

# **Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update October 28, 2024 (Tishrei 26, 5785)**



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## ***Israel-Hamas War, Day 388***

### ***Israeli Air Force Strikes Hezbollah Targets in Southern Lebanon's Tyre***

- ***IRAN: Iran's President said Tehran doesn't want war, but will respond 'appropriately' to Israel's attack***
  - ***GAZA: IDF raids Hamas stronghold at Kamal Adwan Hospital, Jabalya; 50,000 Palestinians evacuated to Gaza City***
  - ***LEBANON: Some 15 Hezbollah rockets fired at Kiryat Shmona, no casualties reported***
  - ***HOSTAGE DEAL: Egypt proposes plan for the release of four Israeli hostages conditioned on a two-day cease-fire and the release of Palestinian prisoners***
- ***IRAN: U.S. researcher said Israel's strike targeted facility associated with Tehran's former nuclear weapons program. Iran's Khamenei said attack should neither be downplayed nor exaggerated***
  - ***GAZA: At least 30 dead in IDF strike that targeted houses in Beit Lahia, according to Palestinian media***
- ***LEBANON: Two people moderately, lightly wounded in Hezbollah drone strike on defense facility in northern Israel***
  - ***HOSTAGE DEAL: Mossad chief set to attend Qatar summit on Sunday***

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***IDF Says Hezbollah Only Has 30% of Its Rockets Left, Some 2,000 Terror Operatives Killed;***

The IDF says it has defeated Hezbollah's forces in every area that Israeli troops have so far operated in southern Lebanon. According to the military's latest estimates, more than 1,200 Hezbollah members have been killed amid the ground offensive. In all, since October 2023, over 2,000 members of the terror group have been killed, the IDF says. Among the dead Hezbollah members are seven brigade-level commanders, 21 battalion-level commanders, and two dozen company commanders, according to the IDF. In terms of rocket capabilities, the IDF estimates that Hezbollah maintains about 30% of what it initially had before the war, which is still thousands of rockets. But due to the elimination of Hezbollah's leadership, including numerous field commanders, the IDF says Hezbollah is struggling to carry out massive rocket fire that the terror group had initially planned. The IDF still aims to wrap up its operations in southern Lebanon within a few weeks. Once the threat of a Hezbollah invasion is removed from the border area, residents of the north will be able to return to their homes. (TOI / VFI News)

***Ex-UN Soldier Exposes Hezbollah Dominance in Southern Lebanon;***

A former Danish UN soldier revealed in an interview that Hezbollah maintained tight control over areas in southern Lebanon where UN personnel operated, further substantiating Israeli claims that the UN has failed to prevent Hezbollah's military buildup and enforce Resolution 1701, which ended the 2006 Lebanon War. Michael, a retired Danish soldier who served with the UN in southern Lebanon, told a Danish newspaper that UN personnel were "completely dependent on Hezbollah" and had limited freedom of movement. He recounted that UN personnel were often blocked by Hezbollah operatives when they attempted to access suspected areas of terrorist activity. "They simply blocked the road. They weren't openly armed, but it was clear they were Hezbollah fighters," he said. He also noted that UN peacekeepers were prohibited from documenting what they observed. "It wasn't allowed to take videos or pictures. If we did, locals could confiscate our cameras. This happened to some of my colleagues." Meanwhile, IDF Spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari revealed on Monday night, October 21, that the former Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah's bunker was located underneath a hospital - which held gold and half a billion dollars in cash. A report said that it served as Hezbollah's central money warehouse, where the vast majority of the organization's money stolen from Lebanese citizens and used for terrorism was hidden. It was located beneath the Al-Sahel Hospital, in Dahieh in southern Beirut, and was used as Nasrallah's emergency bunker. The hospital has been evacuated following the claims and Hagari said that Israel will not strike the hospital. He added, "This bunker is deliberately placed under the hospital and on both sides of it." (YNet / VFI News)

***Iran Unveils 'No Hostage Will Be Released' Blood-Splattered Mural in Tehran;*** Authorities in Tehran released a blood-splattered mural depicting photos of Israeli hostages abducted by Hamas on

October 7 with the text “no hostage will be released” in Hebrew, Iranian media has reported. The mural was reportedly put up in Tehran’s Palestine Square on Tuesday, October 22, according to local media. Among the photos of the hostages is Noa Argamani, who, despite Tehran’s caption on the mural, was freed by IDF soldiers in an operation in June along with three other hostages. The mural came as hostage families expressed great uncertainty about a future hostage-ceasefire deal following the elimination of former Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar. Some families believe that Sinwar’s death will open new diplomatic possibilities for the return of their loved ones. However, new reporting reveals that as the hunt for Sinwar had ramped up, he had given orders that after his death, Hamas should refuse any concessions Israel might offer. He presumably also wanted the group to set up a leadership council to make sure Hamas never abandoned its monstrous tactics and philosophy. (*JPost/VFI News*)

