

Ynet-News, Jan 25, 2024 – Thursday (full moon)
Possible Abomination Days are April 7 & June 20, 2024

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Knesset stops WB-PA entering Israel for work, without public discussions

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US Senate Democrats push two-state in aid to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan

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Sinwar may be in Egypt; IDF expects he will keep some hostages as insurance

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PM told hostage families negotiator problems; Qatar supports & finances Hamas

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01.25.24 – Th
Knesset stops WB-PA entering Israel for work, without public discussions

01.25.24 – Th

Security officials warn: politicians could prompt 3rd West Bank intifada

In unusual move, officials speak-out against decision made by political leadership including to prevent Palestinian workers from entering Israel, ignoring and weakening PA further amid financial crisis, while Hamas funnels funds into West Bank
Elisha Ben Kimon|01:15

Security officials have been voicing concerns over a possible flare-up in the violence on the West Bank that could lead to a third intifada, Palestinian uprising, due to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to further prohibit Palestinians from entering Israel for work.

In an unusual move, a defense official spoke out against the political leaders who are preventing a discussion on the matter. "The same politicians who are inciting, calling for the Palestinian Authority to be dissolved and insisting on preventing Palestinian workers from entering the country, are knowingly and maybe intentionally, leading to a third intifada," he said.

Since the outbreak of war, the IDF has been aggressively operating to counter terrorism in the West Bank, in a scope not seen since the early 2000s. They have been conducting raids on refugee camps where the most violence has occurred, arresting suspects and confiscating arms.

Thus far, some raids have lasted 40, 60 and even 70 hours in places like the Jenin camp, Nur a Shams refugee camp, Tulkarm, to name but a few. Hundreds of terrorists have been killed and thousands of suspects arrested including 1,500 members of Hamas. The military also used drones and heavy engineering equipment in their operations.

Security officials said those raids change the situation on the ground on a daily basis but there are concerns that the military achievements would be for naught without dealing with the PA.

"We are not talking about extensive negotiations. Simple things. Something, like workers, security cooperation. Things that can strengthen the PA," an official said. "These places where we operated were violent and full of terror, so much so, that the PA no longer dares enter them. All our work must be preserved."

The main concern in the defense establishments is that the tension rising on the Palestinian streets, over comments by Israeli politicians that the PA cannot be a partner, and because workers cannot go to their jobs, can cause violence to erupt in a slew of fatal terror attacks.

Preventing the Palestinians from work in Israel, makes the PA's already dire economic crisis worse while Hamas has been infusing funds into the refugee camps and into villages, to entice young Palestinians to take up arms.

Another concern is that Hamas prisoners freed in the November hostage deal may also return to terror. "There are hundreds of Hamas people, or those who owe their freedom to Hamas, roaming freely in the area."

01.24.24 – We

US Senate Democrats push two-state in aid to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan

01.24.24 – We

Nearly all US Senate Democrats back two-state solution for Israel and Palestinians
Amendment supports negotiated solution to the conflict that results in Israeli and
Palestinian states living side by side, ensuring Israel's survival as a secure, democratic,
Jewish state, fulfilling the Palestinian aspirations
Reuters|| 23:20

An overwhelming majority of President Joe Biden's fellow Democrats in the Senate on
Wednesday backed a statement reiterating U.S. support of a two-state solution to the
Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Forty-nine of the 51 members of the Senate Democratic caucus backed an amendment
supporting a negotiated solution to the conflict that results in Israeli and Palestinian states
living side by side, ensuring Israel's survival as a secure, democratic, Jewish state and
fulfilling the Palestinians' "legitimate aspirations" for a state of their own.

Senator Brian Schatz introduced the measure as an amendment to an upcoming bill that
would provide national security aid to Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan. "What will determine
the future of Israel and Palestine is whether or not there's hope. And the two-state
solution has to be that hope," Schatz told a news conference.

With war raging in Gaza between Israel and Hamas, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin
Netanyahu said at a press conference this month that he objected to any Palestinian
statehood that did not guarantee Israel's security.

The statement provoked international concern, including from Israel's biggest backer the
United States. Washington maintains that the two-state solution is the only feasible way
to bring lasting peace to the region. The only two Democratic senators who did not sign
onto the amendment were John Fetterman and Joe Manchin.

