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Residents eyes and ears reported digging noises for 18 years; more tunnels are there

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Israel cabinet vote on scope and details of Israel's retaliation on Iran

10.12.24 – Sa - - News Placed in October 12 spot – Saturday 11

IDF has 59-pg document, 36-pg presentation, 17000 image blueprint for 9/11-attack

10.12.24 – Sa - - News – Saturday 11

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

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Hezbollah slams BBC for joining IDF press tour in south Lebanon militia tunnels

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Hezbollah slams BBC for joining IDF press tour in Lebanon

Hezbollah accuses BBC of violating 'the sanctity of Lebanese lands, Lebanese sovereignty and Lebanese laws' calling it 'unjustified and 'absolutely unacceptable'

Lior Ben Ari|16:46

Hezbollah's Media Relations Office condemned the British BBC network on Monday after a team entered a village in southern Lebanon accompanied by the IDF. According to Hezbollah's announcement, published in an official statement, the BBC violated Lebanon's "territory, sovereignty, and applicable Lebanese laws."

Hezbollah released the following statement. "In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. The BBC, with all its platforms and in different languages, did not just blindly side with the murderers and criminals and justify the Zionist barbarism against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, but brazenly sent a team that entered a southern village accompanied by the occupation army and violated the sanctity of Lebanese territory, sovereignty, and applicable Lebanese laws, as shown by the reports published by this institution."

"Hezbollah's Media Relations condemns this unjustified and absolutely unacceptable move and demands the Ministry of Information, the National Media Council, and the relevant judicial and security agencies take the necessary legal measures against the BBC and its teams in Lebanon and protest to the BBC Company and the legal bodies representing it. It also demands that the unions of journalists, editors, and free media outlets in the world condemn this step," the terror organization said.

Journalists were taken by the military spokesperson into South Lebanon, where troops uncovered Hezbollah's underground infrastructure. On Monday, the IDF revealed an 800-meter-long tunnel prepared with a fully-contained kitchen, and missiles and weapons in the ready for use by Radwan forces in their planned invasion of the Galilee.

Another tunnel that was located by the soldiers, had vehicles with full gas tanks, fitted with machineguns and new, still packed military gear ready for the invading terrorists to use, along with personal equipment they may need.

Hezbollah prefers that its activity be covered by agreeable, affiliated media networks such as the Lebanese Al-Mayadeen network, the Al-Akhbar newspaper, or Radio A-Nur. Whenever reports come from unaffiliated media networks, the terror organization raises problems, citing even violent incidents between Hezbollah operatives or supporters and journalists who came to cover a story.

Such clashes have often been seen in the Dahiyeh district in Beirut, an area considered Hezbollah's stronghold, which has suffered several attacks in recent weeks. The terror organization is trying to doctor the information coming out of Dahiyeh which explains why we have seen Lebanese broadcasts interrupted by Lebanese officials, either from Hezbollah or the organization's supporters, who did not allow them to broadcast freely from the areas of the attacks in recent weeks.

Hezbollah actively tries to suppress networks that broadcast, according to the terrorist organization, the Israeli narrative. Every once in a while, an article would appear on Hezbollah-affiliated networks, saying that any network violated the organization's "rules" and stood by Israel. For example, following the assassination of the former Hezbollah Chief of Staff Fuad Shukur, a Hezbollah supporter reprimanded a Sky News reporter after she had called the terror organization a "militia."

The Hezbollah supporter stood next to her and demanded that she never call the organization a militia while the Al-Akhbar newspaper reported the incident and added that it was biased coverage against Hezbollah.

10.15.24 – Tu

Israel plans strike on Iran, prepares for aftermath: deploying US THAAD missile defense

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Israel plans strike on Iran, prepares for aftermath: 'It won't end with our response'
Officials say the strike will be significant and they are preparing for a counter-attack in full coordination with the Americans ; 'Israel and the U.S. see eye to eye'

Itamar Eichner|16:24

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu informed the U.S. that Israel was willing to attack Iranian military targets and not oil or nuclear facilities, according to a report in the Washington Post, quoting two officials, to avoid regional war.

Officials in Jerusalem emphasized that the Israeli strike in retaliation for Iran launching 180 ballistic missiles on Israel earlier this month, would be substantial. 'The focus on the Iranian arena is centered on planning the attack. There is no hesitation or delay,' said sources familiar with the matter

On Sunday, he met with Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, IDF Chief Herzi Halevi and senior intelligence officials in an intelligence base, for an unannounced meeting and continued consultations on Monday.

The Biden administration announced it was deploying its THAAD missile defense system to the area along with American troops that would operate it, to bolster defenses should Iran launch a new and more extensive attack.

