president says Israeli demand is 'outrageous' after his soldiers make up a considerable portion of the UNIFIL deployment

Itamar Eichner|04:23

UNIFIL forces in South Lebanon refused an Israeli request to move five kilometers to the north to avoid the fighting and allow the troops to complete clearing villages along the border of Hezbollah fighters so that the residents of the north can return safely to their homes.

UNIFIL claimed the IDF was endangering their troops after Israeli tanks took up positions near the peacekeeping force.

Ireland, which has 347 of its soldiers deployed among the UN force's 10,000-strong presence in Lebanon, refused the IDF's request, even though 30 Irish soldiers were deployed close to the fighting.

The government in Dublin officially told Israel that it refuses to move the UNIFIL force, resulting in an exchange of blame between the Israeli embassy there and Irish President Michael Higgins, a known critic of Israel.

"It is outrageous that the Israel Defense Forces have threatened this peacekeeping force and sought to have them evacuate the villages they are defending," Higgins said earlier this week adding that Israel is in violation of UN resolution 1701.

"There is an obligation on Israel and Hezbollah to respect the role of UN peacekeepers and their mandate, and do nothing that would put peacekeepers and our troops in particular in harm's way," he said.

The Israeli embassy in Dublin said in a statement that the accusation that Israeli troops threatened peacekeepers was false and that the IDF asked UNIFIL to move north for their own safety.

"Let's be clear, the peacekeeping forces have great importance in Israel. The attempt to describe their actions as a threat to UNIFIL is another baseless and defamatory charge, the likes of which we have observed in recent months," the embassy said in a statement.

UNIFIL Spokesperson Andrea Teneti said the peacekeeping force will continue to carry out its duties. "UN continues to be in contact with the relevant actors on both sides of the Blue Line to de-escalate the situation," he said.

10.07.24 – Mo

Statistics of One Year: 728 fallen troops, over 25,000 rockets fired at Israel

10.07.24 – Mo

728 fallen troops, over 25,000 rockets fired at Israel in year of war

IDF reports over 14,000 eliminated terrorists in Gaza, 800 in Lebanon; 347 soldiers and one female soldier have fallen since the Gaza ground operation, while 10 soldiers have fallen in Lebanon; and 4,576 soldiers have been wounded

Korin Elbaz-Alush|03:28

On the anniversary of the October 7 massacre, the deadliest event in Israel's history, the IDF released a comprehensive report on Monday detailing the toll since the beginning of the war.

The report includes data on casualties, the wounded –both physically and mentally – and missile launches that have disrupted daily life in Israel, along with operational successes and the inspiring mobilization of reservists.

Since the war began, 728 IDF soldiers have fallen, and of these 347 fighters and one female soldier were killed since the start of the ground maneuver in Gaza, while 10 soldiers have been killed in southern Lebanon since Israel launched Operation Northern Arrows.

Additionally, 56 soldiers have died in operational accidents, including 28 from friendly fire incidents and 20 from accidents such as vehicular mishaps and mishandling of ordnance. Other causes include shooting accidents, hazardous materials and air incidents. A total of 4,576 soldiers have been wounded since the war started, 2,299 of them since the ground incursion in Gaza began. Of the total, 1,037 were injured in operational accidents, including weapon malfunctions, hazardous materials exposure and friendly fire. Some 29 soldiers remain hospitalized in serious condition, 151 in moderate condition, and 16 are lightly injured. Since the start of the war, approximately 4,100 soldiers have been evacuated via helicopters and vehicles. Additionally, around 15,000 soldiers have been treated for trauma-related symptoms, with 82% returning to active combat.

The response to the "emergency call-up" orders, known as Tzav 8, has been described as "inspiring" by the IDF. Around 300,000 reservists have been mobilized since the war began, 20% of them women. The majority, or 46.5%, are aged 20-29. Nearly 5% of the reservists are men aged 50-59, with more than 1% from the 60-69 age group. Reservists have received approximately 7.6 billion shekels in grants as of last month. Throughout the war, tens of thousands of rockets have been launched at Israel. By October 2, 2024, approximately 13,200 rockets had been fired from Gaza, 12,400 from Lebanon, around 400 from Iran, 180 from Yemen, and 60 from Syria. Due to the volume of attacks, Israeli citizens have heavily relied on the Home Front Command's online portal, which recorded 180.3 million visits and 750,000 emergency hotline calls as of last month.

The IDF has reported significant operational achievements. Since the start of the war, around 14,000 terrorists were killed in Gaza, with an additional 3,000 likely neutralized by the end of last month. This includes eight high-ranking commanders, 30 battalion leaders, and around 165 company commanders. In northern Israel, over 800 terrorists have been killed, including 90 commanders. In the Central Command, over 690 terrorists have been eliminated. Meanwhile, IDF Unit 504 has conducted approximately 7,000 interrogations since the war began.

In the past year of fighting, Israel has struck countless targets. More than 40,000 airstrikes have been carried out in Gaza, and around 4,700 tunnels have been discovered. In the north, nearly 5,000 airstrikes and around 6,000 ground targets have been hit.

While the main theaters of war are in the north and south, military operations have also been ongoing in the Central Command. More than 10,000 raids have been carried out, and over 5,000 suspects have been arrested in the West Bank and the Jordan Valley.

About 30 homes belonging to terrorists have been demolished, and around 1,000 weapons have been seized.

During the war, the IDF has distributed vast quantities of logistical supplies, including around 70,000 personal weapons, 94,000 ceramic vests, 95,000 combat vests, and over 30,000 helmets. Additionally, 1.2 million uniforms, 138,000 sleeping bags, 185,000 protective goggles, and around 225,000 mattresses have been handed out. To sustain the troops, approximately 4 million tons of combat rations, 28 tons of fruits and vegetables, and 920,000 tons of protein bars, cookies, candy, and gum have been supplied. The IDF has also highlighted the generous food donations from civilians for the soldiers on the frontlines.

10.07.24 – Mo

PM hostage meeting discuss Hamas figures abroad may negotiate instead of Sinwar

10.07.24 – Mo

Netanyahu holds hostage deal meeting on eve of October 7

For first time in a month, PM convenes security discussion on 'new ideas' to break deadlock in hostage negotiations; sources privy to details say Sinwar not responding; intelligence reports suggest half of 101 hostages alive but in critical conditions
Itamar Eichner, Yael Ciechanover|17:09

On Sunday evening, on the eve of the anniversary of the October 7 Hamas massacre, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened an unusual meeting to address the stalemate in negotiations for the release of hostages held in Gaza for a full year.

The Prime Minister's Office reported that the meeting included security chiefs, hostages and missing persons coordinator Gal Hirsch, and several government ministers.

During the meeting, security officials presented an intelligence assessment previously disclosed by Netanyahu, indicating that about half of the 101 hostages held by Hamas are alive, but their condition is dire.

"The captors have made their conditions much worse. There are clear instructions for the captors that if they sense danger and that the IDF is approaching, they are to execute the hostages, as happened in Tel Sultan (in Rafah) with the six hostages who were murdered." Officials in the meeting claimed: "As time passes, there is less and less intelligence on the hostages, which is very concerning."

