

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update October 12, 2023 (Tishrei 27, 5784)

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🚩 DAY 6 OF THE WAR 🚩

Israel is taking unprecedented measures in response to the escalating crisis. *The Israeli military has announced the mobilization of approximately 360,000 reservists, marking by far the largest call-up in its history.* This significant step is a clear indication that the conflict is expanding, and we anticipate a sharp increase in casualties. The current death toll stands at over 1,300, and with more than 3,500 injured, these numbers are sadly expected to rise as ground forces prepare to enter Gaza.

Death Toll from Hamas Onslaught Passes 1,200 as IDF Steps up Attacks on Hamas; The death toll from Palestinian terror group Hamas's shock attack on Israel surpassed 1,200 on Wednesday, October 11, with over 3,000 injured and the fate of an estimated 150 people abducted and taken to the Gaza Strip still unclear. According to Hebrew media reports, the death toll hit a grim 1,000 late Tuesday as security forces and Zaka, a volunteer group that handles human remains after terror attacks and other disasters, worked in southern Israeli communities to clear and collect bodies. The military said that number climbed to 1,200 by Wednesday morning, according to the reports. The Health Ministry said later that 3,007 people had been injured, including 28 critically and 345 seriously, with almost 500 still hospitalized. Terrorists in Gaza were also continuing to launch rockets at Israeli cities and towns, with projectiles directly hitting at least four buildings in the southern city of Sderot on Wednesday morning. Terror groups have fired more than 5,000 rockets at Israel since Saturday, the IDF said. In a briefing around 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said Israeli forces had killed 18 Palestinian terrorists in Israeli territory during the previous 24 hours, as sweeps continued to root out the last Hamas infiltrators. The military also said Air Force jets had hit over 70 Hamas targets in the Gaza City district of at-Tuffah as well as a military structure operated by Palestinian Islamic Jihad. (TOI / VFI News)

Hamas Terrorists Beheaded Babies and Young Children; Hamas terrorists massacred at least 40 babies and young children before beheading some of them and gunning down their families in a small kibbutz in Israel, horrified Israeli soldiers have claimed. The onslaught saw around 70 Hamas fighters – yesterday branded 'animals' and 'worse than ISIS' by the Israeli army – armed with machine guns and grenades, storm the usually quiet Kfar Aza kibbutz in southern Israel killing men, women, and children indiscriminately. The bullet-riddled bodies of Israeli residents now lay on the grounds of the kibbutz among burned-out houses, strewn furniture, and torched cars. Solemn Israeli soldiers today went from house to house to take away the scores of people massacred there. Outside the destroyed homes, the soldiers explained how they saw the bodies of babies next to their cots, their heads chopped off, in a sign of the depraved acts committed by the terrorists. As many as 40 babies and small children were killed, IDF soldiers told Israel-based media after taking them to the scene of the atrocity. The Israeli soldiers were seen comforting each other after witnessing such horrors, including the bodies of entire families who were gunned down in their beds. 'You see the babies, the mothers, the fathers, in their bedrooms, in their protection rooms and how the terrorist kills them. It's not a war, it's not a battlefield. It's a massacre, it's a terror activity,' said Israeli Major General Itai Veruv from the horrific scene. (DM / VFI News)

Gallant: Israel Moving to Full Offense, Gaza Will Never Return to What It Was; Defense Minister Yoav Gallant says Israel is moving to a “full offense” against the Gaza Strip, as sporadic clashes with Hamas terrorists in southern Israel continue. “I have released all the restraints, we have [regained] control of the area, and we are moving to a full offense,” Gallant says to troops on the Gaza border. “You will have the ability to change the reality here. You have seen the prices [being paid], and you will get to see the change. Hamas wanted a change in Gaza, it will change 180 degrees from what it thought,” Gallant says. “Whoever comes to decapitate, murder women, Holocaust survivors — we will eliminate him with all our might, and without compromise,” he adds. Gallant had also ordered a “complete siege” of the Gaza Strip. “There will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is closed,” Gallant said following an assessment at the IDF Southern Command in Beersheba. The military added that it had hit more than 80 sites in Beit Hanoun in the northern Gaza Strip Wednesday morning, October 11. Dozens of fighter jets carried out the strikes against the targets, which include two bank branches used by Hamas, an underground tunnel, several war rooms, and other military installations, the IDF said. Earlier on Tuesday, the IDF carried out strikes in Syria and Lebanon after a number of mortars were launched toward northern Israel. Hezbollah claimed responsibility for an anti-tank guided missile attack on an Israeli army post near the northern Israeli village of Arab al-Aramshe, and the IDF said it responded with a drone strike on a Hezbollah post. (TOI / VFI News)