Fetterman has long supported a two-state solution, but he believed the measure should
include language stipulating the destruction of Hamas as a precondition to peace, an aide
said. Manchin's office did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

Many of Biden's fellow Democrats in Congress have been pushing the administration to
do more to address the steep toll on Palestinian civilians of Israel's campaign against
Hamas since the militant group's deadly assault on Oct. 7.

01.25.24 – Th

Sinwar may be in Egypt; IDF expects he will keep some hostages as insurance

01.25.24 – Th

Sinwar, one step ahead of Israel, report

Israeli officials say Hamas leader likely stayed in tunnel with hostages, later discovered by troops who find caged cells where captives were held; former defense official says Sinwar will never return all hostages and will use them as insurance to stay alive
Ynet|16:43

An extensive report on NBC News on Wednesday asks Where is Sinwar. The Hamas leader, believed to be the architect of the October 7 massacre has succeeded in staying one step ahead of the IDF and Israeli intelligence agencies, the network said.

The report quotes current and former senior IDF officers and security officials who said that Yahya Sinwar was likely moving from place to place. NBC said he was likely hiding somewhere in the vast tunnel system Hamas built beneath Gaza, while the IDF surrounded his home town of Khan Younis although the Israeli sources said they could not rule out the possibility that he had escaped Gaza, perhaps to Egypt, using yet another tunnel under the border.

The officials told NBC that Sinwar and others in the leadership of the terror group most probably hid in a tunnel that was found containing caged cells to hold the hostages. “It is a fair assumption that Sinwar and Hamas leadership were close to where those hostages were kept — and then they all moved on,” former IDF spokesperson Jonathan Conricus told NBC. “I think being close to hostages has saved his life more than once.” Conricus is today a senior fellow at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, a Washington-based policy institute.

According to the report, Sinwar goes to great lengths to communications with Hamas political leaders in Qatar secret from Israeli intelligence. Israeli officials said the idea floated by the government, to allow Sinwar to safely leave Gaza in exchange for the release of the Israeli hostages held there, was ill advised.

“If he lives abroad and supervises the remaining leaders of Hamas in Gaza and Hamas gets a role in a future arrangement in Gaza, well that amplifies his victory on Oct 7,” one official told the network.

Former Deputy National Security Advisor Jacob Nagel told NBC that he believed Sinwar would never release all of the hostages. “He’ll keep some of the hostages forever because this will be his insurance policy that no one will kill him.”

Other officials said Sinwar has three goals. One is to survive, the other is to ensure the survival of Hamas and the third is to ensure that Hamas plays a role in the governing of Gaza after the war.

Gershon Baskin, who was involved in negotiations to free IDF soldier Gilad Shalit, held for five years in Hamas captivity told the network that Sinwar was not afraid to die a martyr's death but would not agree to an exile from Gaza.

01.24.24 – We

PM told hostage families negotiator problems; Qatar supports & finances Hamas

01.24.24 – We

Qatar says Netanyahu sabotaging hostage deal for political reasons

Qatar takes to social media saying appalled by allegations attributed to prime minister in meeting with families of hostages, calling Netanyahu's words irresponsible and destructive

Ynet|15:51

Following the leak of a recording of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's recent meeting with families of abductees, Qatar criticized Netanyahu on social media on Wednesday for attempting to sabotage the negotiations for his own political interest.

"We are appalled by the alleged remarks attributed to the Israeli Prime Minister in various media reports about Qatar's mediation role," wrote the spokesperson of Qatar's Foreign Ministry, following the recordings published by Yaron Avraham.

"These remarks, if validated, are irresponsible and destructive to the efforts to save innocent lives, but are not surprising. For months, and following a successful mediation last year that led to the release of more than a hundred hostages, Qatar has been engaged in regular dialogue with the negotiating parties, including Israeli institutions, attempting to establish the framework for a new hostage agreement and the immediate entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza."

"If the reported remarks are found to be true, the Israeli PM would only be obstructing and undermining the mediation process for reasons that appear to serve his political career instead of prioritizing saving innocent lives, including Israeli hostages. Instead of concerning himself with Qatar's strategic relations with the United States, we hope Netanyahu decides to operate in good faith and concentrate on the release of the hostages," Ansari said.

Netanyahu is heard in the recordings calling Qatar "problematic mediators" allegedly claiming Qatar supports Hamas: "They finance them. I was very angry recently, and I didn't hide it from the US, which renewed the contract on its military base with Qatar," Netanyahu said.

