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IAF concludes Lebanon operations, preparing for Iran nuclear program

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Haredi Torah scholar volunteers at police station near Nazareth Arab town

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Drone swarm from the east suspect Yemen: 2 downed near southern border

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German quiet embargo on Israel nixes pavilion at Frankfurt 60th Book Fair

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Terrorist vehicle fires on bus near Jerusalem, 12-year-old critically wounded

12.11.24 – We- - - News Placed in December 11 spot – Wednesday

IDF in Syria: near Seven villages, preparing for winter 1-15 kilometers east of border

12.11.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Spy message to Assad before his fall; smuggling weapons will bring Israel airstrikes

12.11.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Israeli Jews who spied for Iran are biggest infiltration in decades

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

World Central Kitchen fires 62 employees in Gaza deemed security threats

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Syrian military 80% destroyed, Netanyahu reaches out to new regime

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Israel ranks at bottom in reading and math, disparity between Jews and Arabs

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Israel delegates leave for Cairo this week for Egypt proposed Hostage deal

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News Placed in December 10 spot – Tuesday

Arab states oppose IDF destroying Syrian regime's Air Force & naval fleet

12.10.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Ministers support Netanyahu in deep sense of injustice, years of legal harassment

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

IDF destroyed military sites in Syria, with around 250 air strikes

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Israel strikes Syrian air bases, strategic military targets as preventive self-defense

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Collapse of Syrian regime from severe blows inflicted on Hamas, Hezbollah & Iran

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Israel cautiously optimistic for hostage deal within 'a week or two'

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Drone strike on central Israel apartment, IDF considers retaliation against Houthis

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News Placed in December 09 spot – Monday

IDF bulldozers poised to move the Syrian border fence, established in 1916

12.09.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Fall of Assad regime sparks hope for return of Israeli missing persons in Syria

12.08.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Q1 Moon 9:27am

Northern Gaza sees fewer clashes as IDF tightens grip on Jabaliya

12.08.24 – Su- - - News Placed in December 08 spot – Sunday Q1 Moon 9:27am

Israel captures Syrian peak of Mount Hermon, to bolster control of border area

12.08.24 – Su - - News – Sunday Q1 Moon 9:27am
Assad family 54 year-regime of terror has just ended as rebels take Damascus

12.08.24 – Su - - News – Sunday Q1 Moon 9:27am
IDF moves tanks, troops into enforce Golan Heights border from Syrian rebels

12.08.24 – Su - - News – Sunday Q1 Moon 9:27am
Pentagon October leak, delayed Israeli strike on Iran, court documents confirm

12.07.24 – Sa - - News Placed in December 07 spot – Saturday
Israel assists UN repelling rebels from borders, as they topple the Syrian Assad regime

12.07.24 – Sa - - News – Saturday
 Hamas publishes propaganda video of Israeli hostage Matan Zangauker

12.13.24 – Fr
Series of Israel attacks on Syria radar, warehouses, & research center in Damascus

12.13.24 – Fr
Syria reports a series of Israeli attacks; missile fragment located in Damascus
Syria reports Israeli airstrikes on radar stations, warehouses, and a research center, with a missile fragment found in Damascus
Lior Ben Ari|15:29

The Syrian state-affiliated news outlet "Voice of Damascus," linked to rebel groups controlling parts of Syria after the fall of President Assad's regime, reported Friday a series of Israeli strikes in the rural areas of As-Suwayda, Damascus, Al-Qalamoun, Masyaf, Latakia, and Tartus.

The report claims that the targets included radar stations, warehouses, and scientific research centers.

The Syrian capital also saw strikes on warehouses belonging to the Republican Guard and the Fourth Division near Mount Qasioun. Simultaneously, the "Sabrin News" agency, associated with pro-Iranian militias in Iraq, reported that fragments from an Israeli missile had landed in the Rukn al-Din area of Damascus.

The Israeli military initiated this extensive bombing campaign after the fall of Assad's regime, fearing that strategic and even chemical weapons might fall into the hands of extremist jihadist groups. In the latest operation that lasted 72 hours, Israel claimed to have destroyed 109 anti-aircraft missile batteries, 34 radar sites, and 390 missile, rocket, and UAV storage and launch sites.

Ynet's military analyst Ron Ben-Yishai explained that one of the most significant targets for Israel was Syria's advanced and extensive air defense system, which had been continuously upgraded since Russia's intervention in 2015.

The Russians not only improved Syria's defense capabilities but also supplied long-range S-300 missile systems. This air defense network had largely been intact during Syria's civil war, allowing Israel to operate its aircraft on the fringes of Syria's airspace or over the Mediterranean Sea without much risk.

According to reports, Israel continues to target Syria's military capabilities, focusing on systems that have yet to be destroyed. Additionally, to safeguard residents of the Golan Heights, the IDF has taken control of a buffer zone along the Syrian border, including the summit of the Syrian portion of Mount Hermon.

12.13.24 – Fr

Jordan border residents on edge, vulnerable to terrorism and smuggling

12.13.24 – Fr

Eastern border residents on edge as security threats escalate

As security threats intensify along Israel's eastern border, residents and local leaders are pushing for stronger defenses; and despite promises from the government, delayed funding and insufficient military presence leave communities vulnerable to terrorism and smuggling

Ilana Curie|15:18

Warnings from residents along Israel's eastern border about potential terrorist activity are becoming a grim reality. The first attack occurred in late October when terrorists infiltrated Neot HaKikar in the Tamar Regional Council, injuring two IDF soldiers before being neutralized by the 998th Battalion.

A month later, a Jordanian vehicle breached the border fence near Kibbutz Samar in the Eilat region. These incidents are part of a broader trend of cross-border weapons smuggling. Despite government promises to fortify the border with a stronger barrier, funding for these initiatives has been delayed. Meanwhile, residents face mounting threats, fearing even worse to come.

Recently, former National Security Advisor Giora Eiland issued a stark warning in an assessment prepared for the Zalul environmental organization. He cautioned about increased terrorist activity emanating from Jordan, highlighting Iran's interest in establishing a military infrastructure there to target Israel. Eiland emphasized two primary threats: short-range drone attacks and mortar fire, noting that while Israel is effective at countering large drones, smaller ones pose a significant challenge.

Farmers under pressure

Farmers in the Arava have already documented drones hovering above their fields. Uri Meshli, a resident of Yotvata and head of its agricultural operations, described the vulnerability of the region. "Our fields stretch 6 kilometers along the border, with only a makeshift barrier. It's easy for anyone to cross if they want to," he said.

Meshli noted that there is little military presence in the area, forcing local communities to fund their emergency response teams and equipment. "We've seen five drones flying over our fields at an altitude of 30 meters. We're the buffer between the border and the Nof Adom school. The Jordanian forces seem serious—they've upgraded their patrols and vehicles. But we're not sleeping well at night," he added.

A UAV in the skies of the Eilat Regional Council

Ronen Shoshani, a farmer and emergency response leader in Neot HaKikar, said the tension has altered his work habits. "My farm is right on the border. I don't go there at 5 a.m. anymore because I'm worried. I'm more alert and avoid being in the fields after dark," he said.

Elad Tavlan, a resident of Hatzeva in central Arava, pointed out that residents have had to take security into their own hands. "There are hardly any soldiers here for routine security. Local residents could help fill the gap, whether through reserve duty or expanded emergency teams," he suggested.

He also noted increased Jordanian efforts to secure the border. "We see small outposts turning into full military positions. Right across from my kitchen window is a new two-story Jordanian outpost built this past year. It's comforting to see their presence since no one else is protecting us," he said.

In October, Ynet revealed the IDF's plan to close the border with Jordan, a project championed by Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Amir Baram. The plan included deploying advanced surveillance systems, and rapid-response units, and upgrading the physical barrier. However, it has been postponed indefinitely, despite Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's pledge to allocate funds in the 2025 budget.

During a September visit to the border, Netanyahu acknowledged the challenges. "This is a border of peace, and we work with Jordan to keep it that way. But the threats are growing. Smugglers are trying to bring in weapons and terrorists. We will strengthen the barrier to stop this," he said.

Despite calls from local leaders, including Eilat Regional Council head Hanan Ginat, for immediate action, the government has yet to allocate the necessary resources. "We must enhance both security and residents' sense of safety," Ginat said.

In response to the growing threats, council leaders have formed a forum, led by Jordan Valley Regional Council head David Elhayani, to advocate for improved security measures.

In a statement, the IDF addressed the issues raised: "The IDF adapts its defense plans according to evolving threats. Since the start of the war, the border has been reinforced with overt and covert surveillance systems that detect suspicious movements along its entire length.

"IDF forces are deployed along the border for defense and observation missions, based on existing force levels, and are prepared for any scenario."

"In recent months, construction of a fortified fence has begun near Arava communities. The IDF maintains regular communication with local security officials and counterpart organizations."

For now, residents along the eastern border rely on their own resources and Jordanian patrols to maintain safety. However, the fragile peace remains under constant threat from both criminal smuggling and potential terrorist attacks. With delayed government action, the call for stronger border security grows louder, even as the region remains on edge.

12.13.24 – Fr

Two rockets intercept from Central Gaza School; 8 Hamas eliminated in IDF strike

12.13.24 – Fr

IDF intercepts two rockets fired from Central Gaza

Terrorists in Gaza Strip fire two rockets towards southern Israel, triggering sirens in Ashkelon and several communities located near the border. Both rockets intercepted, no injuries reported.

Elad Benari, Canada

Dec 13, 2024, 9:17 PM (GMT+2)

Terrorists in the Gaza Strip on Friday evening fired two rockets towards southern Israel, triggering sirens in Ashkelon and several communities located near the border with Gaza at around 9:00 p.m.

The IDF Spokesperson's Unit said that two projectiles launched from Central Gaza were intercepted by the IAF.

Magen David Adom said that no calls had been received at MDA's 101 hotline regarding rocket impacts or injuries.

Over the past day, IDF troops operating in Beit Lahia in northern Gaza located and dismantled an underground rocket launch site that was directed at communities in southern Israel.

Three underground multi-barrel launchers loaded with rockets and other weapons were located in the area.

In Rafah, IDF troops located tunnel shafts, eliminated terrorists, and dismantled terrorist infrastructure sites over the last day.

During the operations, the troops identified a terrorist cell approaching the troops, that was then struck by the IAF to thwart the threat.

On Thursday, the IDF Spokesperson's Unit announced that over the past week, with the direction of IDF and Israel Security Agency (Shin Bet), the IAF precisely struck and eliminated a Department Head in Hamas' Manufacturing Headquarters and a Company Commander in the Zeitoun Battalion.

These terrorists were operating within a command and control center that previously served as the "Al-Hurriya" School in Gaza City.

The terrorist Ammar Daloul served as a Department Head in Hamas' Manufacturing Headquarters and was as a significant source of knowledge for the terrorist organization.

The terrorist Jihad Yassin served as a Company Commander in Hamas' Zeitoun Battalion and was responsible for attacks on IDF troops operating in the Gaza Strip.

Six additional Hamas terrorists were eliminated in the strike, including a terrorist who infiltrated into Israel on October 7, 2023.

12.13.24 – Fr

Greece to buy rocket systems from Israel & drones from US over odds with Turkey

12.13.24 – Fr

Greece to buy artillery systems from Israel and drones from US, officials say Athens in talks on a \$630-\$735 million deal to purchase Elbit's PULS rocket artillery system, as deal also includes the construction of components in Greece Reuters|Updated:11:09

Greece is in advanced talks to buy 36 PULS rocket artillery systems from Israel as it pushes to modernize its armed forces, two officials said on Friday.

The discussions on the 600-700 million euro (\$630 million-\$735 million) deal come as the countries are in negotiations for Israel to sell Greece a 2-billion-euro anti-aircraft and missile defense dome.

Greece's government will submit the deal to a parliamentary committee for approval in the first quarter of 2025, the officials said.

Athens has drafted a multi-billion, 10-year purchasing plan that also includes acquiring up to 40 new F-35 fighter jets from the U.S. and four frigates from France.

The PULS system, made by Israel's Elbit, has a range of up to 300 km (190 miles), the officials said. The deal also includes the construction of components in Greece.

One of the officials added that on Friday, the country's top decision-making body on foreign affairs and defense matters, KYSEA, approved the procurement of US-made Switchblade drones, made by AeroVironment,

Most of the new artillery systems will protect Greece's northeastern borders with Turkey and its islands in the Aegean, a second official said.

Greece and Turkey, NATO allies, have long been at odds over issues including where their continental shelves start and end, energy resources, flights over the Aegean, and the ethnically partitioned island of Cyprus.

12.13.24 – Fr

Blinken visits Iraq Prime Minister, urging Syrian rebels to establish contacts

12.13.24 – Fr

Blinken makes unannounced Iraq visit as part of Syria diplomacy push
Blinken to address regional security opportunities and challenges while reaffirming US commitment to supporting engagement with all communities in Syria to promote an inclusive transition

Reuters|08:20

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken made an unannounced visit to Iraq on Friday to meet Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani for talks on the future of neighboring Syria.

Blinken is touring the region in the wake of the swift collapse of Bashar al-Assad's government in the face of an advance by Syrian opposition factions.

Assad's ouster took Washington by surprise and the outgoing administration of President Joe Biden is urging the victorious rebels, with whom it is scrambling to establish contacts, to create a government that eschews Islamist factions and is inclusive of Syria's minorities.

The State Department said Blinken in Baghdad "will underscore U.S. commitment to the U.S.-Iraq strategic partnership and to Iraq's security, stability, and sovereignty."

"He will also discuss regional security opportunities and challenges, as well as enduring U.S. support for engagement with all communities in Syria to establish an inclusive transition," it said.

Blinken's visit was not announced until after he met Sudani on Friday.

A U.S. official told Reuters that Washington sees this moment as an opportunity to further push back Iran's influence in the region.

12.12.24 – Th

Qatar, Hamas hostage deal talks in near-total secrecy over 7-week cease-fire

12.12.24 – Th

7-week cease-fire: Hamas hostage deal talks continue as Sullivan visits Israel
U.S. national security advisor and Biden's Middle East envoy meet with Netanyahu and security officials to discuss war, Iran and hostage deal amid optimism that agreement close to completion

Itamar Eichner|14:06

U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan and U.S. President Joe Biden's Middle East envoy Brett McGurk, met on Thursday with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and several senior Israeli officials, including Mossad chief David Barnea and Shin Bet Director Ronen Bar, to discuss advancing normalization with Saudi Arabia, the cease-fire in Lebanon and the situation in Syria. Sullivan is expected to continue meetings in Qatar and Egypt.

Barnea met with Qatari Prime Minister Mohammed Al Thani in Doha to discuss advancing a hostage deal on Wednesday, about two weeks after a secret meeting held in Vienna. Optimism and progress have been reported following the talks, with one indication of the seriousness of the talks being the near-total secrecy surrounding the matter – partly to prevent internal political pressures on Netanyahu.

Qatar is currently the main mediator for the deal, with the outgoing U.S. administration cooperating fully with U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's incoming administration to achieve a humanitarian agreement before Trump's inauguration in January. Reports indicated the deal is likely to proceed in stages, beginning under the Biden administration and continuing under Trump's. The first phase is a humanitarian one and will involve the release of hostages in exchange for a seven-week cease-fire.

Such a deal could pave the way for broader agreements, including ending the war and normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia. "It's estimated that the process will continue after the humanitarian releases; the key is getting the parties committed," an Israeli official said.