The discussions with Washington continue, to reach maximum coordination if Iran does respond to the Israeli strike but according to the UK-based Saudi-owned Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper, Iran has indicated that if the Israeli attack is a limited one, this round would be closed. "There is an understanding among some senior Israelis that Iran is interested in a cease-fire," sources told the paper.

"Israel and the U.S. see eye to eye," officials said. "There is no is coordination about the attack and what would follow," he said adding the Israelis believe Iran will respond.

10.14.24 – Mo

Netanyahu says Hezbollah uses UNIFIL positions to attack Israel, forces must withdraw

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Netanyahu says Hezbollah uses UNIFIL positions to attack Israel

PM says accusations that IDF purposely targeting peacekeepers are false and repeats his call for the UNIFIL forces to withdraw for their protection; 'We are not fighting UNIFIL or Lebanese civilians but an arm of Iran that attacks Israel,' he says

Itamar Eichner|15:41

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Monday that Hezbollah was using UNIFIL positions to attack Israel. The prime minister responded to a statement issued by European nations condemning Israeli attacks on the peacekeeping force in South Lebanon.

"Israeli attacks on the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, known as UNIFIL, are contrary to international humanitarian law and must stop at once, Italy, Britain, France and Germany said.

In their statement, the four nations reaffirmed "the essential stabilizing role" played by UNIFIL in southern Lebanon, adding that Israel and other parties had to ensure the safety of the peacekeepers at all times.

Last week the leaders of Italy and France said they were outraged by the IDF attacks that resulted in injury to three members of the force. The U.S. also voiced concern and said they were seeking explanations from Israel.

The UNIFIL mission, which includes hundreds of European soldiers, has said it has repeatedly come under attack from the IDF in recent days but rejected any possible withdrawal.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected accusations that Israeli troops had deliberately targeted the peacekeepers as "completely false" and repeated a call for them to be withdrawn from combat zones.

He said the military did its utmost to avoid harming UNIFIL personnel while striking Hezbollah fighters. "But the best way to assure the safety of UNIFIL personnel is for them to heed Israel's request and to temporarily get out of harm's way."

He said Israel was not fighting against the UNIFIL force or the citizens of Lebanon but against an arm of the Iranian regime, the Hezbollah terror group that has used Lebanese territory to attack Israel and continues to do so.

"Hezbollah launched over 10,000 rockets and missiles at Israel. It uses UNIFIL positions and installations for cover while attacking Israeli cities and their residents," Netanyahu said. "These attacks have cost many Israeli lives, including on Sunday [in the deadly drone strike on a base, killing four] and Israel has the right to defend itself and will continue to do so."

Netanyahu appeals to UN Secretary-General to remove UNIFIL forces from South Lebanon fighting

On Sunday, Netanyahu called on UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to order the UNIFIL forces to leave the areas where fighting was underway, for their own safety.

"Mr. Secretary General, Get the UNIFIL forces out of harm's way. It should be done right now, immediately," Netanyahu said in a video posted by his office.

He said Israel regrets any harm caused to the peacekeeping troops and does everything possible to prevent such harm but the simple way to avoid such events is simply to remove the troops from danger.

10.14.24 – Mo

IDF air strikes in Lebanon send people further north, fearing ties to Hezbollah

10.14.24 – Mo

IDF strikes Christian area in Lebanon in 1st since war

At least 18 reported killed; Saudi media says the target was a senior member of Hezbollah; earlier reports claim local mayors fearful of displaced with Hezbollah ties bringing danger

ynet correspondents, News Agencies|12:35

At least 18 people were killed, and one person was injured on Monday, according to a report in the Reuters news agency, in the first Israeli air strike on the predominately Christian region of Aitou in north Lebanon.

Lebanese who evacuated from areas that were under Israeli attack, have moved to other parts of the country and have rented homes there. Local mayors have appealed to them not to host members of Hezbollah, according to reports.

According to a report in Lebanon's English language Independent newspaper last August, residents of Dahieh did not believe that the capital would come under attack but after the assassination of Hezbollah's senior military commander Fuad Shukr in July, they became anxious and afraid.

The Lebanese government unlike the government in Israel, did not provide any assistance to the displaced, nor did Hezbollah, and that caused outrage.

The forced evacuations revealed the split in Lebanese society and landlords were afraid to rent property to people who may have ties to Hezbollah because they may put them at risk.

One mayor said his town saw many former residents of Dahieh, trying to find furnished accommodations and landlords were limiting them to one family for each apartment.

A Lebanese researcher told the paper that at the start of the war, people were uprooted from the South and moved into Sidon, Nabatiyeh and Beirut but after attacks on the Dahieh, more people were forced to evacuate further to the north and rent prices spiked as a result.