Hamas Co-Founder Admitted Ultimate Aim of War on Israel to Eradicate Zionism, Rid 'Traacherous Christianity' from World; Speaking on the media run by Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi movement, Mahmoud al-Zahar, a founder of Hamas and one of its current leaders, made the shocking remarks, as reported in December by American media. “Today, you could say that we reached a phase of deterrence, a phase in which we can defend the occupied land,” he said in reference to Hamas' perpetual fight against the Jewish State, in remarks translated by the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) which specializes in covering media in the region. Al-Zahar, quoting the Hadith (the Islamic oral tradition), admitted that the war being waged against Israel is just one battle in the ultimate goal of conquering the globe. According to the Hamas co-founder, under a new Islamic international order neither “Zionism” nor “treacherous Christianity” will be tolerated. “The entire 510 million square kilometers of planet Earth will come under [a system] where there is no injustice, no oppression, no treachery, no Zionism, no treacherous Christianity, and no killings and crimes, like those being committed against the Palestinians, and against the Arabs in all the Arab countries – in Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, and other countries,” he said. Hamas's original charter, which claims that “peace and quiet” for Jews and Christians

will only be possible “under the wing of Islam,” repeatedly cites the Koran and other mainstream Islamic texts. (BB / VFI News)

Biden: This Is An Act of Pure Evil from Hamas; US President Joe Biden delivered an address to the American people and the world on Tuesday, October 10, on the latest Hamas terrorist attacks. “There are moments in this life, I mean this literally when the pure, unadulterated evil is unleashed on this world. The people of Israel lived through one such moment this weekend,” Biden said. “The bloody hands of the terrorist organization Hamas, a group whose stated purpose for being is to kill Jews. This was an act of sheer evil.” “Parents butchered using their bodies to try to protect their children. Stomach-turning reports of babies being killed. Entire families slain, young people massacred while attending a musical festival to celebrate peace. Women raped, assaulted, paraded as trophies,” he continued. The President described the “Holocaust survivors abducted and held hostage. Hostages whom Hamas has now threatened to execute in violation of every code of human morality.” Biden stated that Hamas' brutality “brings to mind the worst rampages of ISIS.” President Biden also called on Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to minimize civilian casualties in the Gaza Strip in response to the deadly Hamas terror attacks. The death toll now stands at 1,200 in Israel, including 14 Americans, 18 Thais, 7 Argentinians, and another 900 in Gaza. (INN / VFI News)

Pentagon Sends Israel Weapons, Redirects Aircraft Carrier to Region; The Pentagon announced on Sunday, October 8, that it is sending “additional equipment and resources, including munitions” to the Israel Defense Forces while redirecting a Carrier Strike Group to the Eastern Mediterranean. The security assistance “will begin moving today and arriving in the coming days,” said U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III and the U.S. Department of Defense, adding that the decision was in response to the “abhorrent terrorist attack by Hamas.” Austin said that the United States would also send the USS Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group to the region, including the USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78), the world’s largest aircraft carrier and the newest in the U.S. fleet, the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Normandy and four Arleigh-Burke-class guided-missile destroyers. “We have also taken steps to augment U.S. Air Force F-35, F-15, F-16, and A-10 fighter aircraft squadrons in the region. Strengthening our joint force posture, in addition to the material support that we will rapidly provide to Israel, underscores the United States’ ironclad support for the Israel Defense Forces and the Israeli people.” Later, on Tuesday, US President Joe Biden declared: “In this moment, we must be crystal clear: We stand with Israel, we stand with Israel. And we will make sure Israel has what it needs to take care of its citizens, defend itself, and respond to this attack.” (I365N /VFI News)

