

# **Yachad Ministries' Israel's News Update April 10, 2025 (Nisan 12, 5785)**



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## ***Israel-Hamas War 552 Days, Israel Confirms First Round of Talks with Turkey in Azerbaijan to Prevent Syria Clashes***

- **ISRAEL:** Nearly 1,000 Air Force reservists dismissed after signing letter demanding end to 'political' Gaza war to free hostages
  - **GAZA:** Israel preparing to put at least 20 percent of Gaza in buffer zone, officials say
  - **YEMEN:** Suspected U.S. strikes overnight killed at least three people, Houthis say
- **LEBANON:** United States prohibits Gulf States from providing financial aid to Lebanon
  - **U.S.:** Trump with Netanyahu at White House: We're having direct talks with Iran
  - **GAZA:** Israel preparing to put at least 20 percent of Gaza in buffer zone, officials say
  - **LEBANON:** Hezbollah willing to discuss disarmament if Israel withdraws, official says

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***Thousands Rally for Hostages as Hamas Warns it Won't Move Them to Safety When IDF Advances;*** Tens of thousands of people were expected to attend weekly rallies on Saturday night, April 5, calling for a deal to free the hostages held by Hamas, a day after the terror group warned that it would not move captives out of a Gaza area that the military called to evacuate ahead of an expected advance. The demonstrations were to highlight the freedom message of the upcoming Passover festival that starts next Saturday evening. The rally at Hostages Square comes as family members have repeatedly expressed concern for the fate of the hostages since Israel resumed its operations in Gaza last month, ending the ceasefire and hostage release deal that Israel reached with Hamas in January. These fears were heightened on Friday when the Hamas terror group said in a statement that it would not move living Israeli hostages out of areas in the Gaza Strip that the Israel Defense Forces has ordered to be evacuated in recent days. Hamas said the Israeli government would be at fault if captives were killed. The IDF has issued evacuation orders for the entire Rafah area, Gaza City's Shejaiya neighborhood, and other areas in the Strip's north. The statement also said that Hamas was keeping the hostages "under strict security measures, which are extremely dangerous to their lives." (TOI/VFI News)

***US Transfers Air Defense Batteries to Israel;*** Amid the ongoing U.S. military operation in Yemen against the Houthis and in the shadow of President Donald Trump's threats to strike Iran's nuclear facilities, a Saudi news channel reported that the United States has transferred an additional THAAD air defense battery to Israel. The report also stated that two Patriot missile batteries were delivered as well. Before the report, American military tracking sites recorded a U.S. Air Force C-5M Super Galaxy cargo plane landing at Israel's Nevatim Airbase in the Negev. The aircraft, which had departed from Ramstein Air Base in Germany, remained on the ground in Israel for several hours. The Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system is a mobile, high-altitude missile defense system with capabilities similar to Israel's Arrow system. It can intercept ballistic missiles outside the atmosphere using kinetic energy and is designed to target various stages of an incoming missile's trajectory, as well as other aerial threats. Meanwhile, in what appears to be a dramatic move backing Trump's threats toward Iran, the U.S. also recently deployed six B-2 strategic bombers to Diego Garcia, a remote island in the Indian Ocean. These stealth bombers are capable of carrying both nuclear weapons and the 12-ton "bunker buster" bombs developed specifically to target underground Iranian nuclear facilities. (YNet/VFI News)

***Iran Threatens Middle Eastern Countries Over Potential US Strikes;*** Iran has threatened other nations in the Middle East over the potential for American military strikes against its nuclear weapons program, even as it continues to reject direct negotiations of said nuclear program with the US, British media reported. An Iranian official told the news outlet that the regime would only accept indirect talks with the US at this time, stating, "Indirect talks offer a chance to evaluate Washington's seriousness about a political solution with Iran." The official also stated that Iran has given warnings to Iraq, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Turkey and Bahrain that it will consider any assistance given to an American strike on Iranian nuclear facilities, such as permitting the aircraft used in such an attack to use their airspace, an act of hostility against Iran that will "have severe consequences for them." US President

Donald Trump on Thursday, April 3, told reporters aboard Air Force One that he believes Iran wants to hold direct talks with the US about the Iranian nuclear program. "It's better if we have direct talks. I think it goes faster, and you understand the other side a lot better than if you go through intermediators," said Trump. (*INN/VFI News*)

***Report: Czech Republic Nears Decision to Relocate Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem;*** The Czech Republic is close to announcing the relocation of its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, an Israeli newspaper reported. According to the report, a senior Czech official recently met with a senior Israeli official and informed him that the Czech government has decided to soon relocate its embassy to Jerusalem. The report further noted that the Czech move is being made at the request of US President Donald Trump, who relocated the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem during his previous term in 2018. Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala announced in March of 2024 that he intends to move his country's embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in the coming months. Fiala stated at the time that, before the decision is officially made, all aspects and consequences of the move will be examined. (*INN/VFI News*)

***Security Official: 'Egypt Building up Military in Sinai in Violation of Peace Deal'*** Israel has recently identified a strengthening of Egyptian military forces in the Sinai Peninsula, which could constitute a violation of the peace agreement with Israel, a security source told a reporter, Amichai Stein, of an Israeli news agency on Monday evening, March 31. "Egypt has brought in military forces beyond the permitted quota, is increasing port docks, and is extending runways at airports," the source said. Israeli officials have emphasized concerning the entry of Egyptian forces beyond the permitted quota that "such actions are reversible; it is not a problem to turn tanks around." The source also said that Israel is interested in maintaining the peace agreement and therefore will not change its deployment along the border. At the same time, he made it clear that "Israel will not accept the situation. And will not accept the violations by Cairo." On the violations of the peace agreement, the source said that Israel is conducting dialogue with Washington and Cairo. "The administration in Washington is responsible for implementing the peace agreement and must ensure that the agreement is implemented as it is written," the source said. (*INN/VFI News*)

***Israel Foreign Ministry Recommends that Israelis Not Travel to Bolivia;*** Israeli tourists should not travel to Bolivia, the Foreign Ministry recommended on Sunday, April 6. Bolivia cut ties with the Jewish state in October 2023 to protest the Israel-Hamas War, less than a month after the Hamas attack. Since severing ties, Bolivia has supported South Africa's case at the International Court of Justice, accusing Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. The Foreign Ministry said on Thursday that droves of Israelis were denied entry to Bolivia, despite presenting proper credentials to obtain a visa. Among the documents required are proof of onward travel and hotel reservations. A visa can be obtained at any Bolivian embassy. Israel does not have representation in Bolivia, with the nearest Israeli office being in Lima, Peru. According to the Foreign Ministry, Israel's embassy in Peru is available for assistance in case of refusal of entry, in which case a traveler may also need to wait until onward travel is available back to their point of origin. In a social media group for Israelis traveling in Bolivia and Peru last week, Facebook user Shlomit Kahan Matanah wrote she was looking for assistance for her daughter. "Who is at the airport in Bolivia? My daughter is at the airport, they won't let them in and took their passport and don't want to return it to them." The Israeli media outlet reporting this has been unable to confirm the specifics or outcome of this post. Despite Bolivia's choice to sever diplomatic ties with Israel post-October 7, some Israelis traveling in the South American nation have reported feeling strong support from natives for Israel. (*JPost/VFI News*)

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