Sources familiar with the details added that no discussion on the hostages had taken place for an entire month, and Sunday evening's meeting was the first held in the last month. They suggested Netanyahu convened the meeting on the eve of the October 7 massacre anniversary "to fulfill an obligation" and to avoid accusations of neglect. According to them, mediators are distancing themselves from the Israeli position, and Qatar is leaning more toward Hamas. "The U.S. just wants to avoid escalation and lives in a fantasy that

everything can be settled with Iran, the north and Gaza by resolving everything together," a mediator said.

Negotiations for a deal are at an impasse. There is no progress. Sinwar is entrenched. Knowledgeable sources also stated that the Israeli-American argument that they do not know the whereabouts of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar, and thus cannot make a deal, is inaccurate, as discussions can still occur with senior Hamas figures abroad. "There is an impression that no one is dealing with this, not even the mediators, and everyone has given up. The feeling is that it is no longer a priority, overshadowed by the fear of regional war," a source said.

Despite the significant pessimism from these sources, Israel has been considering new ideas regarding the deal in recent weeks, and mediators are also exploring different ideas with Hamas, but everything remains stalled, and Sinwar has not responded. Meanwhile, there are questions about whether Sinwar is even alive or if he is out of contact for another reason.

"Negotiations for a deal are at an impasse. There is no progress. Sinwar is entrenched," a source familiar with the details said Sunday evening. "We are waiting for the impact from the north and, in the meantime, we are considering ideas about what can be done," a source added, referring to the current battles in the ground operation in southern Lebanon. Netanyahu himself has publicly assessed that a severe blow to Hezbollah would also help increase pressure on Sinwar to reach a deal.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant met with hostage families at Hostage Square in Tel Aviv, ahead of the Salon Otefe event marking the anniversary of their loved ones' abductions.

"The families expressed to the minister the deep pain they are experiencing in these difficult days and asked him to remind all Cabinet ministers and the government that the war's ultimate goal is the return of the 101 hostages," the Hostages and Missing Families Forum reported. However, Gallant noted the Cabinet has not discussed the hostage issue for two weeks.

"In addition, the families expressed grave concern over the IDF's return to fighting in the northern Gaza Strip as, unfortunately, we have seen that military pressure kills hostages. The Defense Minister stated that the issue of the hostages' presence in the area is a top priority for the IDF, and the entire security system is committed to returning all the hostages home," the headquarters reported.

10.07.24 – Mo

New footage released from Oct. 7 massacre, fought in several areas of southern Israel

10.07.24 – Mo

Terrorist shoots down IDF drone, civilian medic seen in battle: New footage emerges from Oct. 7 massacre

On the eve of the anniversary of the Hamas massacre, the IDF has released exclusive footage from the heroic battles at Kibbutz Re'im and the Sderot police station Yoav Zitun|16:02

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit on Sunday released new footage from the battles on October 7, marking the anniversary of the massacre and the outbreak of the war. In footage from Kibbutz Re'im, forces from the 888 Multidimensional Unit are seen fighting terrorists, alongside Border Police forces who joined the battle in the kibbutz.

In the dramatic footage, a civilian is shown tending to a soldier during the fighting, while a terrorist can be seen shooting at an IDF drone. The video also captures soldiers taking cover behind houses, engaging with terrorists even as a grenade is thrown at them, and the Border Police forces linking up with IDF soldiers at the kibbutz.

Additional footage released by the IDF shows a tank crew from the 401st Brigade of the 162nd Division engaged in the fierce 20-hour battle at the Sderot police station. On October 7, forces from the 162nd Division fought in several areas in southern Israel, including Sderot.

One of the toughest battles occurred at the police station, where reservists from the 188th Brigade, engineers from the Southern Command, and officers from the 401st Brigade, led by then-Brigadier General Beni Aharon, fought as a tank team alongside other security forces in a grueling battle against terrorists who had taken over the station.

The station was only fully liberated at 3 a.m. after intense exchanges of fire. Southern District Commander Amir Cohen had earlier ordered that the situation be resolved at all costs, even if it meant destroying the station. Around 10 p.m. on October 7, a bulldozer began demolishing part of the station. The following day, bulldozers finished destroying the remainder of the station.

IDF Chief of Staff's letter for October 7:

"We will persist in this war – and we will win"

On the eve of the war's anniversary, Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi sent a letter to IDF soldiers and commanders, stating: "We are fighting! For a year now, we have been in the midst of a complex, multi-front war, with many significant and extensive achievements. Many challenges still lie ahead. IDF soldiers are deployed and fighting with strength on all fronts without stopping.

"This is a long war, measured not only by capabilities but also by willpower and perseverance over time. For our enemies – every month, every week, and every day is worse than the one before. Even after the campaign ends, we will need to maintain our achievements, and our enemies will know, beyond any doubt, that there will be no revival for those who seek to destroy us.

"A year has passed since October 7th, the day we failed in our mission to protect the citizens of the State of Israel. We are now in the Ten Days of Repentance. October 7th is not only a day of remembrance but also a call for deep introspection. A recognition of our failures and a commitment to learning from them, while assessing the challenges, both those we have faced and those that still await us.

"We began this year from a difficult and painful point, but we regained our composure, advanced forward to fight, and grew stronger – from this combat, a generation of warriors and commanders has emerged – with unparalleled combat experience and unwavering courage, leading the IDF in one of the most complex wars we have known. People are the key to fulfilling these difficult missions. Alongside us are the reservists, fighting with unparalleled dedication, over a long and challenging period. Every one of you is part of this campaign, of our just war. Today, I want to say to you – your commitment, courage, and steadfast spirit demonstrated over the past year are a source of deep pride for every citizen of Israel and for me as your commander.

"A year has passed, and we have defeated the military wing of Hamas, and we continue to fight against the organization's terrorist capabilities; We have dealt a severe blow to Hezbollah, which has lost all of its senior leadership. We are not stopping – we fight, debrief, learn, and improve. We are taking an offensive, tactical, and proactive approach on all fronts, adapting our defensive strategies on all borders, and understanding that the IDF must be a greater army that takes good care of its people. We are destroying our enemies' capabilities, and we will ensure that these capabilities are not rebuilt, so that October 7th is never repeated.

"Many challenges still lie ahead in achieving the war's objectives – defeating the enemy, returning the hostages – an urgent mission of the highest moral value – and returning the civilians to their homes. Let us remember the words of the author of Ecclesiastes:

"Whatever it is in your power to do, do with all your might." It is in our power, in your power, to take action and to succeed. Remember those who sacrificed their lives for the homeland – the fallen, their families, and the wounded, in both spirit and body, who face the consequences of their heroism every day – thanks to them, we are here. We will continue to walk with them and in their light.

"At the start of the new year, let us remember and remind ourselves and our enemies – this is a war for our right to be a free people in our land, as well as for our values, beliefs, and the righteousness of our path. We will persevere, and we will win. Continue with this strength, the eyes of the entire nation are upon us. I am with you at every step."

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10.06.24 – Su

Israel haters UNRWA, the ICC, and UN among 2024 Nobel Peace Prize contenders

10.06.24 – Su

Prominent Israel haters among 2024 Nobel Peace Prize contenders

As the Nobel Prize announcements begin, attention in Jerusalem is drawn to Friday's Peace Prize announcement, which could stir controversy; Top contenders, including UNRWA, the ICC, and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, have sparked tension with Israel

Reuters, AP|13:16

For ardent enthusiasts of Nobel Prize announcements, this week is a thrilling time, particularly with the buzz surrounding Friday's revelation in Oslo of the Nobel Peace Prize laureate. This announcement holds special significance, coinciding with the anniversary of October 7.