10.14.24 – Mo

Hamas forcing civilians to stay in combat zone, preventing evacuations

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Gazans say Hamas forcing civilians to stay in combat zone, preventing evacuations

Terror group preventing civilians from evacuating northern Gaza's Jabaliya, according to IDF-released recording where Gazan describes how Hamas members beat them with sticks, forcing them to stay

Ynetnews|05:59

Hamas is preventing civilians from evacuating the Jabaliya area in northern Gaza, where Israeli forces are conducting operations against targets of the terrorist group, a Gazan is heard saying in a recording released by the IDF on Monday.

According to an IDF statement, intelligence indicates Hamas is attempting to regroup in Jabaliya, prompting the IDF to urge civilians to evacuate through designated humanitarian routes to the Al-Mawasi humanitarian zone.

In a conversation with an IDF representative, a Gazan civilian described how Hamas terrorists were beating them with sticks to stop them from leaving the area and forcing them to return from the humanitarian corridor.

"The problem is that when we follow the army's instructions and try to go to Al-Mawasi, there are people who come out against us and start hitting us with sticks, telling us 'go back, go back,' what should we do?" the man says in a frustrated voice in the recording. "We want to leave. We took our belongings and wanted to leave, and now they're hitting us and telling us to 'go home, go home,' what should we do?"

When the IDF representative asked whether the attackers were Hamas or Israeli forces, the Gazan firmly responded that the attackers were indeed Hamas members. "They keep hitting us, they keep hitting us and returning us," he adds.

10.14.24 – Mo

Germany's 2 Green Party ministers froze all requests to export arms to Israel

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The party blocking Germany's arms exports to Israel

Ministers freeze all requests to export weapons and tank and helicopter parts to Israel, conditioning approval on Israel's assurance that no weapons imported from Germany would be used for 'genocide'

Zeev Avrahami|04:37

Senior ministers from Germany's Green Party have blocked arms deals with Israel, with no licenses for arms or parts exports issued since March, according to a Bild report released on Sunday.

In a heated debate in the German parliament last week, conservative leader Friedrich Merz claimed that Germany has not approved any such exports for weeks or even months. However, Chancellor Olaf Scholz took the podium afterward, asserting that "Germany has supplied and will continue to supply weapons to Israel."

Sources from various coalition parties indicated that during secret federal security meetings—attended by the chancellor and key ministers—Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock and Economy Minister Robert Habeck, both leaders of the Green Party, blocked the arms exports to Israel.

While Baerbock's position wasn't surprising, given her recent reactions to the assassination of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and anti-terror operations in Tulkarm, Habeck's stance caught many off guard. He had, after all, previously expressed strong support for Israel's right to defend itself and ensure the safety of its citizens. Just in September, Habeck stated, "There is no arms export ban to Israel. Each request is evaluated on a case-by-case basis."

According to Bild, Green Party ministers froze all requests to export weapons and parts for tanks and helicopters to Israel, conditioning the approval on Israel's assurance that no weapons imported from Germany would be used for "genocide." Government insiders reportedly called this demand "absurd," arguing that its sole purpose was to block arms exports to Israel. "Accusing Israel of genocide aligns with the rhetoric of its most ardent enemies," said one source close to the meetings. "It's unclear how Israel could defend itself if an international court, biased against Israel, ever ruled it was committing genocide."

The newspaper reported that Israel provided the necessary assurances in writing to the German government last week, leading Scholz to tell parliament that arms exports to Israel would resume. The actions of the Green Party, particularly Vice Chancellor Habeck, have been nothing short of astonishing. Although the Greens are experiencing a slump in popularity, as seen in recent elections in three East German states, they seem to be catering to their base of left-leaning voters, many of whom favor diplomatic solutions and generally hold anti-Israel views. In contrast, despite the Greens' opposition to Israeli arms exports, the German cabinet, with Green Party support, approved the sale of air-to-ground missiles to Saudi Arabia and authorized €336 million worth of arms exports to Turkey—two countries with particularly poor human rights records. Meanwhile, arms exports to Israel have dropped from €326.5 million in 2023 to just €14.5 million by August this year.

10.14.24 – Mo

UAV drone size & terrain following guidance, evades interceptor sensors

10.14.24 – Mo

Elusive and lethal: Inside the Hezbollah drone that struck IDF base

Since October 7, Hezbollah has been making extensive use of Iranian drone mass-produced locally; Israeli defense industries stumped in countering threat

Ron Ben-Yishai|04:31

The drone strike that injured over 60 individuals and killed at least 4 at a Golani Brigade base near Binyamina on Sunday — seems to have precisely hit its target. The IDF is now investigating the incident, but from the limited details currently available, the drone was likely a Sayyad 107 model, a UAV manufactured in Iran and widely used by Hezbollah, which also produces it in large quantities in Lebanon.

The model's flight path can be programmed to frequently change altitude and direction, making it difficult to detect and track. It has a range of up to 100 kilometers (62 miles) and is small, with a very low radar signature compared to larger, metal-made UAVs. Its detection relies on the heat emitted by the engine, which is also challenging to identify via optical means.

