

Ynet-News, June 01, 2020 – Monday

05.31.20 – Su - - -

AG defends police probe of alleged false statements in trial PM's wife

06.01.20 – Mo - - - News

Iran cyber attack in April tried to poison Israelis by increasing chlorine in water

06.01.20 – Mo - - -

Air strike on Iranian militias in eastern Syria, reinforcements had arrived days before

05.31.20 – Su - - - News

Netanyahu's costly series of trips abroad have no records of any discussions

05.31.20 – Su - - - News Placed in May 30 spot – Saturday

Jerusalem Al-Aqsa mosque opens for 700 Sunday after two-and-a-half months

06.01.20 – Mo - - - News Placed in June 01 spot – Monday

US protests trigger global solidarity of anarchy & supremacy groups to fuel chaos

05.31.20 – Su - - - News Placed in May 31 spot – Sunday

SpaceX capsule delivered two US astronauts to Space Station & docked automatically Sunday

05.31.20 – Su - - -

Demonstrations turned violent over police killings in dozens of US cities

05.31.20 – Su - - -

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05.31.20

AG defends police probe of false statements in trial PM's wife

Mandelblit called claims by Netanyahu attorney 'nonsense' after Cohen said the AG usurped the power of his office to target prime minister and his family

Associated Press, Ynet| Updated: 05.31.20 , 23:32

Attorney-General Avichai Mandelblit called allegations by the attorney for Mrs. Sara Netanyahu that he enslaves the police and prosecution in his obsessive pursuit of the PMs family – nonsense.

The AG's office issued a statement saying that the evidence that prompted the latest investigation was presented to law enforcement **one year ago** and **investigated**.

"The prosecution informed the court in an ongoing civil case (regarding the employment conditions in the Prime Minister's Residence,) that information pertaining to the testimony of witnesses in the case is under review and therefore asks the court to delay proceedings," the statement read.

Police **investigators on Sunday** said they were **probing whether two employees** at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's official residence **gave false testimony** in a civil case **against his wife**, Sara Netanyahu — reportedly in order to help her fend off **accusations of mistreating a housekeeper**.

Sara Netanyahu faces a civil lawsuit from former employee Shira Raban, who claims the premier's wife mistreated her during a brief stint working at the residence. Raban seeks \$63,000 in damages over alleged mistreatment and harassment.

Israeli **police** confirmed an **investigation "is being conducted"** with the approval of the Attorney General and the supervision of the State Attorney's Office."

They gave no further details. But **Channel 12** said **two other employees** at the residence were allegedly **pressured to give false testimony in Sara Netanyahu's favor**.

The announcement came just a week after Benjamin Netanyahu became the first sitting prime minister to stand trial on corruption charges, a **case that has deeply divided the country**. Netanyahu opened the trial with renewed attacks on the media, prosecutors and police, accusing them of attempting to depose him. He has denied any wrongdoing.

A **lawyer** for the prime minister, Yossi Cohen, **accused Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit** of "manipulating the police for an **obsessive and systematic chase after the Netanyahu family** in an attempt to topple the prime minister of Israel."

Netanyahu and his wife have a **reputation for leading indulgent lives at public expense**, in stark contrast with most Israelis. **Sara Netanyahu** has been **accused of excessive spending and abusive behavior toward her staff**.

Last year, a Jerusalem court ordered Sara Netanyahu to pay a **fine of more than \$15,000 for misusing state funds for expensive meals**. In 2016, a court ruled she had **mistreated a housekeeper and awarded the man \$42,000 in damages**.

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06.01.20 – Mo - - -

Iran cyber attack in April tried to poison Israelis by increasing chlorine in water

06.01.20

Report: Iran tried to poison Israelis by increasing chlorine in water

Financial Times quotes Western official as saying **foiled April cyber attack** potentially put hundreds of people in danger, opened door to **'unpredictable risk'** scenario; Israeli

official calls apparent counter attack on Iranian port 'a gentle reminder. "We know where you live"

Ynet| Published: 06.01.20 , 11:02

Iranian hackers intended to poison Israel's water by increasing the amount of chlorine during a thwarted cyber attack in April, the Financial Times reported Monday, citing both Israeli and foreign sources.