This year, speculation swirls around several high-profile nominees, some of which will most definitively raise some Israeli eyebrows. Among these are the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), which Israel criticizes and accuses of complicity in the October 7 violence; the International Criminal Court, which is pursuing cases against Israel; and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, recently declared unwelcome by Israel for not strongly condemning Iran's attack and for saying that October 7 "did not happen in a vacuum."

The Nobel Peace Prize committee, known for its unpredictability, might surprise us yet again this year. Historically, the prize has been withheld 19 times, the last time in 1972. Dan Smith, a peace researcher from Stockholm, suggests that perhaps this year the committee might opt not to award the prize to anyone, highlighting the global climate of conflict.

With 286 candidates vying for recognition, this year's roster includes prominent figures including Pope Francis and David Attenborough. Speculation also surrounds figures like the late Alexei Navalny and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, though geopolitical complexities make their wins unlikely.

Julian Assange, Elon Musk, and former U.S. President Donald Trump are also reportedly in the mix, with the latter recognized for his role in the Abraham Accords.

Experts suggest that, given the tumultuous events of 2024 – from the Middle East's ongoing conflicts to the prolonged Russia-Ukraine war and the humanitarian crisis in Sudan – the prize might go to humanitarian activists aiding those in war-torn regions.

UNRWA emerges as a potential candidate for its efforts to assist Palestinians amid the Gaza conflict, although such a choice could be contentious due to allegations of involvement in violence. Meanwhile, the committee might also focus on reinforcing the post-WWII global order, hinting at potential recognition for Guterres or the International Criminal Court.

Other nominees reportedly include organizations like EcoPeace and Women Wage Peace, lauded for promoting Israeli-Palestinian peace. Palestinian and Israeli groups documenting human rights issues also feature among the contenders.

Despite the possibility of no award being given, as noted by Dan Smith due to rising military investments worldwide, others argue that the prize remains crucial for advocating peace.

Nobel announcements begin on Monday with the prize for medicine, followed by physics, chemistry, and literature throughout the week, culminating with the prize for economics next Monday. The Peace Prize, unique in its Oslo announcement, remains the highlight for many Nobel enthusiasts.

10.06.24 – Su

A year into war statistics, the shocking civilian toll since October 7 revealed

10.06.24 – Su

A year into war, the shocking civilian toll since October 7 revealed

On eve of Hamas massacre's first anniversary, National Insurance Institute data shows 885 civilians, including 53 minors and 72 foreign nationals, killed, 70,000 wounded and 1,000 orphaned; Of 101 hostages in Gaza, 73 are civilians, 52 believed to be alive
Hadar Gil-Ad|08:45

One year after the October 7 massacre and the onset of war, Israel's National Insurance Institute reported Sunday that 885 civilians were killed in terror attacks over the past year.

These figures exclude security forces, who are handled by the Defense Ministry. Of the 885 victims, 581 were men, 304 were women, 72 were foreign nationals and 53 were under the age of 18.

The report revealed that during the war year, four infants and toddlers aged 0-3 were killed, as well as two children aged 3-5, three children aged 5-8, nine children aged 8-12, eight adolescents aged 12-14 and 27 teenagers aged 14-18.

The war left 921 people orphaned, including 291 minors, and 226 individuals widowed, with 47 men and 179 women losing their spouses.

Additionally, 1,078 parents became bereaved, including 581 mothers and 498 fathers. Among them, 120 have lost all their children. A total of 1,880 civilians lost siblings, including 998 men and 882 women. Twelve families experienced multiple losses (not including families that have been wiped out completely).

Following the October 7 massacre, 217 civilians were kidnapped to Gaza (not including security forces), with 143 civilians returned so far. Among them, 116 were released alive (92 Israelis and 24 foreign nationals), while 27 were returned as deceased.

Currently, 74 civilians remain held hostage, including 52 believed to be alive and 22 presumed dead. In total, 101 hostages are in Gaza, including those from the security forces, as well as Russian Israeli researcher Elizabeth Tsurkov who has been held in Iraq by pro-Iranian militias since March 2023.

The National Insurance Institute also reported that over 70,000 civilians have been treated as victims of terrorism since the war began. Of the total victims this year, 647 were foreign nationals affected by the October 7 attack in southern Israel. More than 12,700 have applied for permanent disability benefits, with 11,760 cases based on psychological trauma.

Over the past year, the institute paid more than NIS 2.4 billion (\$630 million) in compensation and support for bereaved families and terror victims. The government has also distributed financial aid to residents in northern and southern Israel affected by the conflict, totaling NIS 3.5 billion (\$920 million).

"We mourn the lives cruelly taken by a merciless enemy, and we will continue to support the victims of terror. We will not rest until all hostages are returned home," Labor Minister Yoav Ben-Tzur said on the tragic passing year.

"Our staff works tirelessly to assist bereaved families, terror victims, hostages and the displaced, while continuing our regular services such as nursing care, unemployment benefits and elderly pensions. We see this work as a public mission of the highest order," said **National Insurance Institute** Acting Director Zvika Cohen.

10.06.24 – Su

UN appeal; Knesset bill could cease Hamas ties with UNRWA starting on Monday

10.06.24 – Su

UN chief in letter to Netanyahu: UNRWA is in danger

Antonio Guterres in urgent appeal to prime minister asks to repel proposed bill that would remove immunity and benefits organization receives in Israel

Itamar Eichner|06:26

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres sent an urgent letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu during Rosh Hashana expressing his deep concern about legislation in the Knesset targeting UNRWA. He warned that if the legislation passes, UNRWA will be unable to continue operating and would then need to raise the issue at the UN General

According to the proposed law, all government representatives would be prohibited from engaging with UNRWA. This means that the foreign and interior ministries would not be able to issue entry visas for UNRWA staff and customs officials won't process goods imported by the agency. Tax benefits granted to the organization would be revoked. The Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee is now discussing the proposed law and representatives from the National Security Council (NSC) have requested that the details be classified. Some Knesset members, however, oppose the proposed bill. The bill stipulates that ties with UNRWA will officially cease starting on Monday, and the agency will lose its diplomatic status and immunity, which it has enjoyed since 1967. Another clause in the bill specifies that UNRWA employees involved in Hamas' October 7 attack won't enjoy diplomatic immunity under Israeli law, meaning they could be prosecuted for their crimes.

In his letter to Netanyahu, Guterres wrote, "It's deeply concerning that legislation is being considered in a member state of the United Nations that would fundamentally contradict the principles of the UN Charter."

"The draft legislation currently under discussion in the Knesset, if passed, could prevent UNRWA from continuing its operations in the occupied Palestinian territories, thereby denying Palestinian refugees in Gaza and the West Bank the essential aid and protection that UNRWA has provided them since 1949," he said.

"UNRWA operates in nearly 400 schools and more than 65 health clinics in the occupied Palestinian territories, providing education to more than 350,000 children and over 5

million medical consultations annually. UNRWA also provides vital assistance to the poor and social services,” Guterres wrote.