However, it remains unclear whether Hamas will agree to a smaller deal without ending the war. Contradictory reports have emerged, with some suggesting Hamas is willing to allow a limited Israeli presence in Gaza while others claim Israel has agreed to a temporary withdrawal from the Philadelphi Corridor, though this remains unverified. Israeli assessments suggest a deal could be reached within two weeks.

Meanwhile, families of American-Israeli hostages met with Michael Waltz, slated to become Trump's national security advisor. The families urged Waltz to support Netanyahu and empower him to move forward with the deal, stressing the need to "conclude the deal and not succumb to [Itamar] Ben-Gvir and [Bezael] Smotrich."

Estimations indicated the U.S. is incorporating the issue of normalization with Saudi Arabia to help Netanyahu achieve a historic agreement and overcome domestic political challenges.

Against the backdrop of progress in the hostage negotiations, Sullivan visited Israel. He addressed his meeting with Netanyahu at a press conference concluding his visit, saying: "A cease-fire and a hostage deal would start bringing those hostages home. It would also allow for a massive surge in humanitarian assistance."

"We discussed this, steps already taken to expand aid flow and further measures required. The U.S. stands by Israel and seeks to reduce civilian suffering wherever it takes place," he added.

When asked if Netanyahu is waiting for Trump to finalize a deal, Sullivan responded, "I believe every day brings new risks, so urgency is essential. We've seen the tragic deaths of hostages. I didn't get that impression; I think Netanyahu wants a deal."

"My goal in Doha is to close a deal this month. We were close before but didn't succeed. I can't promise, but I wouldn't be here if I thought this would drag on until January 20 – we'll use every day to it's fullest," he said.

Sullivan noted a shift in Hamas' stance following the Israel-Lebanon cease-fire. "For months, Hamas waited for players and forces to come to its rescue. Once we reached a cease-fire, the negotiations took on a different tone," he said.

"We're working to finalize a hostage deal that will end the war and reunite the hostages with their families. It's time to finish the job." He added that he met with families of American hostages, pledging, "I'll do everything in my power to bring your loved ones home."

Sullivan highlighted his seventh visit to Israel as national security advisor, recalling his October 18 visit last year alongside Biden to send a strong message of support to Israel. "A year later, I was with the president in the situation room where he directed the military to take direct action to defend Israel against Iran's attacks. American aircraft helped intercept ballistic missiles," he said.

He stressed the broader context of the conflict, saying, "People forget the basic fact of this conflict — Israel didn't seek or start this war. Hamas initiated it by invading Israel and Iran chose to escalate it into a multi-front war."

"Israel faced two direct attacks from Iran, crippling its capabilities. Hezbollah's leaders are no longer with us and can no longer build terror infrastructure, Hamas' leaders are gone and Assad's regime has collapsed. The Middle East has fundamentally changed, but not in the way Yahya Sinwar and Nasrallah planned," he added.

Sullivan stressed the importance of continued pressure on Iran and vigilance against its threats, saying, "The U.S. will never allow Tehran to obtain nuclear weapons."

12.12.24 – Th

Netanyahu video to Iranian people, posted in English with Arabic subtitles

12.12.24 – Th

Netanyahu takes his case directly to the Iranian people, again

'Your regime is terrified of you, the people of Iran': Prime minister releases a video in English addressed to the Iranian people, in which he states that 'just as we want peace with you, you want peace with us'

Itamar Eichner|13:41

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressed the citizens of Iran Thursday evening, in light of the overthrow of the Assad regime in Syria, and emphasized that "Israel wants peace. We want peace with all those who truly want peace with us."

"I have no doubt that you, the people of Iran, know this. I know that just as we want peace with you, you want peace with us. But you suffer under the rule of a regime that subjugates you and threatens us," Netanyahu also said.

In a video he posted in English with Arabic subtitles, the prime minister added that the regime in Iran "is terrified of you, the people of Iran. And one day, I know that. One day this will change. One day Iran will be free. Women, Life, Freedom."

"That is the future of Iran" Netanyahu continued. "That is the future of peace. And I have no doubt that we will realize that future together – a lot sooner than people think. I know and I believe we will transform the Middle East into a beacon of prosperity, progress and peace."

He noted that "your oppressors spent over \$30 billion supporting Assad in Syria. Today, after only 11 days of fighting, his regime collapsed into dust. Your oppressors spent billions supporting Hamas in Gaza."

Regarding support for Hamas in the Gaza Strip, he added, "Your oppressors spent billions supporting Hamas in Gaza. Today their regime lies in ruins."

The "tyrants from Iran" also invested more than \$20 billion in support of Hezbollah in Lebanon, Netanyahu noted, adding that: "In a matter of weeks, most of Hezbollah's leaders, its rockets and thousands of its terrorists went up in smoke. The money your oppressors stole from you literally went up in smoke."

Netanyahu continued: "You must be furious imagining the new roads, schools, hospitals that could have been built with the tens of billions of dollars your dictators wasted backing terrorists who lose over and over and over again."

Netanyahu rhetorically asked if the Iranians know why their oppressors keep losing. "It's not only because they are incompetent and cruel. They are. It's because they seek to conquer other nations, to impose fundamentalist tyranny on the Middle East - on the entire world. The only thing Israel seeks is to defend our state. But in so doing, we're defending civilization against barbarism."

He said that the "historic events we witness today" are a "chain reaction to the pounding of Hamas, the decimation of Hezbollah, the targeting of Nasrallah, the blows we delivered to the Iran regime's axis of terror. And all this came as President Trump pointed out this week, 'because of Israel and its fighting success.'"

About two and a half months ago, Netanyahu also directly addressed the Iranians, effectively asking them to rebel against the regime.

"Don't let a small group of fanatic theocrats crush your hopes and your dreams. You deserve better. Your children deserve better. The entire world deserves better," he said then. "The people of Iran should know – Israel stands with you. May we together know a future of prosperity and peace."

"I speak a lot about the leaders of Iran. Yet at this pivotal moment, I want to address you – the people of Iran. I want to do so directly, without filters, without middlemen," he said. "Every day, you see a regime that subjugates you, makes fiery speeches about defending Lebanon, defending Gaza. Yet every day, that regime plunges our region deeper into darkness and deeper into war. Every day, their puppets are eliminated. Ask Mohammed Deif. Ask Nasrallah," he said, referring to Israel's killing of leaders of Iranian terror proxies.

He then threatened the ayatollahs again, saying that: "There is nowhere in the Middle East Israel cannot reach. There is nowhere we will not go to protect our people and protect our country. With every passing moment, the regime is bringing you — the noble Persian people — closer to the abyss. The vast majority of Iranians know their regime doesn't care a whit about them. If it did care, if it cared about you, it would stop wasting billions of dollars on futile wars across the Middle East. It would start improving your lives."

He described a world in which Iran and Israel are at peace, instead of Iranian citizens living in "endless poverty, repression and war."

"Don't let a small group of fanatic theocrats crush your hopes and your dreams. You deserve better. Your children deserve better. The entire world deserves better," he said, concluding: "The people of Iran should know – Israel stands with you. May we together know a future of prosperity and peace."

12.12.24 – Th

IAF concludes Lebanon operations, preparing for Iran nuclear program

12.12.24 – Th

Israeli Air Force concludes operations on northern border, readies mission against Iran's nuclear program

Officials present impressive military data on fighting against Hezbollah and make preparations for a possible strike on Iranian soil following Assad's fall and Trump's return to Washington

Yoav Zitun|11:27

The Israeli Air Force (IAF) concluded its operations on the northern border on Thursday, identifying more opportunities than threats in the region, while preparing for what could be its next major mission — neutralizing Iran's nuclear facilities.

Within just one week, IAF fighter jets dropped over 1,800 munitions, mainly heavy bombs, on Syrian military targets following the collapse of the Bashar Assad regime. The IAF has dropped approximately 83,000 munitions across all fronts since the beginning of the war in Gaza.

The extensive airstrikes in Syria, concentrated over a dramatic 48-hour period, aimed to strip Assad's military of its key capabilities to prevent them from falling into rebel hands. Given the Syrian military's large but outdated arsenal and the unexpected collapse of Assad's regime that took Israel and the West by surprise, the IAF rapidly devised a strike plan, prioritizing targets in Syria.

Significant amounts of Syrian military equipment – including old artillery, tanks, anti-tank weapons, light ammunition and personal arms – remain in Syria. However, the IAF noted that even if it intended to destroy all these stockpiles, it would lack the munitions to do so in a single strike amid an extended, multi-front conflict that necessitates careful resource management.

According to the IAF, about 80% of Syria's air defense array, including the lethal SA-17 and SA-22 systems, has been destroyed. This includes hundreds of Sukhoi and MiG aircraft, attack helicopters, missile launchers for Raad and Scud types, cruise missiles and chemical weapons systems.

Assad's firepower suffered a massive blow, with 90% of its key surface-to-surface missile batteries neutralized. The IAF also destroyed 44 radars and jammers, 390 launchers and missile components, 27 fighter jets, 24 attack helicopters and 12 cruise missile launchers.

The destruction of most of Syria's densely packed air defense systems has opened the skies for IAF pilots in the northern fronts, allowing unimpeded operations over Damascus for the first time in over 50 years.

"Our UAVs can now fly as far as eastern Syria and our fighter pilots circle Damascus freely. This is unprecedented," a military official said, adding that the withdrawal of Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) officials and initial signs of Russian troop pullbacks, including S-300 batteries, have further bolstered confidence.

The IDF is now updating its plans to target Iran's nuclear facilities, motivated by concerns that the collapse of the Shiite axis and Hezbollah's weakening might drive Tehran to make a desperate move toward reaching military nuclear capabilities.

Other factors are also at play include the upcoming inauguration of U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, signaling potential shifts by 2025; the IDF's significant blow to Iran's air defense capabilities in a major strike six weeks ago and the loss of Hezbollah, Iran's primary regional deterrent against an attack on its nuclear sites. Meanwhile, the IAF continues bi-daily strikes on Syria-Lebanon border crossings.

Despite these developments, the cease-fire agreement between Israel and Hezbollah is under constant strain. "Hezbollah tests the boundaries with cease-fire violations daily and we respond with strikes," a military official said. The IDF has highlighted the success of its operations in eliminating both senior and tactical leadership within the terrorist organization.

Approximately two-thirds of Hezbollah's rockets and missiles have been destroyed, achieving a high interception rate. Out of 12,000 rockets and missiles launched from Lebanon, 900 fell in open spaces, but only 12 caused significant damage, marking a 91% interception rate.

The success of these interception extends to enemy drones as well: Of the 239 drones launched from Lebanon during Operation Northern Arrows, which began in September and concluded last month, 36 hit their targets effectively, including the attack on a Golani Brigade base, while the interception rate stood at 94%.

Meanwhile, the IAF has completed its investigation into the October 7 massacre and plans to present its findings to the IDF's General Staff next week. The report will later be made public, but the IAF might demand the simultaneous release of investigations from other branches, such as Military Intelligence, the Southern Command and the Operations Directorate.

This approach aims to provide the public with a comprehensive view of the failures that led to Hamas' attack, avoiding the narrow focus seen in the controversial release of the investigation into the battle at Kibbutz Be'eri, which disproportionately blamed tactical-level commanders.

12.12.24 – Th

Haredi Torah scholar volunteers at police station near Nazareth Arab town

12.12.24 – Th

The Haredi officer who volunteers at a police station in an Arab town Maor Korsias, a Haredi Jew from Tiberias, has become an unconventional presence at the police station in Kafar Kanna, with his long sidelocks and black kippah; He has earned the respect of the local community, who affectionately call him 'the Sheikh'; But how does he balance his Torah studies in a kollel with volunteering as a police officer?
Shilo Freid|08:29

At the police station in Kafar Kanna, near Nazareth, the officer with a black yarmulke and long, curled sidelocks is a familiar sight. Known as "the Sheikh" by those who come to file complaints or report issues, his presence might seem like a scene out of a satirical show, but it's the real story of 22-year-old Maor Korsias. A devout Haredi Jew from Tiberias, Korsias spends his mornings studying in a Torah institute (kollel) and dedicates his afternoons to volunteering with the Israel Police.

Having grown familiar with the Kafar Kanna police station over the past year, Korsias now hopes to enlist as a full-time police officer. "I was raised in a Haredi home and studied in prestigious Torah institutions throughout my youth," he explained. "A year ago, I got married and began studying in a kollel led by a prominent rabbi in northern Israel. For most of my life, with my wife's blessing, my focus was solely on Torah study."

Korsias shared that his decision to join the police stemmed from family tradition and a sense of duty. "My father and brothers all served in the security forces, and I felt the need to contribute as well. With my wife's support, I decided to split my time – studying Torah half the day and volunteering as a patrol officer with the Israel Police a few times a month."

His role places him in a station far from his hometown, a deliberate choice to maximize the impact of his unique background. "I wanted to serve in a place where my identity as a Haredi Jew could make a difference, both within the police force and among the community we serve," Korsias said.

"At first glance, it might seem like an unusual combination, but perhaps because of a sense of shared values, my appearance as a Breslov Hasid commands respect," he noted. "The residents who interact with the police have embraced it in a unique way. They even call me 'the Sheikh.' While I'm a Torah scholar, not a rabbi, the nickname reflects their view of me."

Describing his daily routine, Korsias said, "My mornings are devoted to Torah study, and in the afternoons, I volunteer at the station. My knowledge of Torah and my appearance have a meaningful influence on the environment, which holds me to a higher standard." He concluded, "It's possible to contribute to society while remaining immersed in Torah study. My volunteer work strengthens the community, and my studies provide spiritual protection and bolster the resilience of the state. One does not come at the expense of the other."

12.12.24 – Th

Drone swarm from the east suspect Yemen: 2 downed near southern border

12.12.24 – Th

Drone swarm from Yemen: 2 downed near southern border, third suspected as false alarm
Drone's path mirrors one that struck central Israel earlier this week; alerts triggered in Ashkelon and Gaza border areas, which IDF suspects caused by false alarm
Yoav Zitun|01:35

Israel faced a suspected drone attack launched from Yemen Thursday morning, with the Air Force intercepting a drone near Eilat and pursuing another near Ashdod.

Alerts were triggered across southern Israel, including Netivot, Sderot and Lachish region communities, amid fears of hostile aircraft infiltration.

The IDF later announced it is investigating the possibility that alerts triggered in the Ashkelon and Gaza border region were false alarms caused by misidentification. "The alerts were activated according to policy based on the projected path of the drone, to ensure civilian safety," the military said.

Meanwhile, an interceptor was launched near Eilat targeting a suspected drone, believed to have been launched from Yemen and headed toward Israeli airspace. The aircraft did not enter Israeli territory, and no casualties were reported.

Separately, the IDF confirmed that the Air Force had intercepted a drone over southern Israel. The drone, launched from the east, was shot down near the Egyptian border. There were no casualties, and alerts were activated according to policy. The drone's flight path was reportedly similar to that of a drone that struck a residential balcony in Yavne on Monday, raising concerns of a coordinated escalation. Security forces remain on high alert.

12.12.24 – Th

German quiet embargo on Israel nixes pavilion at Frankfurt 60th Book Fair

12.12.24 – Th

Amid war, Germany pulls back on marking 60 years of Israel relations
Berlin nixes joint Israeli-German pavilion at Frankfurt Book Fair, marking 60 years of ties; Israeli officials criticize 'delays' by Germany's Foreign Ministry, noting no budget allocated for commemorative events this year

Itamar Eichner|00:16

Germany has announced the cancellation of a planned joint Israeli-German pavilion at the Frankfurt Book Fair, originally intended to mark 60 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The decision was conveyed to Israel by Yoel Pollak, the coordinator for the 60th anniversary on behalf of Germany's Foreign Ministry, in a brief message without explanation.