Last week, Israel's national cyber chief officially acknowledged the country had thwarted a major cyber attack against its water systems, an assault widely attributed to arch-enemy Iran, calling it a "synchronized and organized attack" aimed at disrupting key national infrastructure.

Yigal Unna did not mention Iran directly, nor did he comment on the alleged Israeli retaliation two weeks later said to have shut down a key Iranian port, but he said recent developments have ushered in a new era of covert warfare, ominously warning that "cyber winter is coming."

The Financial Times on Monday quoted a Western official as saying that the hackers planned to increase the amount of chlorine added to water that was used in Israeli homes, with an Israeli official telling the paper that the foiled attack "had opened the door to 'an unpredictable risk scenario'."

The report says the attack "could have triggered fail-safes that would have left tens of thousand of civilians and farms parched in the middle of an Israel heatwave, as the pumping station shut down when the excess chemical was detected."

According to the Western official, in the "worst-case scenario," the attack could have put hundreds of people in Israel at risk.

"It was more sophisticated than they [Israel] initially thought," the official told the Financial Times. "It was close to successful, and it's not fully clear why it didn't succeed."

Alireza Miryousefi, Iran's spokesman at its UN mission, accused Israel of fabricating the attack in order to secure increased financial support from the U.S., saying that Iranian cyber activity was "purely defensive and protective."

The Financial Times also quoted an Iranian insider as saying: "Iran cannot politically afford to try to poison Israeli civilians. And even if Iran did so, where is the Israelis' appropriate response?"

But Israel apparently did respond, with a May 9 cyber strike on Iran's state-of-the-art Shahid Rajaei port, which handles almost half of the country's foreign trade.

Citing unnamed U.S. and foreign government officials, the Washington Post said last month that the disruption of Iranian computers was presumably in retaliation for the earlier attempted cyber attack on Israeli water distribution systems.

Iran sought to downplay the impact of the attack, the Financial Times said Monday, with a source linked to Tehran arguing that "Iranian ports are usually chaotic and disruptions happen."

The managing director of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization, Mohammad Rastad, previously told Iran's ILNA news agency that the attack did not penetrate the organization's computers and was only able to infiltrate and damage a number of private operating systems.

But according to the Washington Post, a foreign government security official called the attack "highly accurate" and said the damage to the Iranian port was more serious than described in official Iranian accounts.

The Financial Times attributes the Israeli decision to target the port to then-defense minister Naftali Bennett, the hardline former aide to Benjamin Netanyahu who went on to found his Yamina (rightwards) party.

The paper quotes that an unnamed Israeli official as saying of the cyber attack: "It was small, very small — like a knock on the door... Think of it [as] a gentle reminder. 'We know where you live.'"

The Israeli-U.S. cyber war against Iran has been going on for almost 20 years but has gained momentum in the last 15 years. And Israel, the Financial Times said Monday, is bracing for more.

06.01.20 – Mo - - -

Air strike on Iranian militias in eastern Syria, reinforcements had arrived days before

06.01.20

Air strike kills 5 in eastern Syria

The London based Observatory for Human Rights said it was 'likely possible' Israel was behind the attack that targeted a vehicle belonging to an Iran backed militia near the Syrian border with Iraq

AFP| Published: 06.01.20 , 00:23

An airstrike in eastern Syria on Sunday killed five non-Syrian fighters backed by Iran, a Britain-based war monitor said.

The strike targeted three military vehicles belonging to Iran-backed paramilitary fighters near the Iraqi border, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The monitor did not say who was behind the attack near the border town of Albu Kamal. But Observatory head Rami Abdul Rahman said that "Israel was likely responsible." Israel has launched hundreds of strikes in Syria since the start of the civil war in 2011, targeting government troops, allied Iranian forces, and fighters from the Lebanese Shiite militant group Hezbollah.

It rarely confirms details of its operations in Syria but says Iran's presence in support of President Bashar al-Assad is a threat and has vowed to continue its strikes.