The military is examining all possibilities, but it's almost certain that the UAV, which hit a critical target and caused many casualties, wasn't only a specialized model but also that Hezbollah managed to overwhelm or disrupt the IDF's detection systems by launching a mixed salvo of rockets and two other drones aimed at the Western Galilee.

The UAVs continued toward the sea off the northern coast and the Iron Dome system intercepted one. The IDF dispatched fighter jets and combat helicopters to track the remaining UAV, but contact with it was lost.

The IDF is now conducting a thorough investigation into how both the fighter jets and helicopters that had been tracking the UAV lost sight of it. It's possible that the UAV was pre-programmed to sharply descend toward the ground or the sea and continue flying at low altitude, exploiting the coastal terrain and then the hills of the coastal plain to evade interceptors.

Hezbollah has gained considerable experience in operating UAVs over the past year, successfully causing numerous casualties among civilians and primarily IDF soldiers at remote bases. Over half of the drones launched by Hezbollah are intercepted, either by IDF fighter jets sent to engage them or by the Iron Dome and David's Sling systems.

However, due to the UAV's small size and very weak radar signature, the Iron Dome's fire control radars and the optical sensors on fighter jets and helicopters often lose track of them, especially in hilly areas where radar echoes from the terrain are dominant and misleading.

The sophisticated UAVs manufactured by Iran are equipped with inertial navigation systems in addition to satellite navigation, enabling them to stay on course and strike their targets even when faced with GPS jamming. This is intended to mislead them, but Iran and Hezbollah sometimes bypass the American GPS jamming by using unique satellite navigation systems developed by Russia or China.

Neither Russia nor Ukraine have found an effective solution to the drone threat despite the war in the area now ongoing for nearly three years. Both sides in this conflict struggle to intercept the other side's explosive and reconnaissance drones in significant numbers.

The reasons are well known: UAVs and even more so drones, are small, fly low and slow and optical detection systems also struggle to identify them. All the sensors, including optical and radar systems, often fail to detect them.

The IDF and Israel's defense industries have been trying to find a solution to this issue at least since the current war began, but there's still no effective detection and interception solution, particularly for consistent tracking and targeting that would allow successful interception of UAVs, which are essentially miniature cruise missiles.

It can be assumed that when Israel finally deploys laser-based interception from the ground and from aircraft, the process of intercepting these threats will be easier and more efficient than using the Iron Dome, David's Sling, or aerial interceptor missiles. The laser system, despite having undergone several tests, will not be operational until mid-2025.

Even then, however, the primary challenge will remain to detect and track UAVs that fly very low, using valleys and prominent terrain features to hide before rising and crashing into their targets. There's still no proper solution to this issue, which likely explains the lack of alert sirens sounding and the reason why the UAV injured so many when it crashed into its target.

10.13.24 – Su

Lawmakers direct IDF to lower number of attacks on Beirut after Netanyahu-Biden talk

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Lawmakers direct IDF to lower number of attacks on Beirut after Netanyahu-Biden talk
Decision comes after U.S. president asks to refrain from attacking Lebanon's capital amid fears escalations could expand scope of Israeli ground operation
Itamar Eichner | 15:45

The Israeli Air Force hasn't conducted strikes on Beirut for three days following U.S. President Joe Biden's request to scale back operations in the area during his recent conversation with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday. The slowing of attacks was directed by Israel's political echelon.

The last attack in the Lebanese capital targeted the city center, reportedly aiming at Wafiq Safa, a trusted confidant of the former Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, who was eliminated in an Israeli strike in Dahieh about two weeks ago.

During Biden's conversation with Netanyahu, after a prolonged period of no communication between the two leaders, the U.S. president asked the prime minister to reduce the scale of Israeli strikes in Beirut. Israel has refrained from attacking the capital since.

Following the call with Biden, the Prime Minister's Office described Netanyahu's call with him as "businesslike. Israel always listens attentively to the issues raised by our ally, the United States, but the prime minister ultimately makes decisions based on Israel's national interests."

Regarding coordination with the U.S., the Prime Minister's Office said: "There is ongoing communication with them and we listen to their concerns, just as we explain our perspective and analysis. Israel will do whatever is necessary to protect itself."

10.13.24 – Su

At least 20 injured in serious condition, in 2-drone strike in Binyamina, north Israel

10.13.24 – Su

At least 20 injured in drone strike in Binyamina, some in serious condition
Emergency rescue teams, including helicopters, are on the scene following the explosion on Sunday evening

Yoav ZItun, Eitan Glickman, Yair Kraus, Lior El-Hai | 11:56

Many casualties have been sustained from a drone strike in the Binyamin area of northern Israel.