Senior Israeli officials expressed disappointment, citing "delays, difficulties and foot-dragging" from Germany's Foreign Ministry in advancing projects to commemorate the anniversary.

Unlike past milestones, such as the 50th and 55th anniversaries, no dedicated budget has been allocated by Germany, raising doubts about the feasibility of significant activities to mark the occasion.

Israel places strategic importance on its relationship with Germany, given their unique and complex shared history. In previous years, milestone anniversaries were celebrated with collaborative and festive initiatives. However, the ongoing war in Israel appears to have affected Germany's willingness to engage.

Foreign Ministry officials are working with their German counterparts to promote and fund planned activities and have conveyed their dissatisfaction to the German Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The decision comes amid reports of strained defense cooperation between the two countries. In September, Germany's Bild newspaper reported that the German government rejected Israeli requests for various arms purchases while approving sales of heavy weapons to Qatar, a known financial supporter of Hamas. The report alleged Germany is enforcing a "quiet embargo" on Israel.

According to Bild, Israel last year sought to purchase thousands of tank shells and other munitions, but Berlin has yet to decide on the requests. Meanwhile, in the first half of 2024, Germany approved arms sales to Qatar worth over €100 million.

"The Jewish state, currently fighting on multiple fronts against the terrorist organizations Hamas and Hezbollah, places great importance on acquiring specific military equipment from abroad," Bild wrote.

12.12.24 – Th

Terrorist vehicle fires on bus near Jerusalem, 12-year-old critically wounded

12.12.24 – Th

Terrorist opens fire on bus near Jerusalem, 12-year-old critically wounded

Shots apparently fired from passing vehicle near al-Khader junction; woman sustains minor gunshot wounds, 2 others lightly wounded by shrapnel; IDF confirms incident as terror attack

Elisha Ben Kimon, Liran Tamar | 16:03

A 12-year-old boy was critically wounded in a shooting attack on a civilian bus traveling from the Gush Etzion area to Jerusalem, Israeli authorities reported late on Wednesday.

The assailant, who reportedly fired from a passing vehicle near the al-Khader junction, fled the scene. Authorities are conducting a manhunt, suspecting additional accomplices may be involved.

The bus reached a military checkpoint on the outskirts of Jerusalem carrying the injured, where emergency responders provided medical assistance.

The IDF confirmed the incident as a terror attack. Shortly after, police closed Begin Road southbound from Jerusalem to aid the search effort. A joint command center involving the IDF, Shin Bet, Border Police and local police was established to gather intelligence on the suspect vehicle.

A 40-year-old woman sustained minor gunshot wounds, while two others were lightly wounded by shrapnel. All four victims were evacuated to the capital's Hadassah Ein Kerem and Shaare Zedek Medical Centers for treatment.

Magen David Adom paramedic Elchai Sofer and EMT Yaakov Grinwald said, "We arrived quickly and saw the bus still with passengers on board. A 12-year-old boy with

gunshot wounds to his upper body was in critical condition. We provided life-saving treatment and transported him to Hadassah Ein Kerem while fighting to save his life.”

12.11.24 – We

IDF in Syria: near Seven villages, preparing for winter 1-15 kilometers east of border

12.11.24 – We

IDF in Syria: Seven villages, two brigades and winter preparations beyond the border Without resistance, IDF forces took control of Syrian outposts, confiscating tanks, missiles and equipment; preparing for a prolonged stay, troops received living containers; local villagers maintain daily life as army awaits stable governing entity
Yoav Zitun, Tel Kudna, Syria|12:37

In a historic move on the Syrian Golan Heights, IDF forces have completed the capture of five key sectors in the buffer zone beyond the border with Syria.

Over the past two days, thousands of residents from seven local villages have effectively come under the protection of IDF troops from the Paratroopers Brigade, the 188th Armored Brigade, the 7th Armored Brigade and the Commando Brigade.

The weekend operation, which involved seizing outposts and positions, was conducted without resistance. Syrian soldiers abandoned their security posts facing Israel, retreating eastward on trucks and not returning.

Armed rebels, reportedly from the Daraa area and unaffiliated with the extremist group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), alerted some Syrian troops about the IDF's advance. In some instances, these rebels looted a UN post, though Israeli forces later mediated to ensure the stolen weapons and equipment were returned to UNDOF observers, who remain in the area but hold little practical influence.

The long-standing 1974 ceasefire agreement between Israel and Syria under former autocrat Hafez Assad is now effectively obsolete, as a new, undefined political entity has taken power in Damascus, unrecognized by the international community.

In response, the IDF is preparing for an extended presence in Syrian territory, roughly five to seven kilometers beyond the international border, until a stable governing authority assumes control of the region and renews or renegotiates the longstanding accord between Jerusalem and Damascus.

The decision is driven by a determination to avoid a scenario where the border mirrors the volatile conditions seen along the Gaza Strip and Lebanon prior to October 7, with armed terror groups operating near Israeli communities.

To bolster security, the IDF is racing to complete engineering defenses in the area. Approximately 15 kilometers (10 miles) of a new barrier have been constructed along the

international border, known as the "barrel line," located one to two kilometers east of Israel's existing security fence.

The barrier includes deep trenches to block the advance of light vehicles such as pickup trucks, elevated earth embankments and the reinforcement of minefields. These measures complement the high-tech security fence built over the past decade along the 80-kilometer (50-mile) stretch from Hamat Gader to Mount Hermon.

'Not much was invested in these outposts'

IDF troops seized Syrian army outposts after soldiers hastily abandoned their bases, boarding trucks and fleeing east. "We found a few outdated tanks and anti-tank missiles we confiscated, rusty infrastructure and documents translating data about our forces for their troops," an IDF commander described. "It seems not much was invested in these outposts."

The commander noted that the IDF has already provided its soldiers with comfortable living containers, explaining, "It's unpleasant to sleep in these Syrian bunkers. We've also brought in a generator and are clearing paths from Israeli territory ahead of the coming snow. Any potential threat will remain far from Israeli communities."

Meanwhile, forces from the elite Shaldag Unit completed an operation on the Syrian Mount Hermon, during which they confiscated explosives, mines, anti-tank missiles and other military equipment.

According to soldiers, Syrian villagers welcomed the IDF presence. "They didn't throw rice or sweets, but many expressed relief at the fall of Bashar Assad's regime. They remember the aid we provided during the last decade of civil war," one soldier shared. Life in the villages continues as usual, with locals openly conversing with Israeli troops, cultivating their land and tending livestock, no longer fearful of Assad's soldiers. The IDF troops, now settling into the area, describe a relatively calm environment. They walk without helmets, have decent phone reception and remain in high spirits. One soldier, a sniper from the 101st Battalion, observed from a fortified position previously held by a Syrian soldier. "I know this isn't Gaza or Lebanon; it's something completely different," he remarked.

Despite the unfamiliarity, most commanders—except for 210th Division Commander Brig. Gen. Yair Paley and perhaps the brigade commanders—had not trained for such operations, as the IDF discontinued Syrian outpost drills in the early 2000s. However, the army is making active efforts to establish good relations with the local population, even if temporary. Positive messages have already been sent to the governor of the region based in Khan Arnabah near Quneitra.

"We were prepared for Shiite jihadists from the pro-Iranian militias deeper in Syria, and now we're preparing for Sunni jihadists. Both have similar pickup trucks, weapons and extremist ideologies," IDF officials explained.

"The Syrian villages here are trying to make sense of the situation. They just want peace and a livelihood." Soldiers have been instructed to prepare for at least a year-long presence or until further decisions are made at the political level.

Brig. Gen. Paley, who commands the 210th Division overseeing the sector, emphasized: "We will continue to monitor and defend against any threat. Our mission is clear: to protect the citizens of Israel and the Golan."

12.11.24 – We

Spy message to Assad before his fall; smuggling weapons will bring Israel airstrikes

12.11.24 – We

'You're responsible for your territory': Israel's direct messages to Assad before his fall Arab outlet publishes files found following Assad's fall and detailing alleged messages sent by agent who warned regime of cooperation with Iran and Hezbollah

Lior Ben Ari|09:44

Arabic-language outlet Sky News Arabia reported on Wednesday that documents discovered following the fall of Syrian President Bashar Assad indicate messages were sent directly from Israel to Syria concerning Iran's presence, its proxy organizations in the country and arms smuggling operations executed by Tehran to bolster these groups.

The report is based on documents published on social media whose authenticity remains uncertain. However, the documents bear Syria's state emblem under Assad and appear to have been authored by military top brass.

According to the documents, an agent named "Mussa" or "Moses" conveyed messages directly to former Syrian Defense Minister Ali Mahmoud Abbas and passed on to Assad's former national security advisor Ali Mamlouk.

Israel reportedly expressed discontent on several occasions over Syria's approval of Hezbollah or Iranian activities on its soil. The agent detailed these incidents in his messages.

On April 8, 2023, according to the documents and report, the agent warned that Hamas had launched rockets against Israel from the Golan Heights. "Three rockets were launched from the Golan under Khaled Masha's command.

"We demand you stop these incidents — or consequences will follow. You are responsible for what happens on your territory," he wrote. "Our last step was a warning shot. If you don't curb these actions, the next attack will be far more severe. You'll pay an unprecedented price."

Warnings continued on May 7, 2023, when Israel allegedly struck Hezbollah-linked weapons depots. "We won't allow the presence of Haj Hashim or his soldiers in southern Syria," the agent wrote, referring to Musa Ali Daqduq, also known as Abu Hussein Sajid, who was reportedly killed in an Israeli strike.

The documents revealed additional warnings. On May 17, 2023, eight aircraft reportedly landed at Khmeimim Air Base — four Iranian and four Syrian planes. They allegedly delivered weapons to depots in Latakia and Qutayfah.

"The Russian mechanism allows you to operate without risking an Israeli response. However, supporting Iran and Hezbollah will compel us to act with severity. Any unmonitored activity bypassing Russian oversight will be seen as a direct threat to Israel and prompt a response," the agent warned.

In another warning on July 14, 2023, Moses wrote that Israel was dissatisfied with the cooperation between Iran and Hezbollah. "Supporting Hezbollah's air defense capabilities is an act against Israel. It serves Hezbollah's interests alone and harms your army."

Meanwhile, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova claimed on Wednesday that Israel's actions in Syria violate the 1974 disengagement agreement signed after the Yom Kippur War. She called Israel's airstrikes in Syria "very concerning" and called for restraint to avoid escalating tensions.

Last week, Reuters reported that the U.S. and UAE discussed a plan in recent months to ease harsh U.S. sanctions on the Assad regime and provide financial aid from the UAE and Saudi Arabia on the condition he distanced himself from the Iranian axis and prevented weapon deliveries to Hezbollah through Syrian territory.

According to sources familiar with the discussions, the rebels' success demonstrates a "weakness" in the Iranian axis, which Washington and Abu Dhabi hoped to exploit to drive a wedge between Assad and Tehran.

Last month, the Lebanese newspaper Aljournhouria, affiliated with Hezbollah opponents, reported that Israel had proposed lifting sanctions on Assad if he permanently closed the Syria-Lebanon border to Hezbollah weapons smuggling from various sources.

The outlet claimed the proposal was raised by Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer and aimed to secure Russia's guarantee to prevent weapons smuggling between Syria and Lebanon, aiming for Moscow to work with Assad to control the border and close the "Iranian highway" connecting Beirut's Dahieh district—a Hezbollah stronghold—to Iran via Baghdad and Damascus.

Sources claimed that Dermer promised in return to ask the U.S. administration to freeze sanctions imposed on Assad and remove Syrian and Russian companies from sanctions lists. The idea had been previously proposed during U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's time in office and may have resurfaced following his re-election.

12.11.24 – We

Israeli Jews who spied for Iran are biggest infiltration in decades

12.11.24 – We

The Israeli Jews who spied for Iran are biggest infiltration in decades

The arrest of almost 30 mostly Jewish citizens who allegedly spied for Iran in nine covert cells has caused alarm in the country and points to Tehran's biggest espionage effort in decades

Reuters|06:16

Israel's arrest of almost 30 mostly Jewish citizens who allegedly spied for Iran in nine covert cells has caused alarm in the country and points to Tehran's biggest effort in decades to infiltrate its arch-foe, four Israeli security sources said.

Among the unfulfilled goals of the alleged cells was the assassination of an Israeli nuclear scientist and former military officials, while one group gathered information on military bases and air defenses, security service Shin Bet has said. Last week, the agency and Israel's police said a father and son team had passed on details of Israeli force movements including in the Golan Heights, where they lived.

The arrests follow repeated efforts by Iranian intelligence operatives over the past two years to recruit ordinary Israelis to gather intelligence and carry out attacks in exchange for money, the four serving and former military and security officials said. The sources asked not to be named due to the sensitivity of the matter.

"There is a large phenomenon here," said Shalom Ben Hanan, a former top Shin Bet official, referring to what he called the surprising number of Jewish citizens who knowingly agreed to work for Iran against the state with intelligence gathering or planning sabotage and attacks.

In a statement sent to media after the wave of arrests, Iran's UN mission did not confirm or deny seeking to recruit Israelis and said that "from a logical standpoint" any such efforts by Iranian intelligence services would focus on non-Iranian and non-Muslim individuals to lessen suspicion. At least two suspects were from Israel's ultra-Orthodox community, police and the Shin Bet have said.

Unlike Iranian espionage operations in previous decades that recruited a high-profile businessman and a former cabinet minister, the new alleged spies were largely people on the fringes of Israeli society, including recent immigrants, an army deserter and a convicted sex offender, conversations with the sources, court records and official statements show.

Much of their activity was limited to spraying anti-Netanyahu or anti-government graffiti on walls and damaging cars, Shin Bet has said.

Nonetheless, the scale of the arrests and involvement of so many Jewish Israelis, in addition to Arab citizens, has caused concern in Israel at a time it remains at war with Iran-backed Hamas in Gaza and that a cease-fire deal with Hezbollah remains fragile. Shin Bet on October 21 said the espionage activities were "among the most severe the state of Israel has known." The arrests also follow a wave of attempted hits and kidnappings linked to Tehran in Europe and the United States.

The unusual decision to provide detailed public accounts of the alleged plots was a move by Israel's security services to signal both to Iran and potential saboteurs inside Israel that they would be caught, Ben Hanan said.

"You want to alert the public. And you also want to make an example of people that may also have intentions or plans to cooperate with the enemy," he said.

Israel has achieved major intelligence successes over the past few years in a shadow war with its regional foe, including allegedly killing a top nuclear scientist. With the recent

arrests Israel has "so far" thwarted Tehran's efforts to respond, one active military official said.

Iran has been weakened by Israel's attacks on its proxy Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the related fall of Tehran's ally, former president Bashar Assad in Syria.

Social media recruits

Iranian intelligence agencies often find potential recruits on social media platforms, Israeli police said in a video released in November warning of ongoing infiltration attempts. The recruiting efforts are at times direct. One message sent to an Israeli civilian and seen by Reuters promised \$15,000 in exchange for information, with an email and number to call.

Iran has also approached expatriate networks of Jews from Caucasus countries living in Canada and the United States, said one of the sources, a former senior official who worked on Israel's counter-espionage efforts until 2007. Israeli authorities have said publicly some of the Jewish suspects were originally from Caucasus countries.