01.24.24 – We

Hamas pushing civilians north to evacuated areas as IDF fighting south

01.24.24 – We

'A little girl popped out of a shaft' troops face civilians returning north

Pushed by Hamas, residents who evacuated to safe areas in southern Gaza to escape fighting return to areas IDF seeks to keep in their control, often hungry, troops share rations with kids

Yoav Zitun|14:49

IDF reserves serving in a paratrooper division said they were seeing civilians attempting to return north to areas evacuated in the fighting, being pushed to do so, by Hamas. To stop the civilian flow, the soldiers used smoke bombs and at times had to resort to non-lethal firing, when the Palestinians attempted to progress.

Often hungry, children were given medical attention and rations to share with the soldiers who said they were showing the residents of the Strip courtesy the Israeli civilians did not receive from the terrorists who carried out their massacre on October 7.

The paratroopers who have been deployed in north and central Gaza since the start of the war, were preparing to leave, only to join the fighting in the south, where Israel has been battling in Hamas strongholds around Khan Younis.

The force from the 646th Division were given one of the complex tasks of holding territory in the north, holding a nine kilometer (5.5 mile) line leading from Kibbutz Beerit on the border, across the Strip all the way to the sea with positions along it, to prevent the return of Hamas and the establishment of a terrorist military presence there.

It is a main road for the rapid movement of unarmored vehicles, with two southward exits that act as checkpoints: the coastal axis and Salah al-Din road. These exits allow the IDF to conduct operations that expand the controlled area to the southern neighborhoods of Gaza and to the outskirts of the central towns of al-Boreij and Nusairat.

The IDF believes that south of the corridor, the Gaza River is a relatively effective obstacle from passing between the north and the south of Gaza. However, the forces of the 646th Brigade were operating to locate and demolish strategic tunnels below the river as part of their mission to dismantle Hamas infrastructure above and underground.

In recent days, the soldiers of the division, together with Engineering Corps completed the destruction of another terrorist tunnel, one and a half kilometers from the border. The IDF Spokesperson said that the tunnel which connected between the north and the south was about a kilometer long and about 20 meters deep. "The underground route was investigated and destroyed, led by the Engineering Corps battalion," the military spokesperson said. During the operation, soldiers also located anti-aircraft missile caches and advanced rocket launchers, including unique electronic components for laptop remote activation of the launchers.

According to IDF data, In total, the force killed at least 100 terrorists during their fighting in Gaza. "We're winning and remaining human. We had many cases in which Gazan approached our soldiers and received totally different treatment from what our citizens received from Hamas on October 7," the division soldiers said. "We gave Gazan children some of our food, we gave women blankets because of the cold, and a girl who emerged from a tunnel shaft received medical treatment by our teams."

The division's estimates are that the coming year will be complex and will include prolonged fighting. The goal being that the children of these reservists would not have to

fight in Gaza in the next decade. As for the burden on the reservists, they are the same people who keep the economy going and pay taxes, and are the ones who also continue to serve far from home, for months on end.

01.22.24 – Mo

IDF intensifies operations into western Khan Younis, eliminating 50 terrorists

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IDF intensifies operations into western Khan Younis, eliminating 50 terrorists

In operation expected to last several days, Israeli forces set to advance toward Hamas targets, including military command and control bases

Yoav Zitun|11:00

The IDF's 98th Division launched a wide-scale attack Sunday night on the western part

Supported by special forces, the 7th Armored Brigade, the 84th Infantry Brigade and the 35th Paratroopers Brigade, the forces encircled the local refugee camp and advanced within it toward Hamas targets, including military command and control bases. Intense clashes erupted between the IDF troops and terrorists.

The ground operation was preceded by an extensive air raid by the Israeli Air Force. The main target was the headquarters of the Khan Younis Brigade, considered the "home brigade" of Hamas leader in Gaza Yahya Sinwar and Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif. The IDF reported that some 50 terrorists have been killed since the morning hours in the operation in western Khan Younis, including a Hamas company commander.

Unlike the northern Gaza Strip, which has seen most of its population evacuated over weeks of high-intensity combat, the current battleground is densely populated, with Hamas using civilian sites to carry out its attack, including launching rockets from the nearby Nasser Hospital last week. The IDF has marked these sensitive areas, particularly Khan Younis's civilian shelters, to avoid harm to non-combatants.