Magen David Adom Director General Eli Bin said that at least 20 people were injured Sunday evening from a drone strike launched by Hezbollah that exploded near Binyamina in northern Israel. The condition of some of the injured is defined as serious.

Hezbollah launched three UAVs. Air defense systems intercepted one of them after alarms in the Western Galilee, including in Acre and Nahariya. But one of the two UAVs penetrated deep into Israel, and the explosion occurred in the Binyamins area without triggering an alarm.

"There was a crazy boom, without any warning," said an eyewitness.

The serious incident comes in the wake of several other serious injuries recorded by Hezbollah's incessant barrages on Israeli communities at the same time as the battles that are currently taking place in the IDF's limited ground operation in southern Lebanon. On Wednesday, Dvir Sharvit, 43, and Revital Yehud, 45, were killed by a direct hit in Kiryat Shmona.

Israel is also still struggling to deal with the threat of Hezbollah's UAVs, and an example of this came on the eve of Yom Kippur with the direct hit of a UAV launched from Lebanon on a sheltered housing facility for the elderly in Herzliya, in which there were no casualties, after the residents followed the directives of the Home Front Command.

10.13.24 – Su

Israel contemplates a response to Iran missile strike, two weeks later, with US in the loop

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Israel contemplates a response to Iran missile strike, two weeks later
Israel has yet to retaliate against the Iranian regime's missile barrage while the US warns against attacking oil or nuclear facilities in Iran; 'Not procrastination, there is a strategy'
Itamar Eichner|08:59

After Iran's first direct missile attack on April 14, Israel took six days to respond. However, it has been almost two weeks since Iran's largest direct attack, which included about 200 ballistic missiles and was greater in scope and in the severity of its threat. This delay raises the question of whether Israel is procrastinating or if there is a plan to attack altogether.

Sources privy to the details emphasize that there is no delay in the planned attack. According to them, "Israel acts according to different considerations and what was true for the previous attack does not correspond to the current situation." In addition, they stressed that "Israel is not procrastinating, and is acting according to an orderly plan and a clear strategy."

Sources in Israel explain that the response will arrive and be significant, but so far it has not been officially decided regarding how, when and where. As part of the discussions on the nature of the expected retaliation, cabinet members were presented with options but no decisions were made concerning the attack. Also, unlike the last attack, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant were not authorized to make the decision.

Amid deliberations, the delay may be due to operational considerations and the desire to coordinate with the Americans. Despite Israel not coordinating Nasrallah's assassination, Israel wishes to keep the Americans in the loop to ensure Israel's defense, based on the assumption that Iran will retaliate.

Israeli and American defense counterparts have been discussing the potential plan to respond to the Iranian strike. While Netanyahu and U.S. President Joe Biden held several calls, Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer spoke with National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, Defense Minister Gallant was supposed to meet Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin in the U.S. and Ambassador Mike Herzog has been talking to his counterparts in the White House.

Meanwhile, the talks between Israel and the U.S. show that the Americans want to avoid attacking Iran's nuclear and oil facilities. Israel, nevertheless, wants to strike 'two birds with one stone', since damage to the oil facilities will significantly damage Tehran's sources of income, and will make it difficult for it to finance the continuation of the program nuclear and the financing of global terrorism.

Still, Israel may be losing valuable time waiting to respond. The more it waits after the Iranian attack, the less the world will accept a significant Israeli attack, even if it is retaliatory. However, it seems that Israel is doing to the Iranians what Iran did to Israel after the assassination of the head of the political bureau of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, on July 31, for which Israel has not taken responsibility.

10.13.24 – Su

Defense budget priority IDF requests bombs, missiles and interceptors & vehicles

10.13.24 – Su

Officials to decide urgent defense needs as IDF shopping list grows

Israel's senior political leadership will discuss the defense budget, with priority given to immediate IDF requests for bombs, missiles and interceptor purchases, extending compulsory military service and procuring JLTVs from the US for ground forces
Yoav Zitun|08:03

Senior Israeli officials are expected on Sunday to discuss Israel's defense budget including whether to approve or reject a series of urgent requests from the IDF, given the constraints and strategic considerations of expanding combat across all fronts. The meeting comes ahead of the government approving the next national budget, expected by the end of the month.

Deputy IDF Chief of Staff Major General Amir Baram is spearheading the army's force-building strategy, pressing for the immediate approval of a substantial purchase of thousands of bombs and missiles for the Israeli Air Force, driven by ongoing use and increasing demand across all sectors. Some of these acquisitions will be sourced domestically from Israeli industries. Additionally, the military plans to request a significant immediate purchase of interceptor missiles for the air defense system.