Recruited individuals are first assigned innocuous-seeming tasks in return for money, before handlers gradually demand specific intelligence on targets, including about individuals and sensitive military infrastructure, backed by the threat of blackmail, said the former official.

One Israeli suspect, Vladislav Victorsson, 30, was arrested on October 14 along with his 18-year-old girlfriend in Ramat Gan. He had been jailed in 2015 for sex with minors as young as 14, according to a court indictment from that time.

An acquaintance of Victorsson said he had told her he had spoken to Iranians using the Telegram messaging app. She said that Victorsson had lied to his handlers about his military experience. The acquaintance declined to be named, citing safety fears.

Igal Dotan, Victorsson's lawyer, said he was representing the suspect, adding that the legal process would take time and that his client was being held in tough conditions. Dotan said he could only respond to the current case and had not defended Victorsson in earlier trials.

Shin Bet and police said Victorsson knew he was working for Iranian intelligence, carrying out tasks including spraying graffiti, hiding money, posting flyers and burning cars in the Hayarkon Park in Tel Aviv for which he received over \$5,000.

According to the investigation made public by the security services, he was found to have subsequently agreed to carry out an assassination of an Israeli personality, throw a grenade into a house and also look to obtain a sniper rifle, pistols and fragmentation grenades.

He recruited his girlfriend, who was tasked with recruiting homeless people to photograph demonstrations, the security services said.

12.10.24 – Tu

World Central Kitchen fires 62 employees in Gaza deemed security threats

12.10.24 – Tu

World Central Kitchen fires 62 employees in Gaza deemed 'security threats'
Aid organization fires dozens of employees after security background checks conducted by Israel; Comes after 3 of its employees were killed in IDF strike targeting one of the men, a Hamas terrorist who participated in the October 7 massacre
Daniel Edelson, New York|15:04

The international aid organization World Central Kitchen, which operates community kitchens in the Gaza Strip, has fired at least 62 of its 500 employees after security background checks conducted by Israel. The layoffs came after several employees were identified as potential "security threats," and a week after airstrikes killed three of the organization's employees.

The dismissals occurred a week after the Israeli Air Force attacked a vehicle belonging to the organization, which led to the deaths of five people, including three employees of the organization. The IDF said at the time that the target was a Hamas operative who participated in the October 7 massacre and was later found to be an employee of the organization.

In response, the organization issued an internal notice in Arabic to its employees, stating that the names of the employees had been transferred to Israel for security checks, and that a number of team members had been identified as a security threat and that it had been decided to terminate their employment "for the safety of everyone in Gaza." The World Central Kitchen, founded by Spanish chef Jose Andres, currently operates dozens of community kitchens in Gaza, mainly in the center and south of the strip. The organization's activities were suspended for a week after the latest airstrike.

"We are heartbroken that a vehicle carrying our employees was attacked by Israel. We are working with incomplete information, and are looking for more information," the organization said at the time. "We had no idea that anyone in the vehicle was in any way connected to the Hamas attack on October 7. The organization is suspending its activities in the Gaza Strip for the time being. Our hearts are with our colleagues and their families at this time."

In April, seven of the organization's employees were killed in an Israeli drone attack on its convoy of vehicles. The IDF later admitted that the attack was carried out by mistake after the vehicles were incorrectly identified. The incident, which sparked an international outcry, led to a suspension of the organization's activities. After about two and a half months, it resumed operations. Among the dead were three British citizens, a Polish citizen, an American-Canadian citizen, an Australian citizen, and one Palestinian. In Israel, the organization produces food under the supervision of chef Ruthie Russo, which it distributes to residents of the north. Since the outbreak of the war, the organization has distributed nearly two million food portions to residents, approximately 40,000 portions per day - all funded by the WCK. The organization's catering operates in the Tefen local council, which is near Karmiel, and produces hot meals as well as food baskets that include vegetables, fruit, milk and bread - all according to the needs of the

residents. The food baskets are packaged at the Pitchon Lev organization headquarters in Karmiel, and are distributed through the municipal authorities.

On Saturday, the IDF eliminated terrorist Ahed Azmi Qadi, who participated in the October 7 massacre at Kibbutz Nir Oz. Qadi was employed by the World Central Kitchen (WCK) organization, and representatives of the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories demanded clarifications from senior officials in the international community and the organization's leaders and an urgent investigation into the organization's employees who participated in the massacre.

"The terrorist was under intelligence surveillance for a long time, and was attacked following reliable information about his real-time location," an IDF spokesman said last week. "We emphasize that these are civilian vehicles traveling on an unspecified route for the purpose of delivering aid." He added that "the IDF and Shin Bet will continue to act resolutely to locate and eliminate terrorist operatives who carry out terrorist acts against Israeli citizens, as well as those involved in the murderous massacre on October 7." He emphasized that "according to the existing information, it is not possible to link the terrorist to a specific kidnapping incident."

12.10.24 – Tu

Syrian military 80% destroyed, Netanyahu reaches out to new regime

12.10.24 – Tu

About 80% of Syrian military capabilities destroyed, IDF estimates; Netanyahu reaches out to new regime

After overthrow of the Assad regime, IDF attacked about 320 'strategic targets' in Syria; Monitoring what is happening in the neighboring country - as well as staying in the buffer zone - is an 'ongoing process,' IDF says; PM, in message from defense HQ, says: 'We want relations with the new regime, but if it allows Iran to return we will respond forcefully'

Ynet|12:38

The IDF estimates Tuesday evening that Operation Arrow of Bashan, which began on Saturday night, marks the end of the strategic phase of the offensive in Syria; Meanwhile, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reached out to the new regime and in a surprise statement said that Israel wants "relations with the new regime."

In a statement from the Defense Ministries headquarters at the Kirya base in Tel Aviv, hours after his first day of testimony in his corruption trial, Netanyahu said that "we have no intention of interfering in Syria's internal affairs, but we clearly intend to do what is necessary to ensure our security. We want relations with the regime, but if it allows Iran to return or establish itself in Syria or allows the transfer of Iranian weapons or any other weapons to Hezbollah or attacks us - we will respond forcefully. What happened to the previous regime will also happen to this regime."

"Within this framework, I authorized the Air Force to bomb strategic military capabilities left behind by the Syrian army, so that they would not fall into the hands of the jihadists. This is similar to what the British Air Force did when it bombed the fleet of the Vichy regime that collaborated with the Nazis, so that it would not fall into the hands of the Nazis," the prime minister added.

Meanwhile, the United Arab Emirates "strongly" condemned the IDF's takeover of areas in the Golan buffer zone. The Foreign Ministry in Abu Dhabi said that it rejects Israel's actions, which "threaten further regional escalation."

During Operation Arrow of Bashan, the IDF says, some 320 strategic targets were destroyed in over 350 airstrikes, which focused on aircraft, weapons depots, missiles and air defense batteries, along with strikes on warships and advanced missiles of the Syrian Navy. The operation, which began overnight between Saturday and Sunday, was conducted in close coordination between the IDF branches, with the Military Intelligence and Northern Command forces leading the planning and execution of the operation on the ground, while maintaining air superiority and maximum protection of the buffer zone. The operation included strategic strikes that involved, among others, the Air Force and the Navy.

The actions taken were primarily intended to harm Iranian attempts to establish themselves in Syria and prevent the transfer of weapons to Hezbollah, while creating a safe buffer zone on the northern border. The IDF estimates that approximately 70%-80% of Syria's strategic capabilities were neutralized during the operation, and additional actions are being taken to ensure that strategic weapons do not fall into the hands of hostile elements.

The IDF emphasizes that this is an ongoing process that requires constant monitoring and accurate intelligence gathering. The army also emphasized that it does not intervene in the internal fighting in Syria, and acts solely to protect Israel and the residents of the Golan. In this context, the IDF said that, despite the activity in the buffer zone, troops are avoiding friction with locals in Syria.

At the same time, the IDF continues to monitor the stabilization of the terrain in the various conflict zones, while coordinating with the U.S. and the Lebanese army to prevent the weapons from falling into the hands of terrorist elements and other threats. Even though the Russian army has reduced its presence in the region, the IDF still identifies an Iranian presence and continues to monitor its activities. As part of cooperation with Egypt, high-level meetings were recently held that dealt with regional security issues, and the IDF emphasizes the importance working closely with international partners to preserve security stability.

The IDF initiated the operations in Syria even before it was clear whether the Assad regime had fallen, and in the 24 hours preceding the operation in the buffer zone, it established air superiority and expanded it - which made possible the hundreds of attacks according to the priority of targets: aircraft, coastal missiles, underground bases, ships, weapons depots and weapons production facilities. Scud, cruise and surface-to-sea missiles, radars, tanks, surface-to-air missile batteries were also attacked, and the Air Force also attacked advanced vessels of the Syrian Air Force that had surface-to-sea

missiles on them. Intelligence on all the targets was collected over several years, according to the IDF.

12.10.24 – Tu

Israel ranks at bottom in reading and math, disparity between Jews and Arabs

12.10.24 – Tu

Israel ranks at bottom in reading and math for OECD countries

In literacy for adults ages 16 to 65, Israel ranks 27th out of 31 OECD countries, and in math at 26th; Data shows disparity between Jews and Arabs, with the gap in favor of Jews widening considerably

Yaron Drukman|10:48

A cause for concern: Israel is at the bottom of the OECD countries in reading and math. This is according to data published on Tuesday by the Central Bureau of Statistics and refers to the years 2022-2023.

In reading literacy, Israel's average score is 244 compared to the OECD average of 260, and it was ranked 27th among the 31 countries that participated in the survey. Israel's score is similar to Italy. The data also shows that Israel is on a downward trajectory. Israel's score fell by 10 points compared to the first data cycle, which was conducted about a decade ago (2014-2015), and is mainly affected by the increase in the share of those with a low level of proficiency.

Math does not look good either. Israel's average score is 246 compared to the OECD average of 263, and it was ranked 26th. The CBS found that Israel's score was similar to that of Italy, Lithuania and the United States. There was no significant change in Israel's score compared to the previous cycle.

In adaptive problem solving, Israel's average score is 236 compared to the OECD average of 251, and it was ranked 25th. Israel's score is similar to Portugal, Croatia and South Korea. This is the first time that this skill has been measured in the survey.

The Skills Survey is an international survey conducted by the OECD for the second time, and 31 countries participated in it. The survey examines the level of proficiency of adults (ages 16 to 65) in three basic skills: reading, mathematics and adaptive problem-solving. The CBS explains that these skills are considered extremely important for integration into the professional world and functioning as citizens in contemporary society. The survey directly measures the level of mastery of the skills and the way they are used at work and in everyday life. These skills are relevant to many contexts and situations in the world of work and in social life, and can be learned, so they can be influenced through policy.

These skills give those who master them a good chance of making the most of the opportunities in today's information-rich society, while those who do not master them may be "left behind." The data also shows that a high proportion of the adult population

in Israel has low levels of basic skills. The proportion of the population at low levels of reading literacy is 36%, compared to only 26% for the OECD average.

The proportion at low reading levels in Israel increased from 27% in the first cycle. The proportion of the population at low levels of mathematical literacy is 34%, compared to only 25% for the OECD average. The proportion in Israel increased from 31% in the first cycle. In addition, the proportion of the population at low levels in adaptive problem solving is 40%, compared to the OECD average of only 30%.

In the three measured categories, a large gap was seen between Jews and Arabs, similar to the first cycle. The Arab population saw a significant decrease of 26 points in reading literacy (from 225 to 199). In contrast, the Jewish population did not change, and its score remained similar to the OECD average (259 and 260, respectively). As a result, the gap in favor of the Jews widened from 39 points in the first cycle to 60 points in the current cycle.

The data show that 70% of the Arab population has a low level of reading literacy. This is a significant increase compared to 46% in the previous cycle. The rate among Jews is only 25%. There was no change in mathematical literacy in either of the two population groups compared to the first cycle. The average score of the Jews (256) remains significantly higher than that of the Arabs (215). Also in adaptive problem solving, the average score among Arabs (206) is considerably lower than the score among Jews (247). The CBS also found that the ultra-Orthodox have lower achievements than other Jews, and their achievements have decreased compared to the first cycle. The average reading literacy score in the ultra-Orthodox population (251) is lower than the score among non-ultra-Orthodox Jews (261).

In contrast, in the first cycle there was no gap between the two groups. In a comparison between men and women in the ultra-Orthodox population in reading literacy, there was a 12-point advantage for women, while in the first cycle there was no gap between them. The mathematical literacy score in the ultra-Orthodox population (246) is lower than the score among non-ultra-Orthodox Jews (258).

On the other hand, in the first cycle there was no gap between the two groups, similar to reading literacy. However, the gap in favor of non-ultra-Orthodox exists only among men and was significant (21 points). Among women, there is no difference between ultra-Orthodox and non-ultra-Orthodox Jewish women. In adaptive problem solving, the trend is similar to that in the other two skills: an advantage in favor of non-ultra-Orthodox, especially among men.

12.10.24 – Tu

Israel delegates leave for Cairo this week for Egypt proposed Hostage deal

12.10.24 – Tu

Optimistic message from Egypt: Hostage deal is 'very close'

Egyptian official tells Ynet that announcement of an agreement leading to a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas is imminent; Source says that an Israeli delegation is set to

arrive in Cairo this week and will receive from Hamas a list of living hostages; Hamas has made it clear: 'The chances of a deal are better than ever'

Smadar Perry|08:38

After a senior Israeli official said on Monday that it would be possible to reach a hostage deal "within a week or two," a senior Egyptian official also told Ynet and Yedioth Ahronoth on Tuesday that the announcement of an agreement that would lead to a cease-fire and a hostage deal is "very close."

A Hamas delegation led by senior Hamas official Khalil al-Hayya left Cairo on Sunday night, following discussions with Egyptian intelligence chief Major General Hassan Mahmoud Rashad and his team. It was learned yesterday that the delegation had handed over to the Egyptians a detailed list of Israeli hostages - including the sick and elderly, women and men - that Hamas proposes to release in the first phase. The Hamas delegation also handed over a detailed list of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons that Hamas demands to be released as part of the new deal.

The Egyptian official clarified that an Israeli delegation is scheduled to leave for Cairo this week for a meeting at the intelligence headquarters, during which they will be given the lists of hostages and Palestinian prisoners. Hamas made it clear to Egypt that "there is a better chance than ever before of closing a deal," in exchange for the release of the prisoners and Israel's withdrawal from the Philadelphi corridor and other areas in the Gaza Strip.

The Al-Araby channel and the Al-Jazeera network in Qatar reported that, in talks in the Egyptian intelligence offices, an understanding was reached between Egypt and Hamas regarding the places from which the IDF will withdraw in Gaza, and that a week after the withdrawal, a cease-fire will be declared and the round of releasing Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners will begin. Israel, the Egyptian source clarified, will first withdraw from Rafah and areas to be determined in advance along the Philadelphi Corridor.

Meanwhile, Qatar's Foreign Ministry spokesman Majed Al-Ansari commented on the progress in the negotiations, saying that his country had renewed contacts with Hamas and Israel "in good faith" as part of the mediation toward a cease-fire in Gaza. "We are open to any path that leads to an agreement, we have not given up on mediation," he said. "Negotiations are continuing and it is too early to talk about developments."

On Monday, an Israeli senior official estimated in an interview with Ynet that "within a week or two" it would be possible to reach a hostage deal, and said that "the conditions are ripe." At the same time, sources close to a senior Hamas official said Monday that there had been significant progress in talks for a deal. According to the same sources, the terrorist organization agreed to a gradual cessation of the war, and to a deal that is divided into three stages and includes a gradual withdrawal.