Iranian-backed militias and their allies command a significant presence in eastern Syria south of the Euphrates Valley.

Earlier this month, airstrikes on a **base controlled by Iran-backed forces** near Abu Kamal killed seven fighters, according to the Observatory.

The monitor said that **military reinforcements for Iranian militias** and their allies **had arrived in the area days before.**

Israel did not immediately comment on the attack.

05.31.20 – Su - - -

Netanyahu's costly series of trips abroad have no records of any discussions

05.31.20

Netanyahu's pre-election overseas trips cost taxpayer fortune, memos reveal

The information, released after a **government watchdog** filed a petition to Jerusalem court, shows **flights** were **never approved by** relevant **diplomatic** and legal **bodies**; PM's Office says trips did not exceed 'usual costs'

Yael Freidson | Published: **05.31.20** , 10:41

Prime Minister Benjamin **Netanyahu's diplomatic voyage** prior to **last year's** second round of **elections** in September cost the Israeli taxpayer some NIS 5.6 million (\$1.6 million), according to a new report published on Sunday.

The information was revealed following a freedom of information petition filed by the Movement for Quality Government in Israel to the Jerusalem District Court.

According to documents submitted to the government watchdog, **Netanyahu's three-day visit to Ukraine last August** apparently **cost NIS 1.9 million**, while the premier's two-day trip to **London** in September cost about NIS 2.6 million. During the visit, Netanyahu briefly met with his British counterpart, Boris Johnson, in a **meeting that lasted only half an hour.**

Netanyahu's September visit to the Russian city of Sochi – which also lasted two days - cost NIS 1.1 million.

The **flights in question** were reportedly **not approved and coordinated** by the relevant diplomatic and legal bodies, as required, and were **only okayed by the government.**

The Movement for Quality Government in Israel condemned the premier's global mission and criticized the flaws in its approval process.

"This is how a government that is out of touch with the people and cynical and **inappropriate use of public funds for an election campaign** look," read a statement. "The taxpayer paid out nearly NIS 6 million **so the prime minister could have his picture taken next to world leaders.**"

The organization slammed the fact that there are **no records of any discussions** being held on **whether** the **trips in question served public interest.**

"We view in a very serious light the attempt to conceal this information, which should be available to the public, while trying to drag time. It has finally reached the public eye almost a year after the election. This horse has already bolted."

The Prime Minister's Office said in response that the flights in question did not exceed usual flight costs and that "the State of Israel is experiencing an unprecedented diplomatic bloom thanks to the prime minister's visits".

Netanyahu also held a series of trips abroad before previous elections, which his critics claimed were aimed to promote his Likud party's election campaign.

05.31.20 – Su - - -

Jerusalem Al-Aqsa mosque opens for 700 Sunday after two-and-a-half months

05.31.20

Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque reopens after more than two months

Islam's third-holiest site, which closed on March 15 over COVID-19 concerns, resumes prayers amid restrictions as health officials warn of uptick in new cases; worshippers must wear face masks and bring personal prayer rugs

Reuters| Published: 05.31.20 , 08:15

Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque reopened to worshippers on Sunday after a two-and-a-half month coronavirus closure, but Muslim authorities imposed some precautions as health officials warn of an uptick in local infections.

The resumption of prayers at Islam's third-holiest site caps a sombre period for Jerusalem's Muslims, who this year marked the holy fasting month of Ramadan and the Eid al-Fitr holiday without their usual daily visits to Al-Aqsa and the adjoining Dome of the Rock.

The Council of Islamic Waqf cited the slowed local spread of COVID-19 in lifting entry restrictions and reopening the compound's iconic shrines, which shut on March 15.

Hundreds of Muslims chanted "God is the greatest" as they packed into the compound in Jerusalem's walled Old City early on Sunday for dawn prayers, a witness said. Some got on their knees and kissed the ground as they entered.

But Muslim authorities imposed some measures to reduce the risk of contagion, as new cases in Israel spiked in recent days.