“Amid the current crisis in Gaza, UNRWA is the backbone of the UN’s humanitarian organization, offering lifesaving aid, shelter and support to the vast majority of Gaza’s nearly 2.3 million residents, all of whom are affected by the conflict.”

“Given the gravity of the matter, I will need to bring it to the attention of the General Assembly if the draft legislation is adopted,” Guterres explained. “This would be a deeply concerning development in the UN’s history, where a member state passes legislation requiring no contact between its authorities and a United Nations entity, in this case, UNRWA. It’s impossible to separate UNRWA from the UN. It is an integral part of it.”

In his letter, Guterres emphasized that UNRWA’s privileges and immunities would continue to apply to its staff, regardless of the legislation passed by the Knesset. “I hope it will be possible for your government to take the necessary steps to avoid the adoption of this legislation,” he concluded.

In response to the letter, Israel’s Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon said, “The State of Israel has provided the UN with information on over 100 UNRWA employees who participated in the October 7 massacre. The UN’s own internal investigation determined that some UNRWA employees are Hamas terrorists.”

“UNRWA has failed both professionally — in building educational and economic infrastructure — and morally, by allowing free access for Hamas terrorists to use its resources to carry out a barbaric and brutal massacre. The UN would do better to focus its efforts on severing UNRWA’s ties with Hamas, rather than worrying about visas and tax benefits for terrorists. UNRWA has become a part of Hamas and it’s time the UN recognizes that,” he added.

10.06.24 – Su

Under massive fire: IDF encircled center of Gaza & dismantle weapons depots

10.06.24 – Su

Under massive fire: IDF’s tactical play in Jabaliya

Numerous terrorists eliminated in surprise overnight northern Gaza operation, as forces reinforced in anticipation of potential attacks on troops in Gaza or rocket fire, possibly reaching central Israel, on October 7 anniversary

Yoav Zitun|05:41

The IDF launched an intense overnight raid on Jabaliya in northern Gaza, striking from two directions and inflicting heavy casualties on terrorist, the IDF reported on Sunday.

The operation, led by the 162nd Division, began late Saturday after troops redeployed from the Philadelphi Corridor on the Egyptian border to northern Gaza, with the military indicating it would last for several days.

"The operation will continue as long as necessary to systematically destroy terrorist infrastructure," the IDF said, adding that it has drawn and implemented lessons learned from the execution of six hostages in Rafah by Hamas terrorists after Israeli forces approached their location.

In Rafah, where the 162nd Division handed control to Gaza Division forces, operations to locate and destroy terror tunnels continue. Meanwhile, the Netzarim Corridor has been expanded toward Wadi Gaza to the south and the southern neighborhoods of Gaza City to the north.

"We are in a strong position to act against Hezbollah with forces we have shifted from the south while simultaneously striking in Gaza," the IDF said. "Decisions will need to be made regarding an alternative to Hamas governance, as Hamas' civilian authority is weakened and its control capabilities are elsewhere."

Ahead of the anniversary of the October 7 attack, Southern Command has bolstered its forces to reinforce security amid concerns of possible terror attacks. The military warned of potential rocket fire or assaults from Gaza-based terrorist groups.

"Our forces are operating in the north, south and center of Gaza, conducting numerous strikes and eliminating terrorists," Southern Command head Maj. Gen. Yaron Finkelman said. "Southern Command is on high alert for the coming days."

Palestinian media reported widespread strikes in the Jabaliya area, while the IDF announced a targeted airstrike on a Hamas complex in the city. According to the military, air force jets struck Hamas terrorists operating from a command and control center previously used as a UNRWA facility.

"The command center was used by Hamas terrorists to plan and execute attacks against IDF forces and Israel," the IDF said, noting that precautions were taken to minimize civilian harm, including the use of precision munitions and aerial surveillance.

The IDF confirmed that the 162nd Division's troops encircled Jabaliya and are actively engaging in operations to dismantle terrorist infrastructure. Prior to and during the raid, the Air Force conducted multiple strikes on military targets, including weapons depots, underground facilities and terrorist cells.

Meanwhile, Hamas' Interior Ministry urged residents of northern Gaza to stay in their homes, defying Israeli warnings to evacuate to the south.

10.06.24 – Su

Trojan horse inside Hezbollah: New details on Lebanon pager attack

10.06.24 – Su

Trojan horse inside Hezbollah: New details on Lebanon pager attack

New report sheds light on explosions of thousands of Hezbollah communications devices which detonated in operation linked to Mossad

Daniel Edelson, New York|04:41

The Washington Post published a report Sunday overnight providing more details into the pager attack in Lebanon against Hezbollah which is attributed to Israel. "Also invisible was Mossad's remote access to the devices. An electronic signal from the intelligence service could trigger the explosion of thousands of the devices at once," the report read.

The new details of the operation attributed to the Mossad were gathered from interviews conducted by the outlet with Israeli, American and Arab security officials, politicians and diplomats briefed on the events and official Lebanese sources and individuals close to Hezbollah.

According to one source, Hezbollah's terrorists needed to press two buttons simultaneously to read the encrypted message. "In practice," the source noted, "this meant using both hands." He added that in the explosion triggered by reading the message, the pager holders would almost certainly "wound both their hands," and thus "would be incapable to fight."

The sources described a years-long plan conceived at Mossad headquarters in Tel Aviv, ultimately involving a team of agents and operational partners from various countries, many of whom were unaware of the larger mission.

According to the outlet, the operation sparked a debate between Israel's security officials. A political source summarized the anxiety over the operation with a sarcastic remark during a meeting with Mossad officials: "We cannot make a strategic decision such as an escalation in Lebanon while counting on a toy," referring to the pagers. Reportedly, Israeli decision-makers weren't aware of the plan until September 12, five days before it was carried out. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu then convened a meeting with intelligence officials, who revealed the preparations.

Other attendees were concerned about approving the Mossad's plan, fearing it could lead to full-scale war. Some noted that "there were some risks," but intelligence officers warned that Hezbollah, in light of the rising tensions, might take additional precautions and discover the explosives. The Mossad saw the chance to carry out "something more intense," according to The Washington Post.

The devices were designed by the Mossad and assembled in Israel. The Israeli agency had worked to infiltrate Hezbollah using electronic surveillance and human informants for years, the Washington Post reported.

Over time, Hezbollah leaders became concerned about their vulnerability to Israeli surveillance and cyberattacks, fearing even ordinary phones could be used for eavesdropping and monitoring under Israeli control.

As a result, the idea emerged in Israel to create a type of communication device that would serve as a "Trojan horse," a political source told the outlet. Hezbollah sought a cyberattack-resistant electronic network, and the Mossad devised two plans that would lead the terror organization to acquire communication devices that seemed perfect for the job — equipment designed by the intelligence agency and assembled in Israel.

As part of the operation's first phase, the booby-trapped communication devices began arriving in Lebanon via the Mossad nearly a decade ago, in 2015. These portable two-

way radios contained relatively large battery packs, hidden explosives and a transmission system that gave Israel full access to Hezbollah's communications.

Sources interviewed by the newspaper said Israel was content with eavesdropping on Hezbollah for nine years, while maintaining the ability to turn the radios into bombs in a future crisis. But then a new opportunity arose with a new product: a small pager equipped with powerful explosives.