According to the proposed deal, they said, between the sixth and eighth weeks of the cease-fire, IDF forces will withdraw from the Rafah Crossing and from city centers, after which negotiations will begin for a permanent cease-fire and the release of the kidnapped soldiers.

Hamas, the insiders claimed, has handed Egypt a list of the living Israeli hostages - and is waiting for Israeli agreements regarding the list of Palestinian prisoners it requested, which also includes high-security prisoners

60 'trial days', Presence in Gaza during the cease-fire

An Egyptian official explained last week to Ynet and Yedioth Ahronoth that the new proposal put forward by Cairo includes a gradual cessation of fighting in Gaza, with the Israeli side withdrawing from the Rafah Crossing, in parallel with the declaration of a temporary cease-fire for about 60 days. He emphasized that the first 60 days would be designated as "trial days" for both sides - Israel and Hamas - and that, if the plan holds up, it would be "the end of the conflict between the sides."

About a week after the temporary cease-fire comes into effect, according to the Egyptian official, the process of returning surviving Israeli hostages will begin. At the same time, hundreds of Palestinian terrorists also will be released from Israeli prisons, according to terms to be agreed upon between the parties. During the 60-day trial cease-fire, Israel will maintain a military presence in Gaza. The proposal also addresses the possibility of Palestinian refugees returning to the northern Gaza Strip, as Hamas demands.

As for the Rafah Crossing, according to the plan it is expected to be transferred to the management and supervision of the Palestinian Authority. In previous contacts, Israel raised the possibility of maintaining a certain surveillance capability through cameras at the Rafah Crossing. In addition, according to the senior Egyptian source, a joint management committee from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will be established, which will include between 10 and 15 "independent Palestinian political technocrats." The committee will be supervised by American representatives.

12.10.24 – Tu

Arab states oppose IDF destroying Syrian regime's Air Force & naval fleet

12.10.24 – Tu

IDF demolishes Syrian navy in Latakia

While officials emphasize security measures international reactions range from condemnation by Arab states to cautious support from the US

Yoav Zitun, Lior Ben Ari|06:35

The Israeli Navy carried out a significant operation on Monday night, targeting and destroying much of the Syrian regime's naval fleet. Missile ships struck numerous vessels armed with anti-ship missiles at the Al-Baida and Latakia ports, aiming to prevent these weapons from falling into the hands of hostile entities such as the salafist rebels who have taken over Syria.

At the same time, reports from Reuters and Hezbollah-affiliated Lebanese network Al-Mayadeen indicated that IDF units crossed the buffer zone and advanced deep into Syrian territory, a claim the IDF denied. According to regional and Syrian security sources,

Israeli forces are now positioned approximately 15.5 miles from Damascus, with some units reaching the town of Qatana, about 6.2 miles inside Syria, east of the buffer zone. Al-Mayadeen further claimed IDF troops had taken control of at least nine villages and towns in rural areas south of Damascus, approximately 12 miles from the Syrian capital. However, these claims were denied by a Syrian opposition-affiliated channel, which stated that Israel does not control villages in the Syrian Hermon region.

"Israeli warplanes launched over 100 strikes... including on the Barzeh scientific research centre," the UK based Observatory for Human Rights said. Western countries including the United States struck the facility in 2018, saying it was related to Syria's "chemical weapons infrastructure".

In response to the reports, IDF Arabic spokesperson Avichay Adraee dismissed them as "completely false," asserting IDF units remain within the buffer zone, stationed at defensive positions near the border to safeguard Israel's security.

Meanwhile, AFP reported that a "scientific research center" in Damascus, tied to Bashar al-Assad's chemical weapons program, was completely destroyed by Israeli airstrikes. Additionally, the pro-Iranian Iraqi-affiliated Sabrin news agency reported that a chemist was assassinated at his home in Damascus.

During a UN Security Council meeting, Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon defended Israel's actions, describing them as "limited and temporary measures." "Israel is not interfering in the ongoing conflict between armed groups within Syria. Our actions are solely focused on ensuring our security, and we remain committed to the 1974 disengagement agreement," he stated.

Foreign Minister Gideon Saar told journalist in a briefing to the foreign media on Monday that the IDF operations near the border were designed to prevent a scenario similar to the events of October 7 from Syria. "What guides us is safeguarding the security of Israel and its citizens," Sa'ar said in a briefing to foreign journalists.

The reported movement of IDF armored forces has drawn international condemnation. Saudi Arabia's Foreign Ministry accused Israel of "destroying Syria's chance to restore security," while Egypt referred to the operations as an "occupation of Syrian lands." In contrast, U.S. State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller described the Israeli actions as a "temporary measure" in response to Syrian military movements, adding, "Ultimately, we want to see full adherence to the disengagement agreement, and we will ensure Israel follows through."

IDF continues forward defense operations in the buffer zone, deploying forces across strategic points to counter potential threats. This comes a day after the beginning of proactive measures to secure Israeli communities in the Golan Heights amid Assad's regime collapse. Engineering, infantry, and armored units are also operating under the command of the 474th and 810th Brigades, stationed along the Israel-Syria border to defend the area.

In a historic move, Israeli forces crossed into Syrian territory two days ago, seizing control of the Syrian side of Mount Hermon for the first time in over 50 years. Air Force commando units captured the summit, which provides critical observation and fire

control over the rest of the Hermon range, as part of a broader strategy to strengthen Israel's hold in the region.

Additionally, residents in five Syrian villages near the border were instructed to remain indoors due to IDF operations. The Israeli Air Force has carried out over 300 airstrikes on military targets across Syria, primarily focusing on Syrian Air Force infrastructure.

Western intelligence sources indicate these strikes aim to destroy Assad's military assets, preventing them from falling into the hands of rebel forces who could potentially use them against Israel.

12.10.24 – Tu

Ministers support Netanyahu in deep sense of injustice, years of legal harassment

12.10.24 – Tu

Ministers, lawmakers show up to support Netanyahu at his criminal trial
PM's coalition allies bemoan the ongoing legal proceedings as politically motivated and harmful to Israel's security, while opposition voices highlight the stark contrast with the plight of hostage families

Netael Bandel, Shilo Freid, Lior Ohana, Yael Ciechanover|04:39

Cabinet ministers and lawmakers, including the Knesset speaker came to support Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the Tel Aviv District Court on Tuesday when he began testifying in his defense in his criminal trial for corruption. This marks the first time in Israel's history that a sitting prime minister has testified as a defendant. Before beginning his testimony, Netanyahu shook hands with politicians and other supporters who came to stand by him.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir attacked Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara as he has been doing in the past year. "I expect all ministers—whether present here or not—to bring to the next cabinet meeting a proposal to consider her removal," he said, accusing her of "fabricating cases" to bring down the right-wing government.

Transportation Minister Miri Regev and Communications Minister Shlomo Karhi made a point to walk through the pro-Netanyahu demonstrators outside the courthouse. Regev emphasized her support for the prime minister. "I am here to strengthen and support Netanyahu. It's disgraceful that he is forced to testify during one of the most complex wars Israel has faced, a war imposed on us on seven fronts," she said.

"A prime minister on the witness stand during wartime, in an attempt to humiliate and degrade him, is a blow to the country's security. Who does this spectacle serve? Iran, Syria, Lebanon. And then people ask why public trust in the judiciary is eroding. This is why—because people see selective enforcement, because they see a political witch hunt against Netanyahu. I regret this situation, but it will not help anyone. We will continue to lead."

Karhi echoed the sane sentiments. "The leaks and threats aim to bring us down—not just the prime minister, but all of us." When asked by Ynet why he chose to attend the hearing instead of focusing on efforts to free the Israeli hostages held in Gaza, Karhi responded: "Ask the prosecutors why they insist on holding three days of testimony a week instead of letting the prime minister focus on what matters now—hostages, the war, Lebanon, Gaza, Syria."

When pressed to comment on the criticism from families of hostages, who have called on Netanyahu to prioritize their plight over his trial, Karhi said: "I think their call is important—to ask the judges and prosecutors to allow the prime minister to manage the war efficiently, instead of taking up his time three days a week."

Justice Minister Yariv Levin also commented on Netanyahu's testimony, calling it a moment of profound injustice. "It's hard not to feel a deep sense of injustice this morning, seeing these proceedings continue against Netanyahu after years of legal harassment—and especially during these critical days when so much rests on his shoulders," Levin said. "Along with many Israeli citizens, I want to express my support for him. I know that today, too, he will stand tall and present the plain truth as it is."

Outside the court house the families of hostages held a vigil carrying pictures of Ron Arad, an air force navigator who was shot down over Lebanon in 1986 and has not been seen since soon after he was captured. They said they feared the same fate would befall their loved ones after being held by Hamas for over 430 days since the Oct. 7 massacre and after they accused the prime minister of refusing to make a deal that would bring about their release.

12.09.24 – Mo

IDF destroyed military sites in Syria, with around 250 air strikes

12.09.24 – Mo

Explosion in Damascus after Israel reportedly attacks Syrian military sites
Israel seizes the opportunity to destroy the last remaining advanced weapons systems on its borders; forces enter nine villages on the Syrian Golan according to reports
Lior Ben Ari, News Agencies | 23:50

Explosions were heard early on Tuesday, in the area of Damascus. Overnight the IDF targeted the Defense Research Institute in Aleppo, and the Scientific Research Center on the outskirts of the capital among other sites.

Israel has seized the historic opportunity after the fall of the Assad regime, to destroy the last remaining advanced weapons systems on its borders. According to the UK based Observatory for Human Rights, Israel had "destroyed the most important military sites in Syria" with around 250 air strikes since the fall of president Bashar al-Assad's regime.
Airstrikes in Damascus and surrounding areas

The strikes targeted airports and warehouses, complete Russian Mig and Sukhoi fighter squadrons, radars, military signal stations, and multiple weapons and ammunition depots.

According to estimations the Syrian air force could be destroyed within days and would not fall into the hands of the rebels. Air defenses including surface to air missile systems have also been put out of commission, solidifying Israel's air superiority.

The Lebanese Al Mayadeen network, affiliated with Hezbollah, claimed the IDF had taken over nine Syrian villages near the buffer zone along the Israel-Syria border. According to the report, tanks took up positions in the countryside south of Damascus, some 20 kilometers (12.5 miles) from the capital.

12.09.24 – Mo

Israel strikes Syrian air bases, strategic military targets as preventive self-defense

12.09.24 – Mo

Israel strikes Syrian air bases, strategic military targets as preventive self-defense Arab media reports that, since Assad's fall, the IDF has been striking Syrian military targets; IDF says it is eliminating military assets such as chemical weapons production facility and air defense systems

Lior Ben Ari, Yoav Zitun | 16:49

Israel continues to target Syrian military assets after the fall of the Assad regime throughout Syria, so that they will not pose a threat in the future. Arab media reported widespread attacks in various areas throughout Monday as the second day of attacks. The Saudi Al-Hadath channel reported that the Israeli Air Force has carried out more than 250 strikes in Syria in the past two days - about 100 of them in a few hours on Monday evening.

According to Arab reports, Israel's attacks on Monday targeted fighter jet squadrons, airports, air defense batteries, weapons and ammunition depots, scientific research centers, and missile brigades in various provinces in Syria.

Two Syrian security sources told Reuters that the IDF had attacked major air force bases across Syria and that infrastructure and dozens of helicopters and planes were destroyed during the attacks.

The Assad regime has developed various capabilities over the years with the support of Russia, Iran and Hezbollah. Now, with the rebels taking over, everything it had in its possession could fall into their hands and be directed against Israel. The rebel groups are diverse, and therefore chemical weapons, for example, falling into the wrong hands such as unpredictable extremist Sunni Islamic rebels could pose a serious risk.

Arab media outlets reported Monday evening that Israel attacked the port in the city of Latakia, on the coast in northwestern Syria. According to the Saudi Al-Arabiya channel, the Syrian Navy ships were attacked. Security sources told the Reuters news agency that the attack was aimed at an air defense facility near the port. The Sabrin channel, affiliated with pro-Iranian militias in Iraq, reported that the port's defense system was destroyed in the attack.

In Damascus, explosions reportedly were heard near the Syrian Scientific Studies and Research Center where, according to reports, Iran had previously operated to produce long-range missiles and where the Assad regime was suspected of producing chemical weapons. According to the Hezbollah-affiliated Al-Mayadeen network, the center was destroyed.

On Monday, photos of the attacks against the airport in southwest Damascus on Sunday attributed to the IDF were published. Israel has previously attacked senior Iranian-Shiite figures at that location. The Saudi Al-Hadath channel reported that Israel attacked dozens of MiG-29 aircraft belonging to the Syrian army on Sunday night.

On Monday evening, another airport in Damascus was reported to have been attacked - Al-Maruhayat in the Aqraba area. According to Al-Mayadeen's report, Israel destroyed military helicopters and attacked the Damascus countryside.

On Sunday night, just after midnight, explosions were reported in the 12th Brigade and the 175th Battalion of the Syrian Army, near the city of Izra, after Israel attacked weapons depots. Later, an attack was reported in the Tel Haruf area.

Meanwhile, after the IDF captured the Syrian Hermon on Sunday, the Syrian Voice of the Capital channel reported Israeli attacks in the mountainous area where the Syrian army's 4th Division operates, commanded by Assad's brother Maher Assad. The Syria TV channel, which is affiliated with the rebels, reported an attack against the 9th Division of the Syrian army on the 15th Brigade of the Syrian army. In addition, it was reported that military warehouses were attacked in the northern countryside.

Israeli officials told the Wall Street Journal on Monday that the purpose of the airstrikes in Syria is to protect Israel's borders and citizens against extreme scenarios. For example, if the new Syrian government becomes hostile to Israel it might attack. Another possible scenario is that Syria would be dragged into a long-term civil war, during which rebel groups could gain access to unconventional weapons left behind by Assad's army.

Tehran cuts off weapons and smuggling routes from Syria

A day after the fall of the Assad regime, the IDF has identified that Iran is cutting off weapons and smuggling activists from Syria so that they can survive. At the same time, the IDF is attacking and preventing weapon transfers from Syria to Lebanon. The IDF has intensified additional forces with artillery and tanks in the Golan and the buffer zone, as well as in Syrian-controlled points near the border. The Syrian army has abandoned its posts in the Syrian Golan, and the IDF has seized the weapons remaining in them.

Collapse of Syrian regime from severe blows inflicted on Hamas, Hezbollah & Iran

12.09.24 – Mo

Netanyahu: 'The absolute victory they mocked is at hand'

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convenes a press conference for the first time in 99 days and declares 'The Golan will forever be an inseparable part of Israel'; He also claims that "collapse of the Syrian regime is direct result of severe blows we have inflicted on Hamas, Hezbollah and Iran"

Yuval Karni|13:56

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held a press conference in Jerusalem on Monday evening on the eve of his trial that begins on Tuesday. This is the first press conference Netanyahu has held since September, and he has not answered questions for 99 days.

The press conference came about 24 hours after the fall of Bashar Assad's regime in Syria, after which the IDF captured the Syrian Mount Hermon. "Yesterday something happened, literally. The Assad regime in Syria, a central link in Iran's axis of evil, collapsed. Iran invested billions in Syria. It was a cruel tyrannical regime that trampled on its citizens and massacred them," Netanyahu said at the beginning of his remarks.

He thanked U.S. President-elect Donald Trump for recognizing Israel's sovereignty over the Golan Heights in 2019, and emphasized: "The Golan will forever be an inseparable part of Israel." According to him, "the collapse of the Syrian regime is a direct result of the severe blows we have inflicted on Hamas, Hezbollah and Iran."

