

Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update December 14, 2023 (Tevet 2, 5784)



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Israel-Hamas War, Day 69

Defeating Hamas Will Take 'More Than a Few Months', Israel's Defense Minister Tells U.S. National Security Advisor

- *Families of hostages demand 'immediate clarification' over war cabinet decision to suspend Mossad chief's planned trip to Qatar to restart talks*
- *Israeli believed to have been kidnapped, found to be murdered on Oct. 7*
 - *Tanzanian national also found to have been killed*
 - *U.S. believes stopping war at this stage 'does not serve long-term security interest of everyone in the region'*
- *At least 1,200 civilians and soldiers killed in Israel since Oct. 7; over 138 hostages still held in Gaza*
 - *Hamas-run health ministry says 18,608 killed, 50,594 wounded in Gaza*

Shalom Mishpocha.

Please continue to pray for Israel and the IDF. To support Israel financially, please send in funds to Yachad Ministries and designate them "Israel." You can put this in the memo section of your check or in the notes section on PayPal.

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If you are interested in having Yachad Ministries to come your church and share about what is going on in Israel and the Middle East, and how the Bible is unfolding right in front of our eyes.

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Yachad Ministries is offering this US-Israel Ribbon Lepel Pin free with a donation of \$20.00 or more to show support for Israel!

Happy Hanukkah

Dear readers, we would like to wish all of you a safe and peaceful Hanukkah. May the Lord send all His blessings to you and your family and may His light never leave your home. We pray that all of our brothers and sisters in Israel will be safe and that this season of miracles will bring about the end of the war. May you all hear the answer to your prayers and rejoice in a safe environment, surrounded by your loved ones.

Hamas Warns It Could Kill All Hostages Unless Israel Meets Demands; A Hamas spokesman suggested on Sunday, December 10, that the terror organization could kill all of the presumed 137 hostages in its custody if Israel does not accede to its demands. Abu Obeida, a familiar spokesman for Hamas who had not been seen for several weeks, released a video in which he made the threat clear. “Neither the fascist enemy and its arrogant leadership... nor its supporters... can take their prisoners alive without an exchange and negotiation and meeting the demands of the resistance,” he said. The ultimatum came as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office said that of the 137 hostages believed to still be in Hamas custody, 20 are dead. Further, it is not clear if Hamas would deliver on that threat. The hostages are the only leverage that Hamas has over Israel, and it uses them as human shields. The Hamas leaders in exile — in luxurious accommodation in Doha, Qatar — would also likely want the hostages alive to ensure that Israel negotiates with them, rather than killing them (as it has promised to do, eventually). Hamas has also tried to use the deaths of individual hostages to deter Israeli military action. In the latest example, it claimed that Sahar Baruch, 25, a hostage from Kibbutz Be’eri, had been killed in an Israeli rescue attempt. Israel said that Baruch was murdered by Hamas and that the rescue attempt killed several terrorists but found no hostages in the location that was raided. (BB / VFI News)

IDF: Thousands of Hamas Terrorists Killed; Israel announced on Sunday, December 10, the identities of several Hamas officials that IDF forces have killed in Gaza. According to IDF figures, more than 3,500 targets have been attacked in Gaza since the temporary ceasefire with Hamas ended on December 1, and over 22,000 targets have been attacked since the war began. The IDF said that about 7,000 terrorists had been killed in the two northernmost governorates of Gaza. The Hamas-governed Health Ministry in Gaza says that about 18,000 Palestinians have been killed since the war began. Having focused on the north of the strip during the first phase of the war, IDF soldiers are pushing south, operating in several Hamas strongholds, including Jabalya, Shejaia, Beit Hanoun, and Khan Yunis. Further, on Saturday, IDF Spokesperson Daniel Hagari said in his press briefing that terrorists who were interrogated by the IDF revealed that the operatives on the ground are in a difficult situation and that the Hamas leadership, led by Yahya Sinwar, “denies the reality despite being updated on the details.” “The operatives complain that the Hamas leadership is disconnected from the difficult situation they face on the ground. There is also a growing sense that the underground Hamas leadership does not care about the civilian population above ground. This is very concerning for Hamas’ military operatives,” added Hagari. (JPost / VFI News)