Coordinated blasts of Hezbollah communication devices

Since the terror organization's leaders were cautious about the possibility of sabotage in the radios they purchased, the pagers couldn't be manufactured in Israel, the U.S., or any of Jerusalem's allies.

In 2023, Hezbollah began receiving offers to purchase large quantities of communication devices from Gold Apollo, a Taiwanese company known for its trademark and global product line which had no ties to Israeli or Jewish interests. According to the sources, the Taiwanese company was unaware of the plan.

The offer came through a sales representative with ties to Gold Apollo, who was trusted by Hezbollah. This sales representative, whose identity and country of origin officials refused to disclose, was a former sales representative for the Taiwanese company in the Middle East.

She later started her own company and received a license to sell pagers under the Apollo brand. At some point in 2023, she offered Hezbollah a deal on one of her company's products, the reliable AR-924 device.

"She was the one in touch with Hezbollah, and explained to them why the bigger pager with the larger battery was better than the original model," an Israeli official briefed on the operation's details told the outlet. According to him, one of the key selling points of the AR-924 was that it was "possible to charge with a cable. And the batteries were longer lasting."

10.06.24 – Su

IAF targets dozens of north Gaza terrorist cells & underground weapons storage sites

10.06.24 – Su

IDF launches renewed offensive on Jabaliya as Hamas attempts to regroup in Gaza
Military reports two divisions redeployed to Gazan city following intelligence indicating terror group attempting to rearm there; heavy airstrikes reported as part of renewed assault

Ynet|02:41

The IDF announced Sunday that Israeli forces stationed at the Philadelphi Corridor in the southern Gaza Strip have redeployed to Jabaliya, following intelligence that Hamas terrorists are attempting to rearm and reorganize in the Palestinian enclave's north.

"Following prior IDF intelligence, an ongoing situational assessment, and IDF activity in the field that all indicated the presence of terrorists and terror infrastructure in the area of

Jabaliya in the northern Gaza Strip, as well as efforts by Hamas to rebuild its operational capabilities in the area, the 162nd Division began operating in the Jabaliya area Sunday overnight,” the military said in a statement.

“The troops of the 401st Brigade and the 460th Brigade have successfully encircled the area and are currently continuing to operate in the area,” it added.

The military added that during the operation “the IAF struck dozens of military targets in order to assist IDF ground troops. Among the targets struck were weapons storage facilities, underground infrastructure sites, terrorist cells, and additional military infrastructure sites.

“This operation to systematically dismantle terrorist infrastructure in the area will continue as long as required in order to achieve its objectives.”

10.06.24 – Su

France desires Israel cease-fire to ensure stability; PM overreacting to arms embargo

10.06.24 – Su

France accuses Netanyahu of overreaction to Macron’s arms embargo call
PM pans French president, calling his remarks a ‘disgrace’ and saying that nations should not be ‘ashamed’ to support Israel as Israel is also defending their security in its fight against terrorism

Itamar Eichner|02:04

The Elysee Palace called Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s reaction to France’s arms embargo on Israel “excessive” late Saturday after the Israeli leader labeled the French move a “disgrace.”

French President Emmanuel Macron had earlier urged a halt to arms sales, advocating for a political solution to the war in Gaza. “We need to prioritize a political resolution and stop delivering weapons to fight in Gaza,” Macron said during an interview with France Inter.

In a direct message to Macron, Netanyahu responded sharply, saying that all civilized nations should stand with Israel in its fight against Iran and its proxies. “Shame on you,” Netanyahu declared, adding that Israel would prevail against terrorists with or without international support.

A French official, defending Macron, emphasized that France remains committed to Israel’s security, citing the use of French military assets to thwart Iranian attacks on Israel last week and in April. The official noted that Macron had personally warned Iran’s president that France would not tolerate assaults on Israel, reiterating France’s role in preventing Iranian aggression earlier this year.

Macron's push for a cease-fire in Gaza and Lebanon, as well as the release of hostages held by Hamas, comes amid mounting domestic political pressure in France. Observers in Jerusalem believe France, a permanent member of the UN Security Council, is positioning itself as a key player in the Middle East, recognizing a perceived U.S. weakness ahead of the upcoming U.S. elections. Some sources suggested Macron's statements align with the growing influence of the French far-left and his desire to be seen as an advocate for the Palestinian cause.

However, Macron's comments are seen as largely symbolic. France has not supplied arms to Israel since the conflict began, and previous arms sales have been minimal. Over the last decade, French military exports to Israel totaled roughly 20 million euros, a fraction compared to U.S. military aid, which amounted to 27 billion euros in 2022. French exports mostly consist of mechanical components for Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system, according to Defense Minister Sébastien Lecornu. French officials maintain that Netanyahu's comments overlook the deep-rooted friendship between the two nations. "France is a steadfast ally of Israel," a French official stated, emphasizing that Macron's call for a cease-fire stems from a desire to protect Israel's security and ensure regional stability.

10.06.24 – Su

Navy intercepts two north Mediterranean UAVs; IDF strikes Beirut for 30 minutes

10.06.24 – Su

IDF thwarts drone strike off coast

Military says two drones coming from the north are shot down by a naval vessel and one by the Air Force; IDF also says it struck Hezbollah targets in Beirut's Dahieh sector overnight hitting weapons storage facilities after warning civilians to leave
Yoav Zitun, Reuters|23:24

The IDF said on Sunday that the Navy intercepted two UAVs launched from the north, in the northern Mediterranean. "In addition, a UAV launched from the East was intercepted by the IAF off the coast of the Tel Aviv metropolitan area." The military said no sirens were activated and no injuries were reported.

Earlier a barrage of some 40 rockets targeted the northern city of Kiryat Shmona while the IDF was reported to launch strikes on Beirut's Dahieh quarter, the Hezbollah stronghold in the city.

The military said its Air Force conducted numerous targeted strikes against Hezbollah weapons storage facilities and terror infrastructure after steps were taken to prevent civilian casualties, including calls to evacuate.

IDF strikes Dahieh

At least eight strikes rocked Beirut's southern suburbs late on Saturday including close to the airport. Massive consecutive strikes hit the Dahieh, for 30 minutes, visible from several kilometers away eyewitnesses told Reuters.

The strikes came after days of bombing by Israel of Beirut suburbs considered strongholds for Iran-backed armed group Hezbollah, killing its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, and possibly his potential successor. A Lebanese security source said on Saturday that Hashem Safieddine, the potential successor, had been out of contact since Friday, after an Israeli airstrike near the city's international airport that was reported to have targeted him.

10.06.24 – Su

Iran used criminals and drug dealers in Europe to target Israelis and Jews

10.06.24 – Su

International investigation: Iran used criminals and drug dealers in Europe to target Israelis and Jews

Joint investigation reveals how Iran operated terror cells on European soil using figures from the criminal underworld to try and orchestrate massive attacks

Daniel Dolev/Shomrim|16:03

Late last year, Roey – an Israeli citizen who lives and works in France – received a terrifying message from local security officials: An Iranian-directed terror cell plans to kill you. The French authorities received the warning from what they referred to as “a foreign intelligence service” and, according to a subsequent report in the German media, it was none other than the Israeli Mossad that had alerted a number of intelligence agencies across Europe.