The operation is expected to last several days until the dismantling of Hamas' local infrastructure. The operation is led by units from the Commando Brigade, which are highly skilled in urban warfare tactics as demonstrated in previous engagements in northern Gaza.

Palestinian sources have reported Israeli advancements toward western Khan Younis and skirmishes in the surrounding area. According to a spokesperson from Hamas' health ministry, there have been "dozens of casualties and injuries" in the city, considered a key stronghold of the terrorist organization. As a result of these advancements, masses of Palestinians have begun evacuating southward toward Rafah.

Palestinian media reported that the IDF "laid siege" on Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis after fighting was reported in the area of the hospital in recent days. Gaza's Hamas-run

health ministry reported that 25,295 people have been killed in the Strip since the beginning of the war, and another 63,000 have been injured.

According to the ministry's statement, about 190 Palestinians were killed and 340 were injured in the past 24 hours. The Palestinians claimed that the IDF also raided the Al-Hayer Hospital in western Khan Younis and **arrested the medical staff** there. Israel has not yet commented on the allegations.

The IDF announced on Monday that in recent weeks, a 900th Infantry Brigade combat team has been operating in the Khan Younis area in southern Gaza, and that during the fighting, the forces killed dozens of terrorists, **raided** dozens of terrorist sites and took over **Hamas headquarters**. The IDF notes that this is the first time since the establishment of the 900th Brigade that its troops have operated in the Gaza Strip

The IDF reported that 900th Brigade troops operated in the kasbah of the Khan Younis Governorate in the municipality of Bani Suhaila in recent days. "The forces **located many weapons** in the kasbah, including **arms, explosives, grenades, magazines and rockets**. In one of the raids, **a homemade lathe used for manufacturing weapons** was found and destroyed," it was reported.

The 900th Brigade combat team was moved to Khan Younis after being initially deployed in the Shijaiyah neighborhood of Gaza City in the northern part of the Gaza Strip.

"This is the first time the brigade has maneuvered in tandem with armored, air and engineering forces. They worked shoulder to shoulder in face-to-face combat against terrorists, above and below ground," it was stated.

Meanwhile, the IDF rotated out the 179th Reserve Brigade, replacing it with a regular brigade for the mission of maintaining the Netzarim corridor, which splits the Gaza Strip in half.

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said on Sunday "We are operating intensely in the Khan Younis area and this will expand. The **smoke clouds from the tanks, cannons and Air Force planes will continue to cover the skies of the Gaza Strip until we achieve our objectives**, primarily the dismantling of Hamas and the return of hostages to their homes."

01.22.24 – Mo

Netanyahu to hostages' families: 'We have an initiative in motion'

01.22.24 – Mo

Netanyahu to hostages' families: 'We have an initiative in motion'

PM says 'there is no genuine offer from Hamas' and **clarifies to families**, 'I say this as clearly as I can because there are **so many untruths** that are tormenting you'

Itamar Eichner|10:04

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met on Monday with representatives of families of hostages held in the Gaza Strip in his office in Jerusalem and informed them that **Israel had put forward an offer** for their release, without providing further details.

Netanyahu addressed reports of renewed talks for a potential hostage deal, saying, "Contrary to what is being said, there is no genuine offer from Hamas. That is not true."

The premier emphasized, "I say this as clearly as I can because there are so many untruths that are tormenting you. Conversely, we have an initiative and I can't elaborate." Meanwhile, Israel has been pushing for a new deal while examining whether Hamas was willing to walk back its demands for a complete withdrawal of IDF forces from the Gaza Strip while letting its rule in Gaza stand.

Netanyahu released a video on Sunday outlining Hamas' conditions for a new deal following a Wall Street Journal report on the resumption of talks between the two parties. According to him, the terror organization demands the cessation of hostilities, the withdrawal of IDF forces from the Gaza Strip, the release of all its operatives from Israeli prison and the continued rule of Hamas in Gaza. Netanyahu said, "If we agree to this, our troops will have fallen in vain."

01.22.24 – Mo

US & Europe to transfer Gaza aid through Ashdod port via Cyprus

01.22.24 – Mo

US, Europe pressure Israel to transfer Gaza aid through Ashdod port

The humanitarian aid destined for Gaza would be transported to the port of Ashdod via Cyprus, and from there be brought into the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing on the Israel-Egypt-Gaza Strip border triangle

Ynet|00:53

American, British and European officials are pressuring Israel to allow the flow of aid to the Gaza Strip directly through the port of Ashdod, in order to alleviate the humanitarian crisis in the Strip, the New York Times reported early Monday morning. One of the sources who spoke to the newspaper said that U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken pushed for this in talks he had during his visit to Israel earlier this month.