***Senior Pentagon Employee is Suspected to Be Behind Leak of Israeli Retaliatory Strike Plans, Pentagon Denies;*** Ariane Tabatabai, a senior employee in the Pentagon, is suspected of allegedly leaking documents consisting of Israel’s plans for a retaliatory strike on Iran, Arabic media reported on Tuesday, October 22, citing a Pentagon official. The official explained that the Intelligence and Armed Services Committees in Congress had been informed of the suspect’s identity due to her “top security clearance that gives her the right to view highly classified information.” According to the report, the Iranian-American suspect, who has not been convicted yet, works as the director of the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict. The staffer in question was brought on by the Biden administration as part of the US negotiating team in nuclear negotiations with Iran but later left due to disagreements with the team leader. After leaving the team she remained in the Department of Defense as a senior policy advisor. Various Jewish publications have in the past accused the suspect of being an Iranian agent. (*INN / VFI News*)

***IDF Exposes: Six Al Jazeera Journalists Were Hamas and Islamic Jihad Terrorists;*** The IDF has disclosed intelligence information and numerous documents found in the Gaza Strip confirming the military affiliation of six Al Jazeera journalists in Gaza with Hamas and the Islamic Jihad terrorist organizations. One of them, the terrorist journalist Ismail Farid Muhammad Abu Omar was struck and injured a few months ago in Gaza. The documents once again confirm his involvement in terrorist activities. The Al Jazeera network has attempted to disassociate itself from Omar’s terror activities. The documents include personnel tables, lists of terrorist training courses, phone directories, and salary documents for terrorists. According to the IDF, this provides unequivocal proof that these individuals serve as military operatives for the terrorist organizations in the Gaza Strip. “These documents serve as proof of the integration of Hamas terrorists within the Qatari Al Jazeera media network,” the IDF stated. The IDF noted that most of the journalists that the IDF has exposed as operatives in Hamas’s military wing spearhead the propaganda for Hamas at Al Jazeera, especially in the northern Gaza Strip. (*INN / VFI News*)

***Russia Bombing Aid Destined for Gaza, British Intelligence Claims;*** Russia, which shares diplomatic ties with both Iran and Hamas, has been bombing ships carrying aid that were bound for Gaza, British media reported on Wednesday, October 23, citing British officials and intelligence information. The strikes on ports in Ukraine have reportedly delayed transport to the Gaza enclave, where Palestinian civilians have suffered a humanitarian crisis as a result of the war against Hamas. A number of the ships, described as “collateral damage” by British intelligence, were flagged as belonging to foreign nations and were a part of United Nations efforts to improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza. One of the four merchant vessels reportedly struck between October 5 and October 14 was a Panama-flagged container ship. The ship, carrying sunflower oil, was reportedly part of a UN shipment. Gaza is not the only destination now slightly more deprived as a result of the strikes, according to the report. Other ships

hit were destined for South Africa, as part of the World Food Programme efforts, and Egypt. (*JPost/VFI News*)

***Final Day of Sukkot at the Western Wall;*** Over 50,000 people visited the Western Wall throughout the night between Tuesday and Wednesday, October 22-23, to mark the final day of the Sukkot festival, known as Hoshana Raba. The dawn prayer was attended by many thousands who carried out the custom of hitting willow branches on the floor. Many prayers were dedicated to the well-being of the IDF soldiers and security forces, the return of the hostages, the recovery of the wounded, and peace and security in Israel. (*INN/VFI News*)

***Discovery Reignites Search for Noah's Ark in Turkey's Mountains;*** A team of archaeologists and scientists has made a discovery that could restart the search for Noah's Ark in the mountains of eastern Turkey, British media reported on Saturday, October 19. The Durupinar formation, a boat-shaped mound located two miles from the Turkey-Iran border, was first discovered by a Kurdish farmer in 1948. However, an international team of experts did not begin a scientific analysis of the formation until the summer of 2021. The British media report stated that the Durupinar formation's physical characteristics closely resemble the biblical description of Noah's Ark. Genesis chapter 6, verse 15 in the Hebrew Bible, describes the ark as having "a length of three hundred cubits, a width of fifty cubits, and a height of thirty cubits." The researchers reportedly collected nearly 30 soil and rock samples from the site. Their analysis, conducted at Istanbul Technical University, aimed to determine the formation's age and composition, focusing on identifying signs of ancient human presence or evidence suggesting the area had once been submerged underwater. The samples' initial dating places them between 3,500 and 5,000 years old, coinciding with the biblical timeline of Noah's flood, according to the report. The team also discovered clay-like substances and marine materials within the soil. These findings have led people to believe that the Durupinar formation might have been part of a marine environment thousands of years ago, strengthening the hypothesis that this could have been the site of Noah's Ark. (*JPost/VFI News*)

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