Worshippers must wear face masks and bring personal prayer rugs should they wish to pray inside the shrines or on the compound's outdoor grounds, the council said in a statement.

The council did not say if there would be a limit on the number of people allowed in the 35-acre compound, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as the Temple Mount.

Around 700 worshippers were present on the compound for dawn prayers, the vast majority of whom wore face masks and brought prayer rugs.

Muslims believe the site to be where the Prophet Mohammad ascended to heaven. Jews revere it as the site of the Jewish temples of antiquity.

There have been 17,000 coronavirus cases and 284 deaths in Israel, and 386 cases and three deaths in the occupied West Bank.

06.01.20 – Mo - - -

US protests trigger global solidarity of anarchy & supremacy groups to fuel chaos

06.01.20

U.S. protests trigger global solidarity marches

Thousands gathered in central London on Sunday to offer support for American demonstrators as the U.S. Embassy in Berlin was the scene of protests under the motto: "Justice for George Floyd and in Montreal, demonstrators clashed with police Associated Press| Published: 06.01.20 , 10:48

Nations around the world have watched in horror at the civil unrest in the United States following the death of George Floyd, a black man who died after a white police officer pressed his knee on his neck until he stopped breathing.

Racism-tinged events no longer startle even America's closest allies, though many have watched coverage of the often-violent protests with growing unease. Burning cars and riot police in the U.S. featured on newspaper front pages around the globe Sunday -- bumping news of the COVID-19 pandemic to second-tier status in some places.

Floyd's death on May 25 in Minneapolis was the latest in a series of deaths of black men and women at the hands of police in the U.S.

Thousands gathered in central London on Sunday to offer support for American demonstrators. Chanting "No justice! No peace!" and waving placards with the words "How many more?" at

Trafalgar Square, the protesters ignored U.K. government rules banning crowds because of the pandemic. Police didn't stop them.

Demonstrators then marched to the U.S. Embassy, where a long line of officers surrounded the building. Several hundred milled around in the street and waved placards.

Protesters in Denmark also converged on the U.S. Embassy on Sunday. Participants carried placards with messages such as "Stop Killing Black People."

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin was the scene of protests on Saturday under the motto: "Justice for George Floyd." Several hundred more people took to the streets Sunday in the capital's Kreuzberg area, carrying signs with slogans like "Silence is Violence," "Hold

Cops Accountable," and "Who Do You Call When Police Murder?" No incidents were reported.

Germany's top-selling Bild newspaper on Sunday carried the sensational headline "This killer-cop set America ablaze" with an arrow pointing to a photo of now-fired police officer Derek Chauvin, who has been charged with third-degree murder in Floyd's death, with his knee on Floyd's neck. The newspaper's story reported "scenes like out of a civil war."

In Italy, the Corriere della Sera newspaper's senior U.S. correspondent Massimo Gaggi wrote that the reaction to Floyd's killing was "different" than previous cases of black Americans killed by police and the ensuing violence.

"There are exasperated black movements that no longer preach nonviolent resistance," Gaggi wrote, noting the Minnesota governor's warning that "anarchist and white supremacy groups are trying to fuel the chaos."

In countries with authoritarian governments, state-controlled media have been highlighting the chaos and violence of the U.S. demonstrations, in part to undermine American officials' criticism of their own nations.

In China, the protests are being viewed through the prism of U.S. government criticism of China's crackdown on anti-government protests in Hong Kong.

Hu Xijin, the editor of the state-owned Global Times newspaper, tweeted that U.S. officials can now see protests out their own windows: "I want to ask Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Pompeo: Should Beijing support protests in the U.S., like you glorified rioters in Hong Kong?"

Hua Chunying, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman, pointed out America's racial unrest by tweeting "I can't breathe," which Floyd said before his death.

In Iran, which has violently put down nationwide demonstrations by killing hundreds, arresting thousands and disrupting internet access to the outside world, state television has repeatedly aired images of the U.S. unrest. One TV anchor discussed "a horrible scene from New York, where police attacked protesters." Another state TV message accused U.S. police agencies in Washington of "setting fire to cars and attacking protesters," without offering any evidence.