According to the proposal being promoted in the U.S. and Europe, the humanitarian aid destined for the Gaza Strip would be transported to the port of Ashdod via Cyprus, and from there be brought into the Gaza Strip through the Kerem Shalom crossing. This crossing, located on the Israel-Egypt-Gaza Strip border triangle, was opened by Israel to bring aid into Gaza last month - also following American pressure - and now the aid trucks enter both through Kerem Shalom and through the Rafah crossing on the border of the southern Gaza Strip with Egypt.

However, so far the aid itself has reached these two crossings only through Egypt, and the goal according to the report is to create an alternative to this while maintaining Israel's demands for a strict security check of the equipment that is brought into the Strip.

The New York Times notes that a small step toward opening the Ashdod port for aid to Gaza came on Friday, when the White House announced that Israel had agreed to transfer flour shipments to Gaza through the port.

British Foreign Secretary David Cameron said after that announcement from the White House: "We need these shipments to continue and for this port to remain open for aid."

According to the newspaper, which cited an Israeli source privy to the details, Jerusalem was not officially notified of the decision to move flour shipments through the port, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office refused to comment, but the defense cabinet "quietly agreed to the plan." The source stated that "Israel was reluctant to open the port due to the fear that the transfer of additional aid through its territory could provoke a public reaction at a time when hostages are still being held captive by Hamas in the Gaza Strip."

Meanwhile, the Unit for the Coordination of Government Operations in the Territories, which is responsible, among other things, for the transfer of civilian aid to the Gaza Strip, published on Saturday updated official data from the beginning of the war which shows that more than 9,500 trucks have entered the Gaza Strip since October 22 - the first date that aid entered the Gaza Strip after the October 7 massacre.

According to the data, so far 175,000 tons of humanitarian aid have entered the Gaza Strip. Of the trucks, 5,328 entered with 112,120 tons of food; 1,106 medical equipment trucks that carried 12,930 tons of aid; 902 water trucks carrying 18,120 tons; 1,393 trucks with shelter equipment carrying 11,640 tons; and another 785 trucks with "mixed" assistance, carrying 11,640 tons. "Our war is against Hamas, not against the people in Gaza," according to the IDF.

In recent days, videos of residents testifying to hunger have been published in Gaza. UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees operating in Gaza, claims that 800 trucks need to enter the Strip every day for three months to meet the needs of the residents.

The United Nations repeatedly warns of a serious humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip. According to the organization, 1.9 million of its residents - 85% of the total population estimated at 2.3 million people - have been displaced from their homes and are facing difficult conditions in the southern Gaza Strip.

01.21.24 – Su

Security cabinet approves moving garnished PA funds to Norway

01.21.24 – Su

Security cabinet approves moving garnished PA funds to 3rd country

Amid US pressure, ministers agree to send funding from Gaza, taken from Palestinian Authority tax revenue, to Norway to prompt Ramallah to use the rest to avoid further financial collapse

Itamar Eichner | 06:45

The Security cabinet on Sunday approved the outline for the transfer of the Palestinian Authority's offset funds to Norway to hold in a third party trust, so that the remainder of the tax revenue collected by Israel for the PA would be received by Ramallah.

National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir was the one opposing vote claiming no funds should be delivered to the PA.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich voted in favor and said none of the money would be used in Gaza. "From Israel's point of view, this is an important political achievement, there is an American guarantee that even if some of the money reaches Gaza, all funds can be withheld. This means that Norway has to agree to this condition, and that Israel has oversight. There is American backing here," Smotrich said.

"Unfortunately, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu constantly moves the red line, Ben-Gvir said. "Sometimes they provide Gaza with fuel, sometimes they give up the demand for humanitarian aid in exchange for humanitarian aid, last week they began sending in trucks with flour and now they are making a decision that does not guarantee that the money would not reach the Nazis from Gaza. Unfortunately, even on the right, there are those who are still under the misconception and I don't think that 'good solutions come from Norway'".