Regarding manpower, IDF is pushing for several budget-related changes to alleviate the heavy burden on regular, reserve and permanent forces. One proposal involves extending compulsory service for regular soldiers by four months, restoring the service period to three years as it was previously, thereby allowing many reserve battalions longer rest periods between call-ups. The interim recommendations also suggest improvements in the conditions for young career personnel, although this reform is expected to be delayed until the committee's final conclusions are submitted in a few months.

IDF troops operating in Gaza

Concerning the naval ships that the IDF seeks to reinforce through procurement, it appears the committee is currently postponing these recommendations, considering the ongoing acquisition of missile boats and batteries already strengthening the naval forces.

The committee is anticipated to approve another IDF request for the immediate procurement from the U.S. of hundreds of light armored vehicles, specifically JLTVs, to benefit maneuvering brigades among ground forces.

Other matters, which the IDF sought to advance financially and are likely to be deferred to the committee's forthcoming conclusions, pertain to plans for strengthening the eastern border with Jordan. This includes upgrading barriers and establishing an eastern division for defense, as reported by Ynet and Yedioth Ahronoth last month, accelerating production of armored vehicles such as tanks and Namer APCs, and setting up a dedicated emergency procurement management for weapons acquisition.

10.13.24 – Su

IDF amazed at amount and quality of arsenal in Lebanon vehicles ready to emerge

10.13.24 – Su

Troops taken aback by Radwan arsenal in South Lebanon

Cars with full gas tanks with machine guns loaded on them, weapons, munitions found meters from a kindergarten in Metula: 'Commander says only troops on the ground could locate what Radwan had been hiding

Yoav Zitun|07:35

IDF troops were amazed at the amount and quality of military, equipment and weapons they found mere meters away from the border town of Metulah and a kindergarten there.

Since the IDF began its offensive in southern Lebanon, the troops discovered the scope of the failure to prepare for the danger posed by Hezbollah's elite Radwan force that was preparing for an invasion of Israel along the about 130 km of border, close to civilian centers.

Troops operating in villages close to the border uncovered hundreds of weapons, wrapped and packed vehicles with which the terrorists planned to invade the Galilee to occupy bases and settlements as far south as Haifa.

IDF soldiers discover Hezbollah vehicles

The vehicles were filled with gas, armed with heavy machine guns, packed with combat uniforms, personal weapons, and medical supplies, and were ready to emerge from hiding places. The soldiers who operated in the northern part of Karkila found Hezbollah's weapons stores up a ridge that was hidden from view from the Israeli side. They located anti-tank missiles of various types and ranges, a bounty of ammunition for full-scale combat, machine guns of various types, and explosives.

"We found real headquarters to control and command what they planned with maps on the walls, computers, offices for briefing, and safes for their classified documents," the commander of the IDF force said. "Because it is a relatively large village, you can only see a part of it from the Israeli side. That's why we operated at its edge and the whole brigade took it apart. I saw the preparation that was going on for years by Radwan."

The battalion commander commented on the limited operation, emphasizing that the Air Force cannot locate such complex structures with aerial photographs and they can only be found by ground maneuvers. "Fighting in the Gaza Strip did not cause burnout and was an advantage," he said. "We are now much more experienced, even though we are fighting a different, more professional enemy in a different terrain."

10.13.24 – Su

UN making UNIFIL soldiers human shields just like Hamas used UNRWA in Gaza

10.13.24 – Su

Netanyahu accuses UN Secretary General of 'making UNIFIL soldiers hostages of Hezbollah'

In a clip Netanyahu addresses the UN General Secretary in English telling him that removing the peacekeepers from harm's way must be done immediately after repeated requests from Israel and repeated rejections from the UN

Itamar Eichner|07:00

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday made an English, on-camera appeal to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to pull UNIFIL forces away from the fighting in South Lebanon.

"Mr. Secretary General, Get the UNIFIL forces out of harm's way. It should be done right now, immediately," Netanyahu said in a video posted by his office.

In Hebrew Netanyahu said the IDF had repeatedly asked that UNIFIL move out of the area where fighting was taking place and was repeatedly refused, thereby providing the Hezbollah terror group with human shields. "Your refusal to remove the troops makes the UNIFIL forces hostages in the hands of Hezbollah," Netanyahu said. He said Israel regrets any harm caused to the peacekeeping troops and does everything possible to prevent such harm but the simple way to avoid such events is simply to remove the troops from danger.

Netanyahu appeals to UN Secretary-General to remove UNIFIL forces from South Lebanon fighting

Netanyahu went on to say that regrettably, some European leaders are exerting pressure in the wrong place. "Instead of criticizing Israel, they should direct the criticism to Hezbollah which is using the peacekeepers as human shields just like Hamas used UNRWA in Gaza.