Netanyahu said that the assassinated Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah was "the axis of the axis," noting that he "not only focused the fire against him, he was the axis linking Hezbollah, Syria and Iran. His elimination was a turning point in the collapse of the Iranian axis."

The prime minister said that after the collapse of the Assad regime "we want to see a different Syria. We proved this at the beginning of the civil war when we built a field hospital, which treated thousands of wounded Syrians."

Netanyahu met with reporters amid reports of progress in negotiations for a hostage deal between Israel and Hamas. According to a report Monday in the Hamas-affiliated Qatari newspaper Al-Araby Al-Jadeed, the parties have begun to detail the implementation of the hostage and prisoner exchange agreement. "The parties are serious about reaching an agreement," a source described as "reliable" told the Qatari newspaper.

The prime minister visited near the Syrian border on Sunday and referred to the fall of Assad: "This is a historic day in the history of the Middle East. The Assad regime is a central link in Iran's axis of evil. This regime has fallen. This is a direct result of the blows we inflicted on Iran and Hezbollah, the main supporters of the Assad regime. This has created a chain reaction throughout the Middle East of all those who want to be free from this oppressive and tyrannical regime."

He said, "This of course creates new, very important opportunities for the State of Israel. But not without risks. We are working first and foremost to protect our border. This area was defined for nearly 50 years as a buffer zone that was agreed upon in 1974, the Separation of Forces Agreement. This agreement collapsed, and the Syrian soldiers abandoned their positions."

On Tuesday, Netanyahu will become the first sitting prime minister to testify in court, almost five years since the dramatic indictment against him was filed. His attempts to postpone and reduce the days of testimony due to the war were rejected by the judges.

12.09.24 – Mo

Israel cautiously optimistic for hostage deal within 'a week or two'

12.09.24 – Mo

Israel cautiously optimistic for hostage deal within 'a week or two'

Talks on a potential hostage deal – ramped up by Qatar, Egypt and Turkey – are intensifying, with Hamas reportedly agreeing to phased cease-fire terms; Israel remains cautious, demanding hostages' return before halting military operations

Moran Azulay, Einav Halabi|12:47

A senior Israeli official suggested on Monday evening, during a conversation with Ynet, that conditions are aligning for a potential Hamas hostage deal within "a week or two." While the Prime Minister's Office sought to temper expectations earlier in the day, Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar struck a more hopeful tone, stating: "We're not there yet, but I hope we'll get there."

Parallel reports from sources close to a senior Hamas official indicated significant strides in negotiations. They believe Hamas has tentatively agreed to a phased cessation of hostilities, with a proposed deal unfolding in three stages. This framework includes a gradual Israeli withdrawal, with Israeli forces expected to pull back from Rafah and urban centers between the sixth and eighth weeks of a cease-fire. Following this, talks for a permanent truce and the release of Israeli hostages would commence.

Hamas has reportedly provided Egypt with a list of Israeli hostages confirmed to be alive and is awaiting Israeli approval of its demands for the release of Palestinian prisoners, including high-profile detainees.

These developments come as Jake Sullivan, the outgoing U.S. national security adviser, is set to arrive in Israel on Thursday. As first reported by Ynet, Sullivan will engage with Israeli officials on a range of pressing issues, including the cease-fire in Lebanon, escalating tensions in Syria, and the ongoing hostage negotiations in Gaza.

Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar, addressing foreign journalists in Jerusalem, underscored Israel's position: "The hostages must return before Israel agrees to end the fighting. There will be no ceasefire in Gaza without a deal." While acknowledging indirect negotiations are underway, Sa'ar cautioned against premature conclusions.

"I don't want to say things that will harm the negotiations, but indirect negotiations are taking place. We can be more optimistic than before, but we're not there yet. I hope we'll get there. We are serious in our desire to reach a hostage deal, which will be tied to a cease-fire in Gaza. There will be no cease-fire in Gaza without a hostage deal. We are working to achieve this, and I hope we succeed," he said.

Meanwhile, Palestinian factions holding Israeli hostages in Gaza have reportedly been instructed by Hamas to prepare detailed files on their captives. According to Saudi channel Al-Sharq, Hamas has directed Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front, and the Popular Resistance Committees to compile information on the hostages under their control. A Hamas source told Al-Sharq that without an Israeli withdrawal and freedom of movement between northern and southern Gaza, reaching all groups holding hostages would be challenging. The source emphasized that a serious deal, free from ongoing bombings and military operations, is the only viable path to resolving the hostage crisis. Additionally, Hamas' military wing and other factions require sufficient time, without drones overhead, to verify the status of living hostages and locate the remains of deceased captives.

A senior Hamas official revealed that Egypt, Qatar and Turkey have intensified their mediation efforts, with indirect negotiations expected to begin within days. However, Israeli officials have downplayed these reports, and the Hostage Directorate in the Prime Minister's Office issued a statement to families of the hostages: "In recent hours, various reports have been published in the Arab media about negotiations for the return of the hostages. These reports, which are also being circulated in Israel, are not accurate."

Last week, a senior Egyptian official outlined a proposal to Ynet and Yedioth Ahronoth that includes a gradual cessation of fighting in Gaza, coupled with an Israeli withdrawal from the Rafah crossing. This would coincide with a temporary cease-fire lasting approximately 60 days. The official described this period as a "test phase" for both sides, noting that if the plan holds, it could signify "the end of the conflict between the sides."

Under this proposal, about a week after the cease-fire begins, the process of returning Israeli hostages still alive would start. Simultaneously, hundreds of Palestinian prisoners would be released from Israeli jails, based on terms agreed upon by both parties. During the 60-day cease-fire, Israel would maintain a military presence in Gaza. The plan also addresses Hamas' demand for the return of Palestinian refugees to northern Gaza. Regarding the Rafah Crossing, the proposal suggests transferring its management and oversight to the Palestinian Authority. In previous discussions, Israel floated the idea of retaining some level of surveillance through cameras at the crossing. Additionally, the Egyptian official mentioned the establishment of a joint management committee comprising representatives from the West Bank and Gaza, including 10 to 15 independent Palestinian technocrats. This committee would operate under the supervision of American representatives.

Drone strike on central Israel apartment, IDF considers retaliation against Houthis

12.09.24 – Mo

Following drone strike on central Israel apartment, IDF considers retaliation against Houthis

A drone from Yemen exploded in a Yavne penthouse, causing heavy damage but no injuries; Residents question how it evaded detection as IDF investigates the failure to intercept and plans better defenses against recurring aerial threats

Yoav Zitun|09:40

Appearing to come out of nowhere, a drone exploded in a penthouse apartment in the central city of Yavne, adjacent to the Mediterranean shore on Monday. It approached from the sea, crossed over Sderot, and turned northward. Detected near Ashdod, it triggered electronic warfare countermeasures. Detection lasted only minutes before the drone disappeared from tracking systems, rendering interception by a scrambled fighter jet impossible.

The IDF is now investigating why the drone did not trigger any warning sirens, examining responses to attacks in Yemen, and exploring ways to bolster defenses against this recurring threat that continues to reach Israel from the east every few days.

Initially, the IDF claimed the incident stemmed from a solar water heater explosion.

However, reports from residents raised suspicions, pointing to a drone attack.

"Reports were received of a suspicious aerial object falling in Yavne's vicinity. No siren was activated, and the incident is under investigation," the IDF spokesperson said in a statement.

Later, there was confirmation. "Following the initial report, a UAV that likely originated in Yemen impacted in the area of Yavne. As of now, no injuries were reported. No sirens were sounded. The incident is under review," according to the IDF spokesperson's office. Footage captured the dramatic moment when the building was hit, documenting heavy damage to the 16th-floor penthouse balcony. Drone fragments scattered around the building provided further evidence of the incident.

Etti Avivi, the penthouse owner, shared her relief that her 14-year-old dog Humi survived the crash without injury.

"A drone crashing into my balcony? I have a better chance of winning the lottery," she quipped. "I was outside when I heard the crash and boom. I never imagined it was my home. I was worried about Humi, who was alone in the house."

"I was outside when I heard the crash and loud boom, never imagining it happened at my home," she also said. Neighbors joked, "Now Humi will be classified as a victim of hostile actions."

Avivi, a mother of four, including two soldiers currently on active duty, added: "I'm so relieved Humi was safe. He must have been in the living room. I heard the explosion like everyone else, but only realized it was my home when calls started coming in. We're lucky no one was hurt."

Rotem Vaturi, a resident on the building's ninth floor, said: "I was working from home when I heard a loud buzzing noise. I stepped outside to see what it was and then heard a massive boom. I ran to the safe room, not believing it was a drone." Another resident expressed frustration, saying, "So many people saw the drone on its way—why didn't the military detect and intercept it?"

12.09.24 – Mo

IDF bulldozers poised to move the Syrian border fence, established in 1916

12.09.24 – Mo

Jabaliya to Khiam to Golan: IDF paratroopers face new challenges on Syrian front Recently redeployed from Lebanon, troops now man forward outpost near Syria; tasked with destroying weapons stockpiles, they confront roaming militias and unclear rules of engagement, raising questions about permanence of presence in Syria Yoav Zitun|06:37

Israeli paratroopers from the elite reconnaissance unit recently withdrew from Khiam, the northernmost Lebanese village held by the IDF during the past two months, after completing operations there. Their current mission places them in the northern Golan Heights, where they face a new array of challenges near the Syrian frontier.

On Sunday, the soldiers were stationed in an abandoned IDF outpost in the Valley of Tears, overlooking the Syrian border. The position, now a maze of cold, dark tunnels, once housed their predecessors 51 years ago during the Yom Kippur War.

Surrounded by basalt stone walls, they huddled around a small burner to stave off the biting December cold, a stark contrast to their recent missions in southern Lebanon and Gaza.

"It's much colder here than in Lebanon," said one soldier as he opened a can of tuna from his combat rations. "At least in Khiam, we slept inside houses."

These young soldiers, barely 20 years old, have been at the forefront of Israel's military campaigns in Gaza, Lebanon and now Syria within just three months. They fought Hamas in the Jabalya refugee camp, Hezbollah in Lebanon and are now positioned against a mix of armed Syrian rebel groups that could threaten Israeli communities such as Ein Zivan, Katzrin, Buq'ata and Meitzar.

While some of their comrades hold advanced positions beyond the tall border fence built a decade ago, others operate deeper inside Syrian territory. Initially, the IDF secured the buffer zone between the internationally recognized border and Syrian-controlled territory. Over time, Israeli forces have seized key hilltops and commanding positions inside Syria, prioritizing strategic locations with difficult topography.

Sunday morning, the Air Force's elite commando unit, Shaldag, captured a significant area in northern Golan, securing critical high ground with commanding views over

Quneitra and beyond. The IDF now controls vital observation and defensive positions along the region's most contested zones.

In the southern Golan, Israeli forces also extended their reach into the rugged Rokad Valley, a deep, jagged ravine marked by red-and-white boundary barrels but lacking a formal border fence.

The soldiers' presence highlights the shifting dynamics in the Golan Heights, where for the first time over a century, the area's geopolitical landscape is being redrawn. The Syrian border, established in 1916 by British and French diplomats, now separates not only a sovereign state but also a nascent new order as rebel factions carve out their territories.

Danger at the tri-border area

Fighters from the Golan Reconnaissance Unit, a newly formed and small force composed of West Bank settler youth and based on a similar unit disbanded last year, have been deployed to one of the most dangerous corners of the region.

This area, near the tri-border zone at Hamat Gader and the striking Yarmouk River, has a troubled history. A decade ago, residents of the Syrian village of Jamla, on the eastern bank, hosted insurgents from Jabhat al-Nusra, the extremist rebel faction in southern Syria. From there, attacks involving roadside bombs and gunfire were launched against IDF forces, until Assad's troops regained control of the region in 2019.

In southern Syria, between Daraa and Hauran near the Israeli border, the landscape is now dominated by a mix of rebel groups, far removed from the so-called "moderate" Hayat Tahrir al-Sham led by the newly ascendant Islamist figure Abu Muhammed al-Golani, who captured Damascus on Sunday.

"In the Syrian Golan, we've observed armed groups over the weekend that remain unidentified, right along the buffer zone with us," an IDF official said Sunday night.

"These groups operate with varying ideologies and a vast array of weapons circulating in a state armed like a monster. That's why we recommended, at least temporarily, establishing forward defenses within enemy territory."

So far, the IDF's efforts to capture these positions have faced little resistance, with Assad's soldiers abandoning their posts and fleeing the area.

Closed military zone declared in the Golan

Gunfire was absent in the Golan Heights on Sunday as restaurants began reopening, less than two weeks after the cease-fire with Hezbollah. The terrorist group had launched hundreds of rockets and drones at the region.

Occasional distant explosions, however, echoed from Israeli Air Force strikes near Damascus, targeting potential threats to Israel, including surface-to-surface missiles, advanced air defense systems, remnants of chemical weapons and weapons development facilities.

The Quneitra crossing, the closest point of contact between the IDF and Syrian forces, was abandoned by Assad's troops over the weekend without clashes or mortar fire—common occurrences in the past decade. Primarily used by UNDOF observers, the crossing once saw wedding celebrations between Druze families on both sides of the border and apple shipments from Mas'ade to Syria, now distant memories.

On Sunday, the Northern Command declared a closed military zone, restricting access to agricultural and tourist areas near the border fence. By midnight, the restrictions were lifted in the Marom Golan–Ein Zivan and Buq'ata–Khirbet Ein Hura areas. While soldiers remain deep in forward positions, civilians in the rear are beginning to clear the dust of war and recover.

Signs of lingering tensions remain, with rear defense lines established this year revealing the region's volatility. Camouflaged tanks and military vehicles were stationed discreetly near a kibbutz exit. The rules of engagement here vary along the border, as Syrian locals continue farming and herding livestock.

Soldiers, many recently deployed from Lebanon, face challenges distinguishing threats, such as identifying armed combatants versus civilians in camouflage, or determining engagement limits for vehicles crossing the Quneitra road toward Marom Golan.

The skies remain active, with fighter jets soaring at high altitudes and drones conducting surveillance below.

Reserve soldiers who had recently returned to civilian life are back in uniform, resuming readiness in local communities. Despite this, the effort to maintain or project a sense of normalcy continues, even as uncertainties about the future loom.

By late afternoon, four IDF D9 bulldozers arrived near the border fence below Majdal Shams, where residents were celebrating Assad's downfall near the iconic "Shouting Hill." The bulldozers were poised to cross the border, ascend high Syrian positions and secure the Druze village of Hader.

12.09.24 – Mo

Fall of Assad regime sparks hope for return of Israeli missing persons in Syria

12.09.24 – Mo

Fall of Assad regime sparks hope for Israeli missing persons in Syria

Eli Cohen, Guy Hever, Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman remain missing for decades; with Assad's regime toppled, their families hope for answers; 'Prisoners are being freed after 50 years. Maybe they were held in dark dungeons under the brutal regime'

Nina Fox|16:00

The collapse of Bashar Assad's regime on Sunday has reignited hope among families of Israeli missing persons in Syria, who believe the leadership change could pave the way for the return of their loved ones—alive or for burial in Israel.

Nadia Cohen, widow of Israeli spy Eli Cohen, whose body was buried in Damascus after his 1965 execution, expressed optimism that Assad's ouster may bring closure. "Since Syria's instability began, I've urged Mossad to solve this issue and bring Eli home for burial," she told Ynet.