Hussein al-Sheikh, Secretary General of the PLO Executive Committee, protested the cabinet's decision. "Any deviation from our financial rights or any condition imposed by Israel that prevents the PA from paying our people in the Gaza Strip is rejected as far as we are concerned," wrote A-Sheikh. "We call on the international community to stop this behavior based on stealing the Palestinians' money, and to force Israel to transfer all the money that belongs to us."

The funds are tax refunds for Palestinian workers and Israeli goods transferred every month to the Palestinian Authority, which make up 65% of its annual budget. The budget ranges from 750 to 800 million shekels, with about 120 million shekels is intended to pay for PA employees in the Gaza Strip, The revenue is meant to pay the salaries of 32,000 security personnel.

According to the proposed outline which has U.S. approval, the money would be entrusted with Norway, which will not be allowed to transfer any sum to Gaza, not even on loan. The US will provide a monthly report to Israel showing no money had gone to Gaza.

An official called this outline a "mega political event", in which the Americans and Norwegians actually adopt the Israeli position that it is impossible to transfer money to Gaza because "money to Gaza is money to Hamas". Adopting this position also has an impact on "the day after the war."

01.20.24 – Sa

Israel Air strike target 4 Iranian Quds in Tyre & Damascus

01.20.24 – Sa

After strike in Damascus, Israel said to target Iranian official in Lebanon
Saudi press says target of Israeli drone strike is member of IRGC Quds force responsible for Hamas-Iran ties on electronic warfare and air defenses as well as providing intelligence assistance

Einav Halabi|01.20.24 | 07:56

The Saudi AlKhadath channel on Saturday said that the commander for Palestinian affairs in the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds force was killed in an Israeli drone strike on a car traveling near the South Lebanon city of Tyre shortly after four other officials in the same force, were reported killed in a strike on Damascus, attributed to Israel.

According to the report the target of the drone attack was responsible for providing intelligence and technological assistance to Hamas in Lebanon.

"He had a major role in the cooperation between Hamas and the Iranian axis in electronic warfare and air defenses," the report claimed. Other news outlets said the targets of Israel's strike were members of Hamas or Hezbollah.

After the attack on a four story building in Syria earlier in the day, Iran said four members of the IRGC were killed. Iran's news agency identified two of the fatalities as the head of the Revolutionary Guard's Quds force's intelligence chief in Syria and his deputy. A fifth man who died in the strike had not been identified.

01.20.24 – Sa

Biden set on two-state & PM contradicts: We must have full control of Gaza

01.20.24 – Sa

PM contradicts Biden in extraordinary Shabbat statement
PMO issues statement claiming Netanyahu in call with U.S. president, reiterates long-held view that Israel must have full security control of Gaza post war after Biden tells reporters PM does not close door to future Palestinian state

Itamar Eichner|01.20.24 | 07:27

In an unusual move, the Prime Minister's office issued a statement during the Sabbath, disputing comments made by President Joe Biden although he stopped short of denying the president's words.

"In their conversation on Friday, the prime minister repeated his long-held assertion that Israel must maintain full security control in the Gaza Strip, which would conflict with the Palestinian demands for sovereignty."

On Friday, Biden told reporters that Netanyahu did not close the door on possible negotiations with the Palestinians toward a two-state solution. Netanyahu's statements in a press conference the day earlier, were not a final rejection of U.S. proposals and that a demilitarized Palestinian state was still an option.

Netanyahu said in the press conference that in any future resolution, Israel must have control of the entire area west of the Jordan River. He said as prime minister, he must be able to stand up even to the best of Israel's friends.

According to a report on CNN, Netanyahu told Biden in their call on Friday – the first in a month, that his public statements were not meant to shut the door to any possible Palestinian State in the future. Biden explained to reporters that there were countries who were members of the UN, that did not have militaries. When asked if he agreed with White House National Security Spokesperson John Kirby when he said there was not chance for that while Netanyahu remained in power, the president said he believed some solution could be found.

Frustration from Netanyahu has been growing in Washington as Biden begins his campaign for a second White House term. On Friday, some 60 members of Congress from his own party wrote him to demand the administrations clarification that there would not be any displacement of Gazans after the war and in the Senate, a growing number of Democrats were pushing for some conditions being attached to aid to Israel to ensure that civilians were not hurt by Israel's military actions in the Strip.