German Minister Calls to Cut Aid to Palestinians; Christian Lindner, Germany's Finance Minister, on Saturday, October 7, called on his government's Foreign Minister from his government to examine together the possibility of stopping funding to the Palestinians. “How long should Germany continue to transfer tax money to the Palestinians?” he demanded and later said in an interview with German media. “We should not respond to it with just words ... I hope to consult with the Foreign Minister on how Germany should conduct itself in regards to the aid funds for the Palestinians in light of this violence.” Additionally, Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala says it is the right time to move his country’s embassy to Jerusalem. “I am convinced that this would be a desirable step at the present time,” he tweets. “I intend to discuss the specific course of action in this situation with my coalition partners.” Other renowned international citizens express their support for Israel, including Miss Iraq winner and Democratic Congressional Candidate Sarai Idan, and actor and former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Also, an anonymous man reportedly purchased 250 plane tickets for Israeli Defense Forces call-ups heading back to embattled Israel at JFK Airport on Monday. The Jewish man stood near the ticket counter for El Al — Israel’s national airline — and quietly bought tickets for those who showed him their IDF call-up notice. (INN / VFI News)

Bank of Israel to Sell \$30 Billion to Stop Shekel Collapse During Gaza War; The Bank of Israel announced on Monday, October 9, that it plans to sell up to \$30 billion in foreign exchange to protect the shekel from collapse after the country formally declared a state of war. The central bank stated that it will “operate in the market during the coming period in order to moderate volatility in the shekel exchange rate and to provide the necessary liquidity for the continued proper functioning of the markets.” Despite the Bank of Israel’s announcement, the shekel weakened more than 2 percent to around 3.92 to the dollar in Monday morning trading as Israeli forces continued fighting Hamas terrorists in towns near the Gaza border. On Friday, the Bank of Israel representative rate was set at NIS 3.8630/\$. In addition to the \$30 billion program, the Bank of Israel said it would provide dollar liquidity to the market through SWAP mechanisms of as much as \$15 billion. SWAP mechanisms are a form of future contracts through which two parties exchange the cash flows or liabilities from two different financial instruments. “The Bank of Israel will continue monitoring developments, tracking all the markets, and acting with the tools available to it as necessary,” the central bank said in the statement. (TOI / VFI News)

Live Updates - Israel at War: At Least 900 Killed, Hamas Claims Over 100 in Captivity; Since Saturday morning, October 7, hundreds of terrorists infiltrated multiple Israeli communities, overtaking Israeli towns on the Gaza border, murdering Jews, and taking others back to Gaza as captives. In the shocking assault, Hamas gunmen rolled into as many as 22 locations in southern Israel on Saturday morning, including towns and smaller communities as far as 15 miles (24 kilometers) from the Gaza border. At least 900 were killed, dozens were kidnapped, and over 2600 were injured in the attacks. Parallel to the terrorist attacks, multiple civilians reported hearing loud explosions in their immediate vicinity; as of Monday, over 4,000 rockets have been fired toward Israeli civilians. Israel formally declared a state of war on Sunday as the death toll rose from the unprecedented Hamas attacks. In response to the attacks, the IDF launched Operation Swords of Iron and has since been striking terror targets in the Gaza Strip. The Israel Defense Forces’ top spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari said on Sunday, "Israel will respond with determination and force to their unprovoked war crimes." "Our Air Force is attacking hundreds of Hamas and Islamic Jihad targets in Gaza. We follow international law while exercising our right and responsibility to protect our civilians," Hagari continued. He added that the military killed more than 400 Palestinian terrorists in southern Israel and the Gaza Strip and captured dozens more, as of Sunday, while the Hamas-run health ministry in the Gaza Strip said 493 Palestinians have been killed so far. Hamas senior official Moussa Abu Marzouk boasted that the terror group is holding some 130 Israeli hostages, including high-ranking army officials, according to a report in Palestinian media. (INN / VFI News)