The Mossad itself declined to confirm the report, responding to Shomrim’s request for comment by saying that “intelligence agencies are constantly engaged in dialogue and cooperation to deal with threats.”

In the months that followed, Roey received several more such alerts and French authorities even suggested that he leave the country. He took these warnings with the utmost seriousness. He and his wife spent much of the next few months in Israel and, during the short periods when they had to be in France, they moved between no fewer than six different apartments.

Even though they took extraordinary precautions to remain safe, the stress was intense. In April this year, therefore, Roey’s wife contacted the DGSI – France’s internal security agency and the equivalent of Israel’s Shin Bet – to report an untoward incident.

She told the French authorities that someone claiming to be a courier rang at the intercom of the family apartment. Since she was not expecting a delivery, she did not open the door – but she did manage to capture images of the individual on the intercom camera.

The DGSI looked into the incident and concluded that the individual in question was probably a courier after all.

A few days later, members of the terror cell were arrested by French authorities. Documents and testimony regarding the cell's operations, which are being revealed here for the first time, provide a rare glimpse into the workings of Iranian terror cell in Europe which use figures from the criminal underworld: low- and high-ranking members of the local criminal class, gangs, drug smugglers, former convicts and others. This is not a "symbolic" modus operandi which takes advantage of frustrated and disenfranchised immigrants. Rather, these cells are planning and carrying out attacks and assassinations on a large scale. The cell that was arrested in France also planned to kill three other Israelis who work alongside Roey and three senior members of the Jewish community in Germany, in addition to being dispatched to set fire to buildings in the south of France belonging to Israeli-owned companies.

In order to maintain a degree of separation from the terror cells it operates in Europe and to ensure plausible deniability, there is no direct contact between Tehran and members of the cells. In the case of the recently detained French cell, instructions on where and when to carry out attacks were relayed via international networks of criminals and drug smugglers.

The investigation is based on documents from various European intelligence agencies obtained by independent French investigative online newspaper Mediapart, which were then analyzed by the European Investigative Collaborations (EIC) organization and journalists from nine outlets, including Mediapart, Der Spiegel in Germany, Spanish outlet Infolibre and organizations from the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and Belgium. Shomrim's Daniel Dolev was the Israeli partner in the project.

According to an internal document, the French security establishment believes that, after they took measures to ensure the safety of Roey and his family, the cell decided to move on and focus on its next targets. Roey – whose real name, like those of the cell's other targets, is not being published for security reasons – has not responded to requests for comment sent to him via several channels.

The owner of the company that employed Roey, a former member of the security services, told Shomrim that he had not been contacted by any officials on the matter. "I have no idea what you are talking about," he said. "If someone were to tell me that it's real, it would be very scary – but apart from that I don't feel that way."

A decade of collaboration with the underworld

Iran's use of members of the criminal underworld and drug deals to carry out acts of terror is nothing new. In May, the Mossad revealed that a terror cell had been operating in Europe under the leadership of Rawa Majid, known as "the Kurdish Fox," who also spearheaded a Swedish organized crime ring called Foxtrot.

According to various reports in Israel, which cited Mossad officials, Majid fled from Turkey to Iran, where he was recruited after being arrested by Iranian police. Israeli security officials told Shomrim that the Swedish cell and the French cell were activated separately and that there was no communication between them.

The first evidence that Iran was using criminals in Europe emerged a decade ago. The main goal of the Islamic Republic was to assassinate members of the exiled Iranian

opposition, as well as Jewish and/or Israeli targets. Since 2015, around 20 such attempts have been uncovered (see map).

One of the first successful assassinations came in December 2015, when Mohammad-Reza Kolahi Samadi, an activist in the People's Mujahedin of Iran (MEK) who was convicted of planting a bomb at the Tehran headquarters of the Islamic Republican Party that killed more than 70 officials in 1981 – and had been living in the Netherlands under an assumed identity ever since. He was murdered by local criminals, aided by Dutch and Belgian drug-smuggling gangs.

“When it comes to exiled opposition figures, the Iranians have been running amok – unhindered and for years,” says Yoram Schweitzer, a senior research fellow at the Institute for National Security Studies and the director of its Research Program: Terrorism and Low-Intensity Conflict. “When it comes to Israelis, there are periods when there is more intense activity. We are currently in just such a period and have been for several years.”

The Iranian modus operandi began to change around 2018, when a senior Iranian official diplomat called Assadollah Assadi was arrested and convicted of plotting to bomb a big rally organized by an Iranian exile opposition group in France.

Assadi, who lived in Europe on the pretext that he was a diplomat working at the Iranian Embassy in Vienna, was sentenced to 20 years in prison – but subsequently released as part of a prisoner-exchange deal. Even though the Iranians had used criminal organizations to carry out terror attacks before this, they decided in the aftermath of the Assadi affair to make this a key part of their strategy.

“There has been a very noticeable uptick in the use of criminal elements to carry out terrorist attacks,” Schweitzer adds. “The guiding principle for countries that support and orchestrate terror attacks is maintaining plausible deniability.

“Because, notwithstanding all of its violations, it still operates within a set of international norms and wants to maintain a façade of decency. So, the most important part of the process is to maintain that deniability and using the criminal element adds another degree of separation. Another layer of protection. That allows Iran to claim that these assassinations are criminal in nature, not political.”

Former Mossad agents, who agreed to talk to Shomrim on condition of anonymity, also commented on the connection between Iranian terror and the criminal underworld. They also pointed out that the international trade in narcotics is a significant source of income for the Islamic Republic – as it is for Hezbollah in Lebanon.

“Our surveillance of the drug-smuggling trade as Hezbollah's key economic lifeline reveals that the group is connected to all the [criminal] organizations, whether it's in the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden or Sri Lanka. There, they are on the same field as the big players,” one former Mossad agent told Shomrim.

At the same time, he added, “if they have, let's say, a smuggling route to Paris which brings in \$10 million a year, and they use that money to carry out a terror attack, then it's gone. And still, this connection creates relationships and the possibility of getting to know and then recruit people who are not directly connected to the smuggling operation but are from the criminal underworld.”

Former Mossad: “Our surveillance of the drug-smuggling trade as Hezbollah's key economic lifeline reveals that the group is connected to all the [criminal] organizations,

whether it's in the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden or Sri Lanka. There, they are on the same field as the big players,"

On the seam line between criminal activity and terrorism are international drug dealers.

Earlier this year, the United States and the United Kingdom imposed sanctions on an Iranian narcotics trafficker called Naji Ibrahim Sharifi-Zindashti.

According to American authorities, Zindashti and his network enjoy protection from the regime in Tehran and, in exchange, have carried out assassinations and kidnappings (some of which were foiled) for the Iranian Intelligence Ministry in the United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, Turkey and even the United States.

Another similar case is that of Ramin Yektaparast, who, while not involved in trafficking narcotics, was a senior member of a German motorcycle gang and who German authorities suspected of murdering a member of a rival gang before fleeing to Iran.

A court in Dusseldorf found that Yektaparast was responsible for organizing a Molotov cocktail attack on a synagogue in Bochum and that he was probably also responsible for a shooting attack on another synagogue, this one in nearby Essen. Yektaparast was shot dead in Tehran early this year in an operation that has been attributed to the Mossad.