Russia accused the United States of "systemic problems in the human rights sphere." It denounced Floyd's death as the latest in a series of police violence cases against African Americans.

"This incident is far from the first in a series of lawless conduct and unjustified violence from U.S. law enforcement," the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

"American police commit such high-profile crimes all too often."

There also have been expressions of solidarity with the demonstrators.

In Brazil, hundreds of people gathered in front of the Rio de Janeiro state government palace to protest crimes committed by the police against black people in Rio's working-class neighborhoods, known as favelas.

The protest, called "Black lives matter," was interrupted when police used tear gas to disperse people. "I can't breathe", said some of the demonstrators, alluding to George Floyd's death. Protesters called for an end to police operations inside favelas.

In **Canada**, an anti-racism protest degenerated into clashes between **Montreal** police and some demonstrators. About three hours after a march that snaked its way through downtown Montreal had ended, police declared the gathering illegal after they say projectiles were thrown at officers who responded with pepper spray and tear gas. Some windows were smashed and some fires were set.

Over the weekend, **Lebanese** anti-government protesters flooded social media with tweets **sympathetic to U.S. protesters**, using the hashtag #Americarevolts. That's a play on the slogan for Lebanon's protest movement -- Lebanon revolts -- which erupted on Oct. 17 last year. Within 24 hours, the hashtag #Americanrevolts became the No. 1 trending tag in Lebanon.

In another expression of solidarity with American protesters, about 150 people marched through central **Jerusalem** on **Saturday** to protest the **shooting death by Israeli police** of an unarmed, **autistic Palestinian** man earlier in the day. Israeli police mistakenly suspected that the man, Iyad Halak, was carrying a weapon. When he failed to obey orders to stop, officers opened fire.

05.31.20 – Su - - -

SpaceX capsule delivered two US astronauts to Space Station & docked automatically Sunday

05.31.20

SpaceX's astronaut-riding Dragon arrives at space station

For the **first time in nearly a decade**, astronauts **blast into orbit aboard an American rocket from American soil**, a first for a private company

Associated Press| Published: **05.31.20**, 18:44

SpaceX delivered two astronauts to the International Space Station for NASA on **Sunday**, following up a **historic liftoff** with an equally **smooth docking** in yet another first for Elon Musk's company.

With test pilots Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken poised to take over manual control if necessary, the **SpaceX Dragon capsule pulled up to the station and docked automatically**, no assistance needed.

It was the first time a privately built and owned spacecraft carried astronauts to the orbiting lab in its nearly 20 years. NASA considers this the opening volley in a business revolution encircling Earth and eventually stretching to the moon and Mars.

The **docking** occurred just **19 hours after a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket blasted off Saturday** afternoon from Kennedy Space Center, the nation's first astronaut launch to orbit from home soil in nearly a decade.

Thousands jammed surrounding beaches, bridges and towns to watch as **SpaceX became the world's first private company to send astronauts into orbit**, and **ended a nine-year launch drought for NASA**.

A few hours before docking, the Dragon riders reported that the capsule was performing beautifully. Just in case, they slipped back into their pressurized launch suits and helmets for the rendezvous.

The three space station residents kept cameras trained on the incoming capsule for the benefit of flight controllers at SpaceX headquarters in Hawthorne, California, and NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Gleaming white in the sunlight, the Dragon was easily visible from a few miles out, its nose cone open and exposing its docking hook as well as a blinking light. The capsule loomed ever larger on live NASA TV as it closed the gap.

Hurley and Behnken took over the controls and did a little piloting less than a couple hundred yards (meters) out as part of the test flight, before putting it back into automatic for the final approach. Hurley said the capsule handled "really well, very crisp." SpaceX and NASA officials had held off on any celebrations until after Sunday morning's docking — and possibly not until the two astronauts are back on Earth sometime this summer.

NASA has yet to decide how long Hurley and Behnken will spend at the space station, somewhere between one and four months. While they're there, the Dragon test pilots will join the one U.S. and two Russian station residents in performing experiments and possibly spacewalks to install fresh station batteries.