IDF Spokesperson: 'Hamas Was More Barbaric and More Brutal than ISIS'; IDF Spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari on Sunday, October 8, addressed the international media regarding the Hamas attack that has left over 900 Israelis dead. "This weekend, Hamas started a war against Israel with the worst massacre of innocent civilians in Israel’s history. Hamas was more barbaric and more brutal than ISIS," he opened. Hagari insisted: "Hamas behaves like ISIS — I repeat — Hamas behaves like ISIS. It’s the same strategy: to maximize civilian casualties in Gaza and Israel and make you all forget the massacre of hundreds of Israelis that started this war in the first place. We will not forget." He added: " Hamas terrorists target Israeli civilians; Israel will target Hamas terrorists wherever they will be in Gaza... Israeli intelligence indicates that Hamas is hiding among Gazan civilians inside Gazan homes and schools, hospitals, and mosques." Meanwhile, jubilant Hamas terrorists uploaded to social media brutal video clips of their work: bodies of civilians lying dead in pools of blood at city bus stops, elderly people hauled away on motorbikes, and women and children hustled into jeeps and trucks as fighters battered and spat and screamed "Allahu Akbar" at their bewildered captives. The terrifying videos, which also included groups of young Israeli and foreign partygoers tied up and taken into Gaza, were eerily reminiscent of images

shared by the extremist Islamist group ISIS, which tried to establish an Islamic caliphate in northern Syria and Iraq several years ago. Seth Frantzman, author of "After ISIS: America, Iran and the Struggle for the Middle East," told American media on Sunday, "The behavior of Hamas in this attack has many parallels with what we saw from ISIS in Iraq and their attack on Sinjar, where they purposely targeted women and children for kidnapping and then for sexual assault and slavery." (INN / VFI News)

Hamas Confirms It Received Support from Iran for Terror Attacks on Israel; Hamas has confirmed that it received support for its recent attacks on Israel from the Islamic Republic of Iran, the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. A spokesperson for the terror group told British media that it received support from Iran and others, although he declined to say who else provided support. Iran has given billions of dollars to Hamas and other Palestinian terror groups over the last few decades to support attacks against Israel, providing weapons, funding, and training. After the current attacks, people in Iran flocked to the streets to celebrate, shooting off fireworks, waving flags, and cheering, according to images posted online. Furthermore, a report in a renowned American newspaper claims that Iran helped Hamas plan its attack on Israel during a meeting in Beirut last week, and has been working on it for weeks. The report cites senior members of Hamas and Hezbollah and says plans were ongoing since August and included several meetings in Beirut, which included members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp. After the attacks, Iranian Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei posted a video on social media, and above it, he wrote: "God willing, the cancer of the usurper Zionist regime will be eradicated at the hands of the Palestinian people and the Resistance forces throughout the region." In the video, crowds are seen in celebrations held near the border. In response, entrepreneur and billionaire Elon Musk, owner of the social network X (formerly Twitter), on Sunday, October 8, did not remain indifferent, blocked the Tweet, and responded: "Khamenei's official position is clear, that the eradication of Israel is the actual goal - not just support for the Palestinians." (DW / VFI News)

Heavy Rocket Fire on Central, Southern Israel; 300,000 Reservists Mobilized in 48 Hours; Five people were wounded on Monday, two of them seriously, as heavy barrages of rockets were fired by terrorists in the Gaza Strip at towns in southern and central Israel, including one that exploded near Ben Gurion International Airport. The military's spokesman Daniel Hagari said Monday, October 9, that Israeli troops have regained control of all towns on the Gaza border, but that terrorists may remain in Israeli territory. A short time later, the Israel Defense Forces said troops killed a Palestinian terrorist in Kibbutz Kfar Aza, close to the border with the Gaza Strip. Hagari said the army has evacuated 15 out of 24 towns on the border and will continue to evacuate the others over the course of Monday, but that the town of Sderot will not be evacuated at this stage. Additionally, Hagari claimed some 4,400 rockets have been launched toward Israel since the fighting started on Saturday morning. Regarding the draft of reservists, Hagari said the IDF "has never mobilized so many reservists so quickly — 300,000 reservists in 48 hours." This is the largest mobilization since the 1973 Yom Kippur War when Israel called up 400,000 reservists. (TOI / VFI News)