Hamas Terrorists Lose Contact with Gaza Leaders, Surrender to IDF; Dozens of Hamas terrorists lost contact with the terror group’s leadership, leaving them with no option but to lay down their weapons and surrender to Israeli forces in the Gaza Strip, the IDF’s radio reported on Sunday morning, December 10. After images of stripped terrorists in Jabalya and Khan Yunis circulated on social media, reports emerged that the IDF is “identifying changes in Hamas leadership’s conduct.” A security source said that Hamas’s senior leaders thought to have fled to Khan Yunis in Gaza’s south, “prefer their personal survival over the survival of Hamas’s command and control operations.” Earlier on Sunday, the US-based Institute for the Study of War assessed in an X thread (former Twitter) that at least seven Hamas battalions have already capitulated in fighting with the IDF. In addition, six battalions are “close to collapse,” the Institute continued. According to the Institute, the collapse of Hamas’s Gaza City and northern brigades could signal the fall of the northern Strip to Israeli forces. Further, the IDF struck over 250 terror targets in ground, aerial, and naval operations across the Strip over the past 24 hours, the IDF said on Sunday morning. Israeli forces carried out a raid on a southern Gaza mosque after Israeli Air Force fighter jets struck a Hamas military communications site located near the mosque. (JPost / VFI News)

Archterrorist Calls on PA to Join the Fight Against Israel; Archterrorist Marwan Barghouti, a senior Fatah member who is serving several life sentences for murdering Israelis, called in a statement on his behalf for the security forces of the Palestinian Authority to join the fight against Israel. “Palestine, which witnessed a long history of steadfastness and resistance, is today subject to unprecedented massacres at the hands of the occupation and its settlers, with unlimited American and Western support,” Barghouti wrote. “Faced with this event, we and our people... are required to stand together to defend and attack with all the power, capabilities, and tools at our disposal to deter the occupation and break its will.” Barghouti’s wife denied her husband is connected to the statement, and said that he is in solitary confinement and cannot send messages outside the prison at all. Barghouti is widely believed to have planned the Second Intifada, which claimed thousands of Israeli lives from 2000 to 2005 and has continued inciting terrorism from his jail cell. (INN / VFI News)

US OKs \$106M Emergency Tank Ammunition Sale to Israel, Sidestepping Congressional Review; The Biden administration approved an “emergency sale” on Saturday, December 9, to send nearly 14,000 rounds of tank ammunition to Israel as it ramps up its invasion of the Gaza Strip. The State Department approved the massive offloading — worth more than \$106 million — in a move that allowed it to circumvent Congress. “The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This

proposed sale is consistent with those objectives,” the department said in a statement. “Israel will use the enhanced capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense,” it added. For the price of \$106.5 million, Israel will receive 13,981 120 mm High Explosive Anti-Tank Multi-Purpose with Tracer tank cartridges, as well as US support, engineering, and logistics, all of which will come from Army inventory. Congress was notified of the sale late Friday after Secretary of State Antony Blinken determined an “emergency exists” in the Middle Eastern war that would affect US national security interests. The urgency allowed Biden officials to sell the weaponry without the standard congressional review required for foreign military sales. (NYP / VFI News)

This Finnish Jew Wore a Dress with Names of Israeli Hostages to Independence Day Ball; Attending a reception for Finland’s Independence Day at the Presidential Palace, the President of the Jewish Community of Finland Yaron Nadbornik wore a #BringThemHomeNow necklace, while his wife’s, Galith, dress featured the names of the hostages. Batel Lindström, the dress designer, shared on Instagram: “Galith Nadbornik accompanied by her husband Yaron Nadbornik wearing a custom made ivory satin evening dress... to Finland Independence Day president ball.” Yaron Nadbornik is currently the President of the Central Council of Finnish Jewish Communities and the Helsinki Jewish Community since 2010. He is also a member of the European Jewish Congress Executive representing Finland. In recent years he has taken a strong interest in inter-religious dialogue and has served as president of the National Forum for Cooperation of Religions in Finland and is also a member of the Finnish Religious Leaders President’s Council. (JPost / VFI News)



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