In a show-and-tell earlier Sunday, the astronauts gave a quick tour of the Dragon's sparkling clean insides, quite spacious for a capsule. They said the liftoff was pretty bumpy and dynamic, nothing the simulators could have mimicked.

The blue sequined dinosaur accompanying them — their young sons' toy, named Tremor — was also in good shape, Behnken assured viewers. Tremor was going to join Earthy, a plush globe delivered to the space station on last year's test flight of a crew-less crew Dragon. Behnken said both toys would return to Earth with them at mission's end.

An old-style capsule splashdown is planned.

After liftoff, Musk told reporters that the capsule's return will be more dangerous in some ways than its launch. Even so, getting the two astronauts safely to orbit and then the space station had everyone breathing huge sighs of relief.

As always, Musk was looking ahead.

"This is hopefully the first step on a journey toward a civilization on Mars," he said Saturday evening.

05.31.20 – Su - - -

Demonstrations turned violent over police killings in dozens of US cities

Protests over police killings rage in dozens of U.S. cities

Unrest becomes national phenomenon as protesters decry years of deaths at police hands; casualties and massive material damage reported as rioters burn down property, ransack businesses

Associated Press| Published: 05.31.20 , 11:21

Tense protests over the killing of a black detainee by a white police officer grew Saturday around the United States, with police cars set ablaze and reports of injuries mounting on all sides as the country convulsed through another night of unrest after months of coronavirus lockdowns.

The protests, which began in Minneapolis following the death of black detainee, George Floyd, Monday after a police officer kneeled on his neck until he stopped breathing, have left parts of the city a grid of broken windows, burned-out buildings, and ransacked stores. The unrest has since become a national phenomenon as protesters decry years of deaths at police hands.

Tens of thousands of people were in the streets across the country, many of them not wearing masks or observing social distancing, raising concerns among health experts about the potential for spreading the coronavirus pandemic at a time when much of the country is in the process of reopening society and the economy.

After a tumultuous Friday, racially diverse crowds held mostly peaceful demonstrations in dozens of cities, though many later descended into violence as had happened the previous night.

Few corners of America were untouched, from protesters setting fires inside Reno's city hall, to police launching tear gas at rock-throwing demonstrators in Fargo, North Dakota, to shattered windows at police headquarters in Richmond, Virginia.

In Indianapolis, police were investigating "multiple shootings" downtown, including one that left a person dead, amid the protests. Police gave few details but said no officers were involved.

In Washington, the National Guard was deployed outside the White House, where chanting crowds taunted law enforcement officers. Dressed in camouflage and holding shields, the troops stood in a tight line a few yards from the crowd, preventing them from pushing forward. President Donald Trump, who spent much of Saturday in Florida for the SpaceX rocket launch, landed on the lawn in the presidential helicopter at dusk and went inside without speaking to journalists.

In Philadelphia, at least 13 officers were injured when peaceful protests turned violent and at least four police vehicles were set on fire. Other fires were set throughout downtown.

In Salt Lake City, protesters defied a curfew and National Guard troops were deployed by Utah's governor. Demonstrators flipped a police car and lit it on fire, and another vehicle was later set ablaze. Police said six people were arrested and a police officer was injured after being struck in the head with a baseball bat.

In Los Angeles, protesters chanted "Black Lives Matter," some within inches of the face shields of officers. Police used batons to move the crowd back and fired rubber bullets. A graffiti-covered police car burned in the street.

in New York City, dangerous confrontations flared repeatedly as officers made arrests and cleared streets. A video showed two NYPD cruisers lurching into a crowd of

demonstrators who were pushing a barricade against one of them and pelting it with objects. Several people were knocked to the ground, and it was unclear whether anyone was hurt.

"The mistakes that are happening are not mistakes. They're repeated violent terrorist offenses and people need to stop killing black people," Brooklyn protester Meryl Makielski said.

Not all protests devolved into violence. In Juneau, Alaska, law enforcement officers joined elected officials and residents at a peaceful protest in front of a giant whale sculpture on the city's waterfront.