Yoram Schweitzer: "The most important part of the process is to maintain that deniability and using the criminal element adds another degree of separation. Another layer of protection. That allows Iran to claim that these assassinations are criminal in nature, not political."

The gang leader fled to Iran

French authorities believe that the terror cell operating on their soil was headed by a **major drug dealer** from the Lyon area called Umit Bulbul, who, as far as they are aware, is currently in Iran. Bulbul, who was born in Pau in southwestern France, had two known aliases. One of these was Ilan Isaac Hadjaj, a French-born Jew. Another was a fictitious Turkish national called Harun Öztürk.

The cell's operations were carried out by an Algerian-born French national known as Abdulkarim S., who was also known as Krimo. His full name cannot be published due to reporting restrictions in France. Krimo is well-known to French law-enforcement bodies, having served time for involvement in a gang warfare double murder in Marseilles and drug trafficking.

As **part of Iran's efforts** to keep the various members of the network apart, Bulbul and Krimo were never in direct contact. Acting as their intermediary was Sedat (whose name cannot be published for similar reasons), who has a rich criminal record involving violence, theft, extortion and drug trafficking – and who is currently serving time in a French prison. It was almost natural that he would be selected as the go-between: he was one of Bulbul's lieutenants in the gang's narcotics enterprise and was a former cellmate of Krimo.

Krimo's activation shows how the cell operated and what the Iranians were planning – including the fact that Tehran's hit list included three senior members of the Jewish communities in Berlin and Munich. Although Krimo was barred from leaving France because of the conditions of his release from prison, acting on Iranian orders he traveled at least twice to Germany to collect intelligence on the targets.

On one occasion, he traveled to Munich by train, having purchased a ticket using his brother-in-law's identification documents and not before remembering to turn off his cellphone before leaving French territory. When he reached his hotel, he used his phone with a local SIM card.

During his time in the city, Krimo visited the quiet neighborhoods of the Au-Haidhausen borough. Not exactly a hot tourist destination – but Krimo had other intentions. Au-Haidhausen is the location of businesses belonging to two of the intended assassination victims.

He walked past the premises several times, even entering the internal courtyard and taking videos and photographs of the surroundings, the entry door and the back and front entrances of adjacent buildings. He had no idea, of course, that he was being followed by undercover German intelligence agents the whole time.

Krimo spent a total of two days in Munich before returning to France. A week later, he once again boarded a train to Germany. When he alighted in Munich, on April 21st, he was stopped by local police and his documents were photographed. Even though he was under surveillance, this was actually a routine and random stop – but it concerned him. In a voice message he sent to an unknown recipient, he complained about the large police presence and returned to France two days later.

European authorities continued to surveil Krimo and members of his cell, but then something unexpected happened: German magazine Focus reported on the Mossad warning mentioned at the start of this article and added that a manhunt was underway for Krimo. Investigators were worried that he would flee and, the next day, he was arrested along with his wife, who was suspected of abetting him.

Under questioning, Krimo claimed that he had been working on behalf of a former cellmate, a young man of Turkish heritage called Emre, whose surname he never knew. He claimed that he met Emre in Lyon to get instructions and money from him – 1000 euros to take photographs of buildings in Germany. He said that Emre told him that the offices of companies that had defrauded a friend of his were located in these buildings. Although the story sounds far-fetched, it is not impossible that Krimo had no idea he was working for the Iranians.

Subsequently, according to Krimo's testimony, Emre asked him to set fire to several buildings in southern France, explaining that it was for the purposes of insurance fraud. Krimo claimed that he had not carried out the arson attacks himself but had introduced Emre to other criminals. The buildings in question were torched in late November and early January and all were connected in some way to Israeli-owned companies.

By the time of the arson attacks, the cell's operations were known to French security authorities. What remains unknown for the time being is whether members of the cell managed to go under the French radar to carry out these firebombings or whether authorities allowed them to do so in order to keep monitoring the cell, collect more intelligence and avoid revealing their sources.

Another unresolved question is whether "Emre" is a name that Krimo invented to shield Sedat and Bulbul from incrimination. When shown photographs of the two men, Krimo claimed he had never met them. However, there is evidence that suggests a connection. In November 2023, a seven-second phone call was made from a device used by Sedat to

Furthermore, after Krimo and his wife were arrested, authorities searched Sedat's prison cell and found a USB drive and three cell phones – at least one of which he had been using. That device contained Bulbul's contact information in the Facebook Messenger app, while Krimo's contact was saved in the Telegram app. During questioning, Krimo's wife confirmed that she had heard him mention Sedat's name. Krimo and his wife are currently awaiting trial in France.

Responses

The Prime Minister's Office, which is responsible for the Mossad, issued the following statement: "Since October 7, there has been an increase in the threat level to Israelis and Jews across the world from terrorist organizations. Responsibility for protecting every Israeli citizen or Jewish person in a foreign country rests with the local intelligence, security and law-enforcement services. Intelligence agencies are constantly engaged in dialogue and cooperation to deal with threats."

France's General Directorate for Internal Security refused to answer questions on the issue and officials said that they are prohibited from discussing the case since legal proceedings are still underway.

The **Iranian embassy** in the Netherlands issued the following response: "Iran strictly abides by international law and respects the sovereignty of all states. Allegations that Iran is involved in directing or supporting attacks in Europe are unfounded and ridiculous. This is part of a campaign of deception aimed at damaging relations between Iran and European countries. It is unfortunate that such accusations are given credence, as their sole purpose is to sow division and mistrust."

Attorneys representing Krimo said that "Mr. S. is currently the sole defendant (alongside his wife, whose involvement he denies) in a case whose severity is only becoming apparent to him when he is presented with the evidence. The failure to identify and/or arrest the assassins from the terrorist squad forces him to assume a role that is far too big for him.

"Mr. S. has been consistent during questioning. This shows, on the one hand, that he did not know the targets of the people who approached him and, on the other hand, that he bears no resentment whatsoever toward the Jewish community. There are no signs of radicalization or anything that could suggest that he is antisemitic. Nonetheless, he has been held in solitary confinement for more than three months.

"The severity of Mr. S.'s involvement is incalculably lower than the main players', who are located above and below him in the criminal plan. Their arrest would allow him to return to his rightful position and allow him to be dealt with in accordance with his relative involvement in the affair."

Attorneys for Krimo's wife said that: "Our client knows nothing about the crimes she is alleged to have committed. She has no criminal past and is not known to the legal system. She has two children and is pregnant with a third and holds no radical views. These facts are not challenged but, nonetheless, she was incarcerated before her trial and countless requests for her release have been denied. She is likely to give birth to her third child behind bars.

"There is a **terrible situation** when it comes to **cases classified as 'terrorism'**: individual freedoms and basic democratic principles such as the **presumption of innocence** are

pushed aside in the name of 'caution,' which, in this case, is based on nothing but the security context of the case.”

Shomrim was unable to obtain responses from Sedat and Umit.

10.05.24 – Sa

IDF dismantles Hezbollah tunnel 300 meters (984 feet) away from border

10.05.24 – Sa

IDF dismantles Hezbollah tunnel meters away from border

Military spokesperson uncovers footage of forces operating inside Radwan Force deep underground complex before collapsing it

Yoav Zitun|14:37

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit on Saturday revealed footage of forces operating in Lebanon inside of a large terror tunnel utilized by the terror group's Radwan Force found 300 meters (984 feet) away from the border with Israel.