Palestinians Celebrate Massive Terror Attack Against Israeli Civilians; The Palestinian terror attack happened on the Jewish holiday of Shemini Atzeret, the final day of the annual High Holy Day cycle. Photos and videos were uploaded to social media that showed Palestinians praising the violent terror attack. Some Palestinians were pictured celebrating after they were able to capture an Israeli tank. The photos showed the Palestinians waving the Palestine flag and posing with the "victory" hand symbol. Another Palestinian was seen praying on the ground in front of the captured Israeli tank. Another video from Judea and Samaria showed Palestinians cheering, clapping, and chanting things to show support for the violent terror attack on Israel. The crowd could be seen holding guns in the air and shooting them, including a young girl holding two guns surrounded by men. The celebration extended across the globe as

well. Palestinian supporters in Istanbul – Turkey, Berlin – Germany, London – the UK, and the US were seen cheering and waving Palestine flags to show support for the violent attack on Israel. (BB / VFI News)

Netanyahu Offered Yair Lapid and Gantz Entry into A 'Broad Emergency Government'; Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu extended an invitation to opposition leader Yair Lapid and former defense minister Benny Gantz to join an emergency government to manage the war, following Hamas' attack on Israel. This comes after Gaza-area residents claimed that hours after the infiltrations took place, there was no sign of Israeli security forces and that they felt abandoned. In a statement on Saturday evening, Lapid expressed his openness to joining such an emergency government. Lapid began his statement by offering condolences to the families of the victims and wishing the wounded a speedy recovery. He also urged citizens to follow the instructions of the security forces. "I'm not currently focused on assigning blame or questioning our preparedness. This is neither the time nor the place. We must stand united against our adversaries. Israel is at war," he said. "Israel needs the guidance of a skilled, seasoned, and accountable government. I am confident that former defense minister [Benny] Gantz would also align with such an administration. Israel faced a severe setback today," Lapid added. Gantz later met with Netanyahu to discuss the possibility and subsequently considered the option. After their conversation, he convened with members of his National Unity party. Yisrael Beytenu chairman and former defense minister Avigdor Liberman also said he will join the current government if Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu — together with the defense minister and IDF chief of staff — “stand in front of the cameras and inform the Jewish people” that the government intends to “eliminate the Hamas terror organization and all its terrorist leaders,” and will not suffice with anything less. (JPost / VFI News)

European Leaders Strongly Condemn Hamas Terror Assault; European leaders roundly condemn the massive assault by the Hamas terror group on Israel. German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock says Hamas contributes to “the intensification of violence,” adding Israel “has our full solidarity” and “the right, guaranteed by international law, to defend itself against terrorism.” France expressed “full solidarity with Israel and the victims” and underscored “its absolute rejection of terrorism and its commitment to Israel’s security.” French President Emmanuel Macron said he “firmly condemns” the attacks. Britain’s foreign minister James Cleverly condemned the “horrific attacks” and underlined Israel’s right to self-defense. Furthermore, a spokesperson for British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak says Sunak has spoken with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and offered any support Israel needs. Additionally, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Ukraine, and the Czech Republic all say they back Israel’s right to defend itself. The United Arab Emirates also stressed in a statement that Hamas attacks “are a serious and grave escalation,” and that it is “appalled by reports that Israeli civilians have been abducted as hostages from their homes.” (TOI / VFI News)

Amb. Erdan: Hamas Gunned Down Jewish Revelers Just Like Nazi Death Squads in the 1940s; Israel’s Ambassador to the United Nations, Gilad Erdan, held a press conference at the UN on Sunday, October 8, ahead of the Security Council’s meeting on the surprise Hamas terror attacks against Israel. The Ambassador presented shocking photos and distressing videos of civilians who were murdered or kidnapped from their homes by Hamas, including children and the elderly. He emphasized that this is Israel’s 9/11 and that from now on, nothing will be the same. Ambassador Erdan said, “These animal-like terrorists broke into homes, gathered entire families into rooms, and shot them point blank. As if they were stomping on insects. Grandparents and the elderly, among them Holocaust survivors who endured the Nazis, were violently dragged from their homes, this time by Hamas, and taken into Gaza.... These are war crimes! Blatant documented war crimes!” The Ambassador also referred to the massacre at the nature party near Gaza, saying, “These savages gunned down Jewish revelers just like Nazi death squads in the 1940s. Hundreds were butchered, their bodies mutilated and defiled. And those who survived were taken to Gaza.” The Ambassador made clear that he expects only one thing from the Council. “Hamas’ war

crimes must be unequivocally condemned. This unimaginable atrocity must be condemned. Israel must be given steadfast support to defend ourselves. To defend the free world.” (INN / VFI News)



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