Guterres condemned the shooting at UNIFIL forces, calling it a violation of humanitarian international law and the UN Security Council also condemned the incidents.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin on Saturday expressed deep concern over IDF's fire on UNIFIL positions. At least two members of the force had suffered mild injuries. The leaders of France and Italy condemned Israel for firing at the UN troops earlier calling it outrageous. Italy lodged its protest after the report that shots were fired, Italian Defense Minister Guido Crosetto said. An emergency meeting will be held at the UN Security Council later on Thursday following the incident.

Firing on UNIFIL bases was "totally unacceptable" and clearly flouts international law, Crosetto added in a statement. Italy has summoned Israel's ambassador to the country, Jonathan Peled, to Rome following the incident.

France said it was waiting for explanations from Israel. "France expresses its deep concern following the Israeli shots that hit the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and condemns any attack on the security of UNIFIL," the foreign ministry said in a statement, adding that none of its 700 troops in the mission had been wounded.

On Monday the IDF asked the UNIFIL forces to move out of the fighting area for their safety but was rejected. "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," Irish President Michael Higgins, whose troops are part of the UNIFIL deployment, said.

10.13.24 – Su

Residents eyes and ears reported digging noises for 18 years; more tunnels are there

10.13.24 – Su

Residents in north claim Hezbollah has more tunnels in store

'We saw people on the other side who suddenly disappeared,' Israelis living near the Lebanon border say, IDF reveals more tunnels and shafts found near border

Yair Kraus, Yoav Zitun|03:31

The IDF said on Sunday that they uncovered a tunnel shaft near the Israel border in South Lebanon, in drone footage from the area. On Tuesday, the military said its forces located and dismantled a Hezbollah tunnel that crossed about 10 meters (33 feet) from Lebanon's Marwahin area into Israeli territory near the community of Zar'it.

The IDF spokesperson said that troops found infrastructure built underground including living areas for terrorists and stores of weapons and equipment.

But residents of the north are not reassured. Yossi Adoni, mayor of Zarit, who has been living away from the border lining farming community, for a year, said that more tunnels are there. "We've reported on digging noises and activity across the border. We heard noises and sawdust coming out from time to time. More than once we saw people who would be walking on the paths through the fields and suddenly disappear," he said. Gadi Shabtay, who was evacuated from his home on the border in Kibbutz Rosh HaNikra said he believed the threat had not been removed. "The army took all the findings and testimonies we had been collecting for years and gave ridiculous answers like 'what you hear is the noise of roots splitting the rock' or 'the noise of the cables on the antennas on the roof' or 'mice running in the sewer pipes' and many more strange responses." He said that had it not been for the Hamas assault on the South, the army would have still been in the dark. "We would have found ourselves invaded by Radwan's forces. Hezbollah has been preparing for 18 years," he said.

Like Shabtay, Attorney Eliyahu Ben Ezra from Rosh HaNikra also said that he warned about tunnels just before the October 7 massacre. "In 2019, I heard noises in the bedroom, and in 2020 during COVID, I was working from home and heard and recorded vibrations in the ground," he said. "In my opinion, not all the tunnels have been taken care of, and it will take a long time. In my opinion, the story will not end with one tunnel. We will not return until everything is eliminated.

"For years we knew and warned that something was happening there. For years I have been shouting that the northern border should be taken care of and an IDF force should be brought in to clean out the border, said Moshe Davidovitch, Chair of the Confrontation Line Forum of Northern Regional councils and the Head of a council in the Western Galilee said. "It is extremely lucky that the tunnels and the arsenal of weapons have now been found because it could have been a huge disaster that could have destroyed the State of Israel. The obvious conclusion is that we must listen to the local leadership and residents who are the eyes and ears of the state."

Concern in Yemen over pending Israeli attack 'Hodeida port cannot sustain another strike'

Sources in Yemen do not know the scope and severity of an Israeli strike but fear the humanitarian crisis already plaguing the country could worsen; the security cabinet is set to meet to discuss Israel's next move

10.13.24 – Su

IDF refrains from attacks on civilian areas in Beirut after Biden, Netanyahu call

10.13.24 – Su

IDF refrains from attacks on Beirut after Biden, Netanyahu call

Last strike on Lebanon's capital was the attack on Wafiq Safa, a senior member of the terror group and a close ally of slain leader Hassan Nasrallah last week; Biden reportedly urged the PM to refrain from harming civilians especially in Beirut

Yoav Zitun, Itamar Eichner, Lior Ben Ari|03:02

The IDF has not conducted any airstrikes on Beirut since U.S. President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke on the phone last Wednesday, for the first time since Iran's ballistic missile strike on Israel.

Biden reportedly told Netanyahu to reduce its attacks on civilian populated areas, especially in and around the Lebanese capital.

Israeli jets last attacked Beirut in an attempt to assassinate senior Hezbollah member Wafiq Safa. The IDF said he had been killed in the strike on an area outside Hezbollah's stronghold in the south of the city, the Dahieh. Saudi media claimed he was killed in the strike.