"We don't tolerate excessive use of force," Juneau Police Chief Ed Mercer told the gathering.

Back in Minneapolis, the city where the protests began, police, state troopers and National Guard members moved in soon after an 8 pm curfew took effect to break up protests, firing tear gas and rubber bullets to clear streets outside a police precinct and elsewhere.

The show of force came after three days when police largely avoided engaging protesters, and after the state poured in more than 4,000 National Guard troops to Minneapolis and said the number would soon rise to nearly 11,000.

"The situation in Minneapolis is no longer in any way about the murder of George Floyd," said Gov. Tim Walz, who also said local forces had been overmatched the previous day. "It is about attacking civil society, instilling fear and disrupting our great cities."

Minneapolis' streets steadily grew calmer as the night went on, and Corrections Commissioner Paul Schnell said the tough response would remain as long as it takes to "quell this situation."

Some residents were glad to see the upheaval dissipating.

"I live here. I haven't been able to sleep," said Iman Muhammad, whose neighborhood saw multiple fires set Friday night. Muhammad said she sympathized with peaceful protests over Floyd's death but disagreed with the violence: "Wrong doesn't answer wrong."

Trump appeared to cheer on the tougher tactics Saturday night, commending the Guard deployment in Minneapolis, declaring "No games!" and saying police in New York City "must be allowed to do their job!"

Presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden condemned the violence as he continued to express common cause with those demonstrating after Floyd's death.

"The act of protesting should never be allowed to overshadow the reason we protest," Biden said in a statement Saturday night.

Overnight curfews were imposed in more than a dozen major cities nationwide, including Atlanta, Denver, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, and Seattle.

More than 1,300 people have been arrested in 16 cities since Thursday, including over 500 Friday in Los Angeles.

The unrest comes at a time when most Americans have spent months inside over concerns surrounding the coronavirus, which the president has called an "invisible

enemy." The events of the last 72 hours, seen live on national television, have shown the opposite: a sudden pivot to crowds, screaming protesters and burning buildings, and a stark contrast to the empty streets of recent months.

"Quite frankly, I'm ready to just lock people up," Atlanta Police Chief Erika Shields said at a news conference. Demonstrations there turned violent Friday, and police were arresting protesters Saturday on blocked-off downtown streets. "Yes, you caught us off balance once. It's not going to happen twice."

This week's unrest recalled the riots in Los Angeles nearly 30 years ago after the acquittal of the white police officers who beat Rodney King, a black motorist who had led them on a high-speed chase. The protests of Floyd's killing have gripped many more cities, but the losses in Minneapolis have yet to approach the staggering totals Los Angeles saw during five days of rioting in 1992, when more than 60 people died, 2,000-plus were injured and thousands arrested, with property damage topping \$1 billion.

Many protesters spoke of frustration that Floyd's death was one more in a litany. It came in the wake of the killing in Georgia of Ahmaud Arbery, a black man who was shot dead after being pursued by two white men while running in their neighborhood, and in the middle of the coronavirus pandemic that has thrown millions out of work, killed more than 100,000 people in the U.S. and disproportionately affected black people.

The officer who held his knee to Floyd's neck as he begged for air was arrested Friday and charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. But many protesters are demanding the arrests of the three other officers involved.

Trump stoked the anger on Twitter, saying that if protesters had breached the White House fence, they would "have been greeted with the most vicious dogs, and most ominous weapons, I have ever seen."

Leaders in many affected cities have voiced outrage over Floyd's killing and expressed sympathy for protesters' concerns. But as the unrest intensified, they spoke of a desperate need to protect their cities and said they would call in reinforcements, despite concerns that could lead to more heavy-handed tactics.

Governors in Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas also activated the National Guard after protests there turned violent.

Police in St. Louis were investigating the death of a protester who climbed between two trailers of a Fed Ex truck and was killed when it drove away. And a person was killed in the area of protests in downtown Detroit just before midnight after someone fired shots into an SUV, officers said. Police had initially said someone fired into the crowd from an SUV.