On Friday, which marked the centenary of Eli Cohen's birth, Mossad chief David Barnea wrote her a heartfelt message emphasizing the importance of repatriating his remains. "With recent events in Syria, I hope Israel understands this is the right time," she said. Cohen recounted a past appeal to Assad himself, which was rejected. "He said Eli would return 'when the time comes.' Perhaps that time is now," she said. "I don't want Eli's remains left in Syria. The turmoil there could work in our favor. I wish peace for both the Syrian people and us and hope this opportunity will lead to Eli's body being returned to Israel so he can rest in peace. After all these years, I too will finally find peace. I haven't forgotten him for even a moment, and nearly 60 years have passed since he was hanged."

The families of IDF soldiers Yehuda Katz and Zvi Feldman, missing since the 1982 Battle of Sultan Yacoub in Lebanon, also see a rare opportunity for resolution. Katz's sister, Frehia Hyman, said the uprising offers renewed hope.

"We have much hope. We've seen Lebanese prisoners released, so I keep checking footage to see if Yehuda is among them," Hyman said, recalling signs that Katz was captured alive and noting that his tank commander was returned by Syria. "This could be a serious turning point, but I don't know what tomorrow will bring." Still, Hyman voiced frustration with Israeli authorities. "I have no trust in the state. For 43 years, we've been treated like enemies. But the possibility of finding Yehuda isn't far-fetched—we've seen prisoners freed after decades."

Despite the passage of time, the family remains optimistic. "I imagine his return—hugging him, smiling at him. Our family has always remained optimistic. So much time has passed but he's still my little brother," she said. "Our parents passed away without this closure, but I hope they're watching from above."

Feldman's sister, Anat, echoed these sentiments. "The events in Syria are a rare window of opportunity. We hope this will bring Zvika home," she said. "Assad and his father's brutal regime may have held him in dark dungeons for decades."

News of inmates freed from Syrian prisons after 50 years has sparked hope. "We've always said Zvika might be held somewhere. The state must act now—it's a national responsibility," she added.

Anat noted that her family has maintained a low profile since October 7, due to the hostage situation in Gaza, but believes now is the time to push for action. "This isn't just about us—it's about a tough battle where the IDF abandoned six soldiers. In 2019, they brought back the remains of Zachary Baumel who was in the tank with my brother. We want Zvika home too."

The families of other missing Israelis, including Guy Hever, also hold on to hope. Hever, a 20-year-old artillery soldier, disappeared in 1997 from his Golan Heights base, leaving no trace. Despite extensive searches, his fate remains a mystery.

Hever left the base carrying his Galil rifle, but no evidence has surfaced to explain his disappearance. While his family believes he may have been abducted to Syria, no leads have confirmed his whereabouts in the 27 years since.

12.08.24 – Su

Northern Gaza sees fewer clashes as IDF tightens grip on Jabaliya

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Northern Gaza sees fewer clashes as IDF tightens grip on Jabaliya

Hamas resistance in Jabaliya weakens as IDF's 162nd Division nears end of two-month operation, including raids targeting terrorists and tunnels, with 60 terrorists eliminated over weekend; fate of 70,000 displaced Gazans remains uncertain as destruction mounts
Yoav Zitun|11:46

Resistance of Hamas terrorists against Israel's 162nd Division during its extended raid in northern Gaza is steadily crumbling. Over the past week, the number of clashes and firefights has hit its lowest point since the IDF entered Jabaliya two months ago.

This operation, spearheaded by three brigade combat teams—401st Armored Brigade, Givati Brigade and Kfir Brigade—is now closer to its conclusion than its beginning. Yet, one critical question remains: will the IDF allow tens of thousands of displaced Gaza residents, evacuated from areas like Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia, to return to their destroyed homes?

So far, even in neighborhoods where operations have concluded, the army has refrained from permitting any civilians to return. If a decision to allow them back is made, international accusations of "ethnic cleansing" could arise, though similar situations have already occurred in other areas, such as the expanded Philadelphi Corridor near Rafah and the widened Netzarim buffer zone.

These areas not only divide northern and southern Gaza but have also rendered the homes of thousands of Palestinians unrecognizable. From southern neighborhoods of Gaza City to central towns like Bureij and Nuseirat, homes haven't just been reduced to rubble—they've been completely obliterated, leaving vast expanses flattened by Israeli forces.

The next major test in Jabaliya will center around the "small buffer corridor" established by Israel specifically for this raid. This corridor, permanently manned by IDF troops, begins at a large forward logistics base near the coast, close to the village of Al-Atatra. This base was recently reestablished after being used for the same purpose during a maneuver last year.

From there, the corridor stretches east to the Israel-Gaza border, running between Kibbutz Erez and the Black Arrow Monument, cutting through the northern third of the Gaza Strip. Should the IDF maintain its presence there in the coming month, much like it did in the expanded Netzarim buffer zone earlier this year, and possibly even widen it for "operational needs and troop security," it is likely that 70,000 Gaza residents will remain displaced indefinitely.

This would mirror the situation of approximately one million residents of Gaza City and its surrounding areas, who have been unable to return to their homes since the war began, now living in southern Gaza's humanitarian zones.

On the battlefield, IDF is steadily dismantling the last pockets of Hamas resistance in Jabaliya, particularly in the city's adjacent refugee camp. Increasingly effective operations are being conducted with smaller numbers of troops. For instance, over the weekend, a joint force from the 9th Armored Battalion and the Givati Reconnaissance Unit launched a surprise raid on a terrorist hideout within the refugee camp. According to the 162nd Division, approximately 60 Hamas terrorists were eliminated in this operation through coordinated airstrikes and direct ground fire, all within a few hours.

"We're conducting surprise raids that deliver swift results, systematically dismantling the enemy while leveraging the extensive operational experience of our commanders at all levels," IDF said. Even as the Jabaliya raid nears its conclusion, operations maintain their rigorous structure: soldiers involved in the raid are rotated out regularly for rest, including time at home, with entire battalions replaced one at a time.

Meanwhile, forces from the Gaza Division's Northern Brigade (143rd), including its engineering and elite Yahalom units, have recently completed a focused operation targeting terrorist infrastructure and underground networks in Jabaliya.

"During the operation, dozens of booby-trapped shafts and a significant number of explosives were destroyed in the area. Forces uncovered and demolished an extensive underground tunnel network stretching hundreds of meters, which Hamas terrorists used to launch attacks against our troops," the IDF said in a statement.

"Inside the tunnels, we uncovered blast-resistant doors, living quarters and RPG launchers used for terror activities. During the operation, forces encountered terrorists emerging from the tunnels to fire anti-tank missiles. Using coordinated ground and air strikes, the forces successfully eliminated the attackers."

12.08.24 – Su

Israel captures Syrian peak of Mount Hermon, to bolster control of border area

12.08.24 – Su

Israel captures Syrian Hermon; Netanyahu: 'This is a historic day'

IDF forces seize control of Jabal al-Sheikh outpost on Syrian side of Mount Hermon following withdrawal of Assad army forces; PM: 'The Assad regime has fallen as a direct result of the blows we delivered to Iran and Hezbollah'

Lior Ben Ari, Yoav Zitun|08:40

Israeli Air Force commandos captured the highest peak of Mount Hermon on the Syrian side, sources told Ynet on Sunday.

According to reports, fighters from the elite Shaldag Unit secured the strategic summit as part of an operation to bolster the Israeli military's control in the area. The peak offers a commanding view and firing range over other ridges of Mount Hermon, making it a critical asset for observation and defense.

Earlier, Saudi outlet Al Hadath reported that Israeli forces have seized control of the Jabal al-Sheikh outpost on Mount Hermon in Syria.

The report also claimed that Israeli forces have taken over sites in the demilitarized zone along the 1974 disengagement line between Israel and Syria.

For the first time since the collapse of the Assad regime, Israeli Air Force jets launched a wave of strikes across Syria, targeting military installations, according to various reports. The attacks included strikes on the Al Mazzeh military airport in Damascus, the Halhala region in southern Syria—home to a major airport—and rural areas in Daraa and Sweida provinces.

The Voice of the Capital, a Syrian opposition-affiliated outlet, reported that Israel is conducting systematic attacks on military brigades and air defense systems formerly operated by the Assad regime. The site reported that “Israel is systematically destroying all brigades, battalions, missile depots, and weapons development facilities that could threaten its security.”

Foreign reports also indicated that Israeli strikes over the weekend targeted advanced weapons stockpiles, production facilities and a chemical weapons depot near Damascus. An unnamed Syrian opposition source claimed that additional targets are expected to be destroyed imminently.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited the Mount Bental area in the Golan Heights near the border on Sunday morning. Accompanied by Defense Minister Israel Katz, Netanyahu received a briefing from Northern Command chief Maj. Gen. Ori Gordin.

“This is a historic day in the annals of the Middle East,” Netanyahu declared. “The Assad regime is a central link in Iran’s axis of evil, and this regime has fallen. This is a direct result of the blows we delivered to Iran and Hezbollah, the primary supporters of Assad’s regime. This has created a chain reaction throughout the Middle East among those seeking to free themselves from this oppressive and tyrannical regime.”

Netanyahu added that while the developments present significant opportunities for Israel, they are not without risks. “We are first and foremost acting to secure our borders. This area was defined for nearly 50 years as a buffer zone under the 1974 Disengagement Agreement, which has now collapsed. Syrian forces have abandoned their posts.”

He stated: “Together with the defense minister, and with full backing from the cabinet, I instructed the IDF yesterday to take control of the buffer zone and the nearby dominant positions. We will not allow any hostile force to establish a presence on our border. At the same time, we are pursuing a policy of good neighborliness, the same approach we maintained when we set up a field hospital here that treated thousands of Syrians injured during the civil war. Hundreds of Syrian children were born here in Israel.”

In response to the escalating conflict, the IDF announced Sunday that it had reinforced its presence in the demilitarized buffer zone near the Golan Heights to prevent potential incursions into Israeli territory. “The IDF is not intervening in the events in Syria but will

act as necessary to protect the State of Israel and its citizens,” the army said in a statement.

The IDF also issued warnings to rebel forces occupying parts of the Syrian Golan Heights, urging them not to cross the Alpha Line into the demilitarized zone. Concurrently, the Northern Command has elevated its alert level and activated emergency measures to bolster Golan Heights defenses against potential threats from the east.

Defense Minister Katz, speaking from the Golan Heights, said: “The prime minister and I, with Cabinet approval, directed the IDF to take control of the buffer zone and strategic positions to ensure the safety of all Israeli communities in the Golan Heights—Jewish and Druze alike—so that they are not exposed to threats from across the border.”

Hezbollah withdraws from Syria amid rebel gains

Security sources in Lebanon reported that Hezbollah, a key ally of the ousted Assad regime, has withdrawn its forces from Syria. Syrian military sources told Reuters that Hezbollah troops evacuated from al-Qusayr, a strategic city in Homs province, shortly before it fell to rebel forces.

At least 150 armored vehicles carrying hundreds of Hezbollah fighters reportedly left al-Qusayr in stages. The city, which Hezbollah had controlled since 2013, served as a key route for the movement of weapons and fighters between Syria and Lebanon.

The developments highlight growing instability in southern Syria, with Israel appearing to intensify its efforts to neutralize security threats in the region as the conflict in Syria evolves.

12.08.24 – Su

Assad family 54 year-regime of terror has just ended as rebels take Damascus

12.08.24 – Su

This is the Assad family, whose 54 year-regime has just ended

Called to succeed his father after the designated heir, brother Basel is killed, Bashar al-Assad takes the leadership bringing hope of reforms but those end quickly as the young dictator continues the hard hand of his father

Lior Ben Ari, Yaron Drukman|02:46

For 54 years Syria was under the rule of the Assads after Hafèz al-Assad took power in 1970. After his death in 2000, he was succeeded by his son, Bashar, who was toppled early on Sunday as rebel forces entered Damascus at the end of their whirlwind assault and while the Syrian military laid down its arms without a fight.

Hafèz Assad was born October 6, 1930 in a remote village to a family from the Muslim Alawite sect. He was educated in boarding school in Latakia and led a modest life far away from his family.

He joined a military academy in Hama at the age of 19 and worked himself up the ranks until he became commander of the Syrian air force in 1965. A year later he was already the minister of defense, a position he held in the 1967 Six-Day War when Syria suffered

a crushing defeat. Still he managed to rise to the leadership of the Ba'ath Party and stage a coup, becoming president of Syria with the support of the military.

In 1982, Hafez Assad massacred tens of thousands of his people in Hama to prevent an uprising of the Muslim Brotherhood against him and ordered mass executions and torture of prisoners. That same year, and after the civil war in neighboring Lebanon, the Syrian ruler moved troops across the border to assist the Palestinian's fight against Israel and forced a government that had to agree to a constitutional change that gave Lebanese Muslims a greater role in governing.

Human rights groups have for years reported on mass arrests of political prisoners in Assad's Syria, jailed without trial. He held on to his power by violent force that included purges and assassination of his opponents.

Assad entered peace negotiations with Israel for the first time in 1991, soon after the first Gulf war. The talks continued during the governments of Izhak Rabin, Shimon Peres, Benjamin Netanyahu and Ehud Barak and included a possible Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights. They finally ended after a disagreement over a few hundred meters along the Sea of Galilee during the Barak term.

The third son of Hafaz Assad, Bashar, who was born in 1965, became Syria's leader after his brother, Basel, who was designated to succeed his father, was killed in a car crash. Bashar, who had been trained as an ophthalmologist in the UK, was called to take his brother's place.

Bashar Assad began his preparation for leadership by first joining the Syrian Medical Corps as a captain in 1994. He was quickly promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and, after a short period of combat training, was assigned to head the elite Republican Guard Battalion, a position Basel held when he was killed, while his father purged middle level military officers who would pose any possible opposition to his son's rule.

Bashar was given more senior positions between 1998 and his father's death in 2000, primarily overseeing Syria's role in Lebanon and its negotiations with Israel.

When Hafez died, Bashar took power at the young age of 34, bringing with him the hope of Syrians for a more pro-Western regime under a Western educated leader who promised reforms. But those hopes quickly ended after Bashar began his own purge of possible opponents. A few months into his rule, he married Asma, who was from a Sunni family in Homs, but was raised in the UK. They couple have three children.

Bashar was implicated in the murder of Lebanese prime minister Rafik Hariri in 2005 by members of Hezbollah. An international investigation five years later revealed the Syrian government's involvement in the assassination. After large protests in Lebanon, Syria was forced to remove its troops from Lebanese soil dealing the regime the first in a number of blows.

The uprising that began in Syria in 2011 and was fought for over a decade ultimately led to the end of the Assad rule. By some estimations, over 600,000 Syrians died in the civil war.

During the first years, Bashar Assad lost control of most of the Syrian territory, including to the hands of ISIS, that conquered vast areas in both Syria and Iraq. In 2015, with the

active military involvement of Russia, he was able to regain control of most of the land that had been lost.

Over six million Syrians were displaced from their homes. Many became refugees who sought safety in Europe, leading to a crisis that has altered the political face of many of the continent's countries. It was the largest migration of refugees since World War II. Assad and his enemies were both accused of war crimes and the Syrian dictator was said to have used chemical weapons, numerous times against the forces fighting his regime and the civilians in the areas that they controlled.

His dictatorship was said to be on the brink of collapse in 2015 after over 40,000 members of his military had been killed and many had deserted but Bashar Assad survived thanks to his Russian and Iranian allies who joined the fight. Syria held an election in 2021, where Assad received 95.1% of the vote. His term in office however did not last and on Sunday he was reported to have left Syria by plane to an unknown destination. The plane disappeared from the radar and his fate remains unknown.