“The underground infrastructure was identified and investigated during cross-border operations conducted in recent weeks in coordination with special units. IDF troops uncovered command centers, terrorist combat packs, and a large number of weapons designated to be used in an invasion by Hezbollah's Radwan Forces into Israel. They also found living quarters equipped with showers, a kitchen, and stockpiles of food,” the statement added.

According to the military, “The underground infrastructure did not cross into Israeli territory and was sealed by the Northern Command Combat Engineering Unit and the Yahalom Unit in cooperation with the Ministry of Defense Department of Engineering and Construction.”

The IDF added that forces are continuing to operate in the area in search of additional threats against Israel.

“Inside a Hezbollah stronghold used by the terrorist organization as a base to carry out attacks on Israeli civilians, the soldiers uncovered hundreds of weapons. The soldiers also eliminated dozens of terrorists in close-quarters combat and directed aerial strikes,” the military's statement read.

10.05.24 – Sa

Macron urges halt to arms deliveries to Israel for use in Gaza & escalation in Lebanon

10.05.24 – Sa

Macron urges halt to arms deliveries to Israel for use in Gaza

French president criticizes Jerusalem's wartime policies in Gaza and adamantly calls on nations to stop supplying Israel with weapons and military equipment

AFP|09:42

French President Emmanuel **Macron** on **Saturday** urged a halt to arms deliveries to Israel, which has been criticized over the conduct of its retaliatory operation in Gaza.

"I think that **today**, the **priority** is that we return to a **political solution**, that we **stop** delivering weapons to **fight in Gaza**," Macron told broadcaster France Inter.

"**France is not delivering any**," he added during the interview recorded early this week. **The United States provides about \$3 billion in weapons to Israel each year.** In May, the State Department said it did not have enough evidence to block shipments of weapons but that it was "reasonable to assess" that Israel has used arms in ways inconsistent with standards of humanitarian law. In September, the **UK** said it was **suspending some arms exports to Israel**, citing a "clear risk" that they could be used in a serious breach of international humanitarian law. **Macron** reiterated his **concern over the war in Gaza** that is continuing despite repeated calls for a cease-fire.

"I think we are not being heard," he said. "I think it is a mistake, including for the security of Israel," he said, adding that the **war was leading to "hatred."** **Macron** also said **avoiding an escalation in Lebanon was a "priority."** "**Lebanon cannot become a new Gaza**," he added. On Monday, Israel marks the first anniversary of the devastating October 7 Hamas attack that sparked the Gaza war and has now engulfed neighboring Lebanon, creating a perilous regional crisis. The confirmed death toll from the attack, including hostages killed in captivity, has reached 1,205 on the Israeli side, most of them civilians.

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Ynet-News, October 04, 2024 – Friday (Tishri 02)

Wednesday **New Moon 1:50pm = Rosh Hashanah – Tishri 01 = 9-days of repent**

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday **3**

Two soldiers killed by drone strike from Iraq in the northern Golan

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday **3**

IDF find large amounts of weapons, munitions & tunnels in South Lebanon villages

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday **3**

Hezbollah fire south of Haifa, including Caesarea, home to Netanyahu; intercepted

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday **3**

Israel attacks Lebanon border crossing to Syria leaving a crater, returned to strike repairs

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News Placed in October 04 spot – Friday 3
Strike of 11 waves 73 tons formed a ring of fire on Hezbollah leader replacement

10.04.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday 3
Israeli jets strike West Bank city killing 16, including refugee camp commander

10.03.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday 2
Iraq 11 year old girl kidnapped by ISIS 10 years ago, rescued from Gaza by IDF

10.03.24 – Th- - - News Placed in October 03 spot – Thursday 2
IDF & IAF eliminate 60 terrorists & 200 Hezbollah assets across Lebanon

10.03.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday 2
Israel strikes central Beirut, attack also involved Israeli warships

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
After October 7: The IDF's six successes that shaped the war

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
3 killed in Israeli airstrike on Damascus commanders, target remains unknown

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
Under darkness and heavy fog: 30 terrorists killed in heroic battle claiming 6 IDF

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
IDF reports Air Force bases hit in Tuesday's Iranian missile attack, no damage to aircraft

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
Israel declares UN chief Guterres 'persona non grata' for failing to condemn Iran

10.02.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm Rosh Hashanah
What's at stake as Netanyahu and Gallant face ICC arrest warrants?

10.02.24 – We- - - News Placed in October 02 spot – Wednesday New Moon 1:50pm
IDF expands ground operation in Lebanon, as 100 rockets fire at Galilee & Haifa
Rosh Hashanah

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday
US Security Advisor Sullivan: Iranian missile attack on Israel is defeated and ineffective

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday
Blast rocks Tel Aviv, 180 missiles over Israel: Dramatic footage from Iran strike

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday
After barrage of 200+ missiles; what Iran faced so far is just a fraction of Israeli response

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Iran & Lebanon launched 180+ missiles toward Tel Aviv: US & IDF intercept all

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

6 murdered, 9 injured in Tel Aviv, as heinous shooters exit light rail into a crowd

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News Placed in October 01 spot – Tuesday

IDF breach vast weapon hoards in 70 Lebanon raids & collect enemy intelligence

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Smotrich blocks PA banks supporting Nablus-Jenin violence before Jewish Holidays

10.01.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Iran fumbled its spiderweb 'axis of resistance'; as Hezbollah cornerstone is collapsing

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Brigade raids in Lebanon, breached Hezbollah bunkers reserved for fighting IDF

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Iran hackers claim cyber-data breach of nuclear academic research system in Israel

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Shin Bet warning; Iran is recruiting Israeli civilians to harm senior Israeli officials

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News Placed in September 30 spot – Monday

Hezbollah commanders flee to Syria, Iran to send thousands to Lebanese border

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Syrian civil war opened Israel's deep dive technology to listen to Hezbollah

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

US & French oppose clearing south Lebanon, for displaced Israeli to go home

9.30.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

IDF thwarts Yemen Houthi & Lebanon strike targeting Israeli offshore natural gas rig

9.29.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Strike on Yemen Houthi port disrupts fuel supply & severely impacts capabilities

9.29.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Rumor Sinwar may be dead; Hamas halts meetings to written messages to avoid tracking

9.29.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Netanyahu former critic since 2020; Gideon Sa'ar rejoins Security Cabinet inner circle

9.29.24 – Su- - - News Placed in September 29 spot – Sunday

IDF strikes Yemen's Houthi-Iran militia airport, seaports, oil tanks & power stations

9.29.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

IDF targets senior Hezbollah weapons & drugs commander in fresh Beirut strike

9.29.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

New reserve squadron intelligence—ensured Nasrallah didn't flee before the strike

9.28.24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

US Secretary Austin "blew up" when informed of Beirut attack; risking US interests

9.28.24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Rocket & 2-drones from Lebanon explode on outskirts of Jerusalem

9.28.24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

IDF preparing limited ground incursion into Lebanon, Israel has rejected cease-fire

9.28.24 – Sa- - - News Placed in September 28 spot – Saturday

IDF locked down Lebanon airport, seaport & borders to prevent Hezbollah rearming

9.28.24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Nasrallah's likely successor Safieddine has close ties to Iran