Lebanese health officials said 18 people were killed and 92 injured in the attack on the center of the city, the third time that the IDF struck targets outside Dahieh since the war began.

Meanwhile, in South Lebanon, the IDF was expanding its operations and calling on residents of villages there to evacuate. Forces uncovered a shaft leading to a tunnel near the border after other tunnels were found.

The military also said it was surprised by the amount of arms and equipment found so near Israeli border communities, in preparation for an invasion of Israel by Hezbollah's elite Radwan unit.

Hezbollah continued to target Israel on Sunday including Acre and Haifa and their surrounding areas. No injuries or damage to the cities were reported.

10.13.24 – Su

Israel cabinet vote on scope and details of Israel's retaliation on Iran

10.13.24 – Su

U.S. says Israel has narrowed down targets for strike on Iran, NBC reports

Israeli security cabinet set to meet to vote to authorize Netanyahu and Gallant to decide the scope and details of Israel's retaliation on Iran after its missile strike
Itamar Eichner, Reuters|Yesterday | 23:41

U.S. officials believe Israel has narrowed down targets in its response to Iran's recent attack to military and energy infrastructure, NBC reported on Saturday.

The Israeli security cabinet was set to meet on Sunday after it had not voted to authorize Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant to decide on what the Israeli attack would include.

There is no indication that Israel will target nuclear facilities or carry out assassinations, the report said citing unnamed U.S. officials, adding that Israel has not made final decisions about how and when to act.

Earlier the U.S. was reported to be moving its THAAD missile defense system to Israel to help intercept potential ballistic missile threats from Iran after Israel requested Washington to increase its power projection by sending additional military assets to the region, as well as providing assistance with air defense systems.

Israel has repeatedly said it will respond to Iran's missile attack on Oct. 1, launched in retaliation for Israeli strikes in Lebanon and Gaza and the killing of a Hamas leader in Iran.

Iran has been engaging in urgent diplomatic efforts with regional countries to mitigate the scale of Israel's expected response and possibly secure protection for the Iranian capital. Tehran's heightened concern stems from uncertainty over the U.S.' ability to persuade Israel not to target critical Iranian nuclear or oil infrastructure.

10.12.24 – Sa

IDF has 59-pg document, 36-pg presentation, 17000 image blueprint for 9/11-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

10.12.24 – Sa

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.

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Ynet-News, October 11, 2024 – Friday (Tishri 10 Atonement)

10.11.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday Atonement 10 – Tishri
Hezbollah appoints new leaders to use its considerable stockpile

10.11.24 – Fr- - - News Placed in October 11 spot – Friday Atonement 10 – Tishri
Islamists plot to car bomb Tel Aviv towers then shoot bystanders after the explosion

10.11.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday Atonement 10 – Tishri
Report details damage from over 1,600 rockets to northern Israel

10.10.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday 9 Q-1 1:56pm
Israel targets Nasrallah's special negotiator, in charge of Beirut International Airport

10.10.24 – Th- - - News Placed in October 10 spot – Thursday 9 Q-1 1:56pm
Every Lebanon house is a terror base, waiting for an invasion to Conquer the Galilee

10.10.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday 9 Q-1 1:56pm
Judges slammed Tel Aviv municipality for refusing Orthodox worship on Yom Kippur

10.09.24 – We- - - – Wednesday 8
Rafael presents new Lite Beam system next week at a defense exhibit in the US

10.09.24 – We- - - News Placed in October 09 spot – Wednesday 8
Netanyahu and Biden talk, joined by Harris, as IDF prepares to respond to Iran

10.09.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday 8
West Bank terror rampage: 4 scenes, attempts motorcycle getaway

10.09.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday 8
IDF hoists Israeli flag over Lebanon's Shi'ite village 'Iran Garden'

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 7
PM blocked Gallant trip to US; Likud base shuns Gallant's secrecy with Pentagon

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 7
Hostages Families met Qatari mediators, chances of returning alive diminishes

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 7
Ceremony by Hezbollah Deputy preceded 100+ rockets fired at Haifa

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 7
Northern Command chief Gordin heckled; implying residents could return in a month

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday 7
IDF targeted Husseini in Beirut airstrike; key to Iran arms transfers of guided missiles

10.08.24 – Tu- - - News Placed in October 08 spot – Tuesday 7
Katz calls France to leverage new president in Lebanon, opportunity to shift the balance

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6
US officials believe Sinwar is still alive and making critical decisions with Qatar

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

Knesset push for specialized genocide court to prosecute October 7 culprits

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

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

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

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

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News Placed in October 07 spot – Monday 6

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

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

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

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

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

10.07.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday 6

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News Placed in October 06 spot – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

Trojan horse inside Hezbollah: New details on Lebanon pager attack

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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

10.06.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday 5

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