12.08.24 – Su

IDF moves tanks, troops into enforce Golan Heights border from Syrian rebels

12.08.24 – Su

IDF moves tanks, troops into demilitarized zone on Golan Heights

Military says will protect against any violation of Israel sovereignty after warning Syrian rebels taking control of the area near the border, not to advance

Yoav Zitun, Yair Kraus, Lior Ben Arij | 23:41

The IDF on Sunday moved tanks and infantry troops into the demilitarized zone along the Israel-Syria border on the Golan Heights after the fall of the Assad regime, according to foreign media reports. The move is part of the military's emergency plan to prevent any incursion of Syrian rebel forces into Israeli territory.

On Saturday the military said it had reinforced its deployment along the border, including intelligence and reconnaissance units. Ground and aerial forces have been bolstered along the border, and sector readiness has been heightened. "The IDF is determined to prevent any violation of the sovereignty of the State of Israel," the military said in a statement.

Earlier on Sunday, the Israeli Air Force conducted a series of raids around the Syrian capital Damascus, targeting advanced weapons systems and warehouses before they fall into the hands of rebels who have taken control of the city. According to the reports, the air force bombed a chemical weapons storage facility.

The reports also claimed that the IDF relayed a message to the rebel forces who have taken control of the Syrian Golan, not to cross into the Alfa Line – the demilitarized zone between the two countries.

Foreign media reports overnight described an IDF strike on a convoy of Hezbollah fighters leaving the city of Al-Qusayr, in the governance of Homs, shortly before the area fell into rebel hands. At least 150 armored vehicles with hundreds of Hezbollah fighters were said to have left the city which served as a central hub for the transfer of weapons and operatives from Syria to Lebanon since 2013, when pro-Assad forces took control of the area.

Meanwhile the Golan regional council said that schools in the four Druze towns on the Golan Heights will only conduct distance learning on Sunday while in other communities, schools will be open.

12.08.24 – Su

Pentagon October leak, delayed Israeli strike on Iran, court documents confirm

12.08.24 – Su

Pentagon leak delayed Israeli strike on Iran, court documents confirm

Prosecutors reveal leaked classified documents forced Israel to delay planned strike on Iran; despite evidence, suspect placed under house arrest; his motives remain unclear
Daniel Edelson, New York|Yesterday | 18:28

U.S. prosecutors argued in court that the leak of classified documents delayed a planned Israeli military operation against Iran. Troy Edwards, the lead prosecutor, said the disclosure prompted Israel to postpone a "kinetic action" out of concern that its plans had been compromised.

Despite presenting incriminating evidence against the alleged leaker, Asif William Rahman, 34, a federal judge ordered his release to home detention under electronic monitoring.

The Justice Department announced plans to appeal the decision, arguing that although Rahman no longer has access to classified materials, his memory of sensitive information could still pose a national security threat. Prosecutors stressed that "memory and perception" alone are sufficient for the unauthorized sharing of classified data, even through simple means like verbal communication.

Rahman, an Ohio native and Yale graduate, was arrested in Cambodia while allegedly attempting to delete classified files and enhance the security of his digital devices. He is accused of leaking two classified documents from secure systems. Officials have not disclosed his motives, which remain unclear.

The two classified documents were leaked in October during Israel's preparations for a strike on Iran, following a barrage of ballistic missiles launched by the Islamic Republic on October 1.

According to at least one foreign media report, denied at the time by Israel, the leak delayed Israel's response, which ultimately came three weeks later in an operation dubbed "Days of Atonement."

The documents, dated October 15 and 16, were classified as "Top Secret" and first surfaced on a pro-Iranian Telegram channel before spreading to X (formerly Twitter). They were produced by the U.S. National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), which analyzes data and imagery collected by American spy satellites. Their security classification restricts sharing to the Five Eyes alliance, an intelligence-sharing partnership between the U.S., Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The documents, which do not include the satellite images referenced, detail Israeli preparations for an attack on Iran. They reportedly describe the Israeli Air Force conducting "a large-scale deployment drill" and an aerial refueling exercise. One document mentions the Air Force "engaging" with air-launched ballistic missiles, noting activity involving at least 16 missiles of a type referred to as "Golden Horizon" and at least 40 identified as either "ISO2" or "Rocks" since October 8.

In the wake of criticism in local media of Turkey's 'secret financial ties', Turkish president – who has spoken out harshly against Netanyahu since the beginning of the war – tells reporters that his country has severed relations with Israel; Turkish embassy in Tel Aviv is still operating and Jerusalem says not informed about cut in ties

12.07.24 – Sa

Israel assists UN repelling rebels from borders, as they topple the Syrian Assad regime

12.07.24 – Sa

Israel assists UN forces in repelling rebel attack in southern Syria

Armed assailants attack UN outpost near village of Hader in Quneitra province, close to Israel's Golan Heights; rebels reportedly enter Homs and approach gates of Damascus

Lior Ben Ari, Yoav Zitun | 10:25

The IDF said Saturday it aided UN forces in repelling a rebel attack on a United Nations outpost near the Druze village of Hader in southern Syria's Quneitra province, close to the Golan Heights.

"A short while ago, an attack was carried out by armed individuals at a UN post in the Hader area in Syria," the military said in a statement. "The IDF is currently assisting the UN forces in repelling the attack.

"The IDF is deployed with reinforced forces in the Golan Heights area and will continue to operate in order to protect the State of Israel and its citizens."

The attacked UNDOF outpost, tasked with monitoring the 1974 Israel-Syria disengagement agreement, sits on a hill opposite Majdal Shams, just feet from the Israeli border. Israel's intervention was partly motivated by the proximity of the Druze community in Hader, closely tied to residents of Majdal Shams across the border.

Israel has a history of intervening in the area. Nearly a decade ago, the IDF acted to protect Hader against rebel advances, preventing Israeli Druze from taking independent action. Israel had previously assured Majdal Shams' leaders it would step in to safeguard their Syrian relatives if necessary.

The Golan Regional Council assured residents following gunfire heard in the area that "IDF forces stationed in the Golan are responsible for the activity," and emphasized that while there is "no immediate threat," the military has increased its presence. Meanwhile, the jihadist rebel group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), not currently operating near Israel's border, declared its responsibility to defend international institutions, including UN facilities, in Syria.

The IDF announced further troop reinforcements along the Golan Heights, involving infantry, armored and engineering battalions, to bolster defenses and prepare for possible escalation. Recent military exercises in northern Jordan Valley and southern Golan tested rapid response capabilities. Forces deployed during the drills have remained in the Golan to strengthen defenses.

"The IDF is closely monitoring developments, ready to respond to any scenario," a military spokesperson said on Friday, vowing to prevent threats near Israel's border and act against any danger to its citizens.

The development comes as rebel factions in Syria make rapid territorial gains in the south. Rebels announced the capture of Quneitra province near the Israeli border, as well as the southern provinces of Sweida and Daraa.

Earlier Saturday, opposition groups reported taking control of Sanamayn, a city 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Damascus, after entering the birthplace of the 2011 uprising, Daraa, last weekend.

The offensive, spearheaded by HTS and joined by other factions, began with surprise attacks on Assad regime forces in northern provinces, including Aleppo and Idlib. HTS leader Abu Mohammed al-Golani told CNN, "Our goal is to topple the regime by any means necessary."

Rebel forces have since seized key cities in central Syria. After capturing Aleppo, the country's second-largest city, they advanced southward, taking Hama and pushing into Homs, Syria's third-largest city and a crucial crossroads connecting many provinces. Pro-Assad forces have launched airstrikes and dispatched reinforcements to Homs, but analysts suggest the fall of the city could be a turning point threatening the regime's survival.

Meanwhile, opposition reports indicate that rebels are within a few miles of Damascus, with some claiming they are "at the gates of the capital." Pro-regime sources denied rebel forces were near the capital but confirmed withdrawals from surrounding towns.

In the east, **Kurdish rebels** reportedly **captured** Deir ez-Zor and the **Iraqi border crossing** at Al-Bukamal. Local officials in Iraq said **approximately 2,000 Syrian soldiers fled to Iraq seeking asylum**, with some **requiring medical attention**.

In **Damascus**, rumors circulated about **President Bashar al-Assad's departure amid rebel advances**. His **office** dismissed such claims, stating he remains in the capital performing his duties. Nonetheless, reports suggest **Egyptian and Jordanian officials have urged Assad to leave Syria and establish a government-in-exile**. A Wall Street Journal report claims **Assad's wife, Asma, and their children left for Russia last week**.

In **southern Syria**, footage emerged of **protesters in Jaramana**, a predominantly **Druze city 10 kilometers (6 miles) from Damascus**, toppling a **statue of Hafez al-Assad, Bashar's father**. Demonstrators called for **the regime's downfall**, and security **forces were deployed to protect government buildings**.

The foreign **ministers of Russia, Iran and Turkey met on Saturday to reaffirm the importance of Syria's territorial integrity and agreed to renew efforts toward a political resolution to the ongoing crisis**. The meeting highlighted the **complex alliances in the Syrian conflict: Turkey supports certain rebel factions, while Russia and Iran back the Assad regime**.

Russian aircraft continue to conduct **airstrikes against rebels across Syria**, and **pro-Iranian militias have entered the country following the recent surprise offensive**.

A source close to **Hezbollah** revealed that the group, **recovering from a year of fighting with Israel**, has **deployed 2,000 fighters to Syria to support Assad's forces in battles against the rebels**.

U.S. President-elect **Donald Trump on Saturday ruled out intervention in the Syrian conflict**. "Syria is a mess, but is **not our friend**, & **THE UNITED STATES SHOULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT. THIS IS NOT OUR FIGHT. LET IT PLAY OUT. DO NOT GET INVOLVED!**" he wrote on his social media platform Truth Social, ahead of his **January 20 inauguration**. **Currently, approximately 900 U.S. troops remain stationed in Syria**.

12.07.24 – Sa

Hamas publishes propaganda video of Israeli hostage Matan Zangauker

12.07.24 – Sa

Hamas publishes propaganda video of Israeli hostage Matan Zangauker
Zangauker, held in Gaza for over 420 days, appears in a video—likely **scripted by his captors**—criticizing Netanyahu and voicing **fears for his life**
Einav Halabi, Yael Ciechanover, Dan Raban|| 09:39

Hamas on Saturday released a video showing Israeli hostage Matan Zangauker, held captive in Gaza for over 420 days since being abducted during the terrorist group's October 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel.

In the footage, Zangauker, whose words may have been dictated by his captors, criticizes Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying, "I am very disappointed. I am now sure you don't understand your enemies or their intentions. This is your failure and that of your government since October 7."

He adds that he and fellow hostages fear for their lives following new directives reportedly conveyed by their captors. Expressing despair, he urged Israelis to protest outside Netanyahu's residence, saying, "We suffer every day. It's time you felt our suffering too."

Zangauker spoke directly to his mother, Einav, a prominent advocate for the hostages, saying, "I watch you, I hear about your actions, and I hope to sit with you again at the table, to eat, talk and drink together."

He described dire conditions in captivity, including lack of food, water and hygiene, living among rats and other animals. "The isolation is killing us, and the darkness is terrifying. It's not fair we pay for the government's mistakes."

Zangauker's partner, Ilana Gritzewsky, was also abducted but released in a hostage deal in November last year. His family authorized the release of the video but noted that statements made were likely dictated by Hamas.

A week earlier, Hamas released another video featuring Edan Alexander, an American-Israeli hostage, who appealed to U.S. President-elect Donald Trump to secure his release. Alexander criticized U.S. military aid to Israel, claiming, "The weapons Biden sends are killing us," and added, "I don't want to die like Hersh, another American friend," referring to former hostage Hersh Goldberg-Polin, who was abducted during the October 7 massacre and later executed by his captors along with five other hostages. Addressing his family, Alexander said, "Every day feels like eternity. Please stay strong; it's only a matter of time before this nightmare ends."

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Ynet-News, December 06, 2024 – Friday 9th Month

12.06.24 – Fr - - - News – Friday

2 in Golan, arrested spying for Iran, providing exact locations for Hezbollah missiles

12.06.24 – Fr - - - News – Friday

IDF eliminate 2 Hamas commanders & tanks surround Hospital in north Gaza.

12.06.24 – Fr - - - News Placed in December 06 spot – Friday

Syria rebels gain ground, enabling Israel to halt Iran arms pipeline to Hezbollah

12.05.24 – Th - - - News – Thursday

Cyprus acquires Israeli air defense to enable a no-fly zone from Turkey occupation

12.05.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

US reject one sided Amnesty International report accusing Israel of genocide

12.05.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

IDF ground forces reflect on a year of combat and prepare for the next war

12.05.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

Submitted Civilian report on October 7 is foundation for a Knesset committee

12.05.24 – Th- - - News – Thursday

Bloomberg-Sagol Center donates \$27.8 million to reconstruct north Israel damage

12.05.24 – Th- - - News Placed in December 05 spot – Thursday

Egypt Gaza proposal: IDF exit Rafah 60-days; 1st week exchange all hostage-prisoners

12.04.24 – We- - - News Placed in December 04 spot – Wednesday

Haredi MK's & Rabbis inform all yeshiva students to refuse IDF draft summons

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Hamas instructs operatives to neutralize hostages if Israel launches rescue attempt

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

MK warns Court of civil war if PM removed from office during corruption trial

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

IDF return to Jordan the bodies of terrorists after border attack on troops

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Anti- groups blacklist IDF soldiers posting self-videos in Gaza, to issue warrants

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Settlers burn Palestinian property after illegal WB structures demolished

12.04.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

Israel-Philippines relations flourish with arms deals and tourism pact

12.03.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

IDF eliminates terrorists in Syria, West Bank, Gaza & Lebanon with zero tolerance

12.03.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Another week or another month, Jabaliya will fall, encircled by IDF soldiers

12.03.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

US plan for post-war Gaza, similar to Lebanon deal, with US & Abbas management

12.03.24 – Tu- - - News Placed in December 03 spot – Tuesday

IDF expanding buffer zones & corridors throughout Gaza, taking strategic areas

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

IAF launches wave of strikes on Lebanon to defend Israel

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News Placed in December 02 spot – Monday

Trump warns Hamas: Release hostages or be hit harder than anybody in US history

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

IDF prepares strikes, ready to execute at any moment in response to contract violations

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Lebanon fires mortars; IDF nighttime raid captured an Iranian spy in Syria

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Shin Bet uncovers Iran cyber phishing campaign, targeting Israeli officials

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Cautious Israeli optimism from Hamas behind the scenes negotiations

12.02.24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

Hundreds gathered in New York to urge Biden, Trump to bring hostages home

12.01.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday New Moon 12:22am

IDF force Iranian plane carrying weapons to return eastward

12.01.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday New Moon 12:22am

Despite cease-fire, Houthi rockets keep threatening Israel, exposes unclear strategy

12.01.24 – Su- - - News Placed in December 01 spot – Sunday New Moon 12:22am

Ben-Gvir seeks repeal 2005 transfer of Gaza to PA rule; to allow Israel settlers

12.01.24 – Su- - - News – Sunday New Moon 12:22am

Hamas seeks Egypt border for return of displaced Gazans, as part of deal

Kislev 9th Month

11.30.24 – Sa- - - News – Saturday

Hezbollah facility & armed operatives struck by IDF to enforce cease-fire

11.30.24 – Sa- - - News Placed in November 30 spot – Saturday

IDF down drones from east & west & uncover Lebanon weapons cache in mosque