01.19.24 – Fr

Egypt & Iran engage in talks amid US-UK strikes in Yemen over war on Gaza

01.19.24 – Fr

Egypt, Iran tighten relations amid Israel's war in Gaza

Arab new outlets report Cairo and Tehran engage in close talks over Houthi presence near the Suez Canal area following US-UK strikes in Yemen; Iranian Foreign Minister to visit Egypt

Lior Ben Ari|01.19.24 | 15:41

Qatari reports released on Friday highlight an ongoing development between Egypt and Iran that should concern Israeli officials. According to Egyptian sources who recently spoke with Arab news outlet Al-Araby Al-Jadeed, intensive contacts are taking place between Cairo and senior Houthi and Iranian officials, aiming to prevent the maritime confrontation between Israel and the Houthis from escalating, with concerns such escalations could also impact the Suez Canal route.

The source noted that Egypt recently engaged in discussions with Houthi leaders following the U.S.-UK strikes in Yemen last week, attempting to understand the terror group's possible response and assess the implications.

According to the source, Egypt emphasized it doesn't support any international action against the Houthis and clarified to the United States the "danger in a military solution." According to the Egyptians, "it's better to push for a solution that puts an end to the main reason for everything happening right now - the war in Gaza."

Egypt has assured the Houthis that it is making progress in discussions with Israel regarding increasing the amount of humanitarian aid entering the Gaza Strip. The source noted the communication between the parties has been positive, and the Houthis appreciated the fact Egypt didn't join the hostilities against them.

According to the Egyptian source, "The Houthi leaders confirmed to Egypt that there's no intention to expand attacks against cargo ships, except those heading to Israel or related to it," despite the recent strike against the terror group in Yemen.

Additionally, an Egyptian diplomat revealed that "arrangements are being made for the upcoming visit of the Iranian Foreign Minister, Hossein Amir-Abdollahian, to Cairo."

The visit was agreed upon during a recent conversation between Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi.

The news outlet claimed communications between the two countries have strengthened in recent times, especially since the outbreak of the war in Gaza.

"What's happening in the region strengthens the relations between Egypt and Iran," the diplomatic source said, "due to the two countries' common interests and because Iran is considered a central player in the region given its close relations with the warring parties." The source estimated that despite the tension between Egypt and the United States and Israel, Egypt's relations with Iran are expected to tighten further.

"Cairo serves as a mediator conveying messages from the United States to Tehran," the source said. According to him, the U.S. government believes that Egypt can deliver messages to Tehran in the most beneficial way due to Iran's desire to strengthen ties with it.

Meanwhile, Hezbollah-affiliated news outlet in Lebanon Al-Akhbar also addressed the tensions between the U.S. and the Houthis, citing a Yemeni military source who said the recent U.S.-UK strike on Yemen was carried out using the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower aircraft carrier, located off the coast of Eritrea opposite the Hodeidah region – and was brought to the region following the war in Gaza.

According to the report, the attack was aimed at open areas, despite U.S. statements saying it struck "Houthi targets." Sources said that Houthi capabilities are primed to respond to the U.S.'s decision to relist the Houthis as a terrorist organization. According to sources in the Yemeni government, loyal to the international coalition, the American decision won't have any impact on the Houthis.

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Ynet-News, Jan 18, 2024 – Thursday

Possible Abomination Days are April 7 & June 20, 2024

01.18.24 – Th- - - News Placed in January 18 spot – Thursday
Gaza Documents prove school teachers are members of Hamas terrorist wing

01.17.24 – We- - - News Placed in January 17 spot – Wednesday
Hamas leaders smuggle people from Gaza to Egypt \$11,000 per person

01.17.24 – We- - - News – Wednesday
US Congress demands Biden protect southern border before aid to Israel

01.16.24 – Tu- - - News Placed in January 16 spot – Tuesday
Greek ship hit by Yemen; Saudi, Emirate & Egypt will not break Arab alliance

01.16.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday
IDF carries out most extensive strike on S. Lebanon since war began

01.16.24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday
Hamas fires 50 rockets from north Gaza, vacated in Troop reduction

01.15.24 – Mo- - - News Placed in January 15 spot – Monday
IDF 36th Division ends as reduction leaves 98th, 99th and 162nd Divisions

01.14.24 – Su- - - News Placed in January 14 spot – Sunday
Hamas intended to attack Israeli embassy in Sweden, directed by Iran

01.12.24 – Fr- - - News – Friday
Agreement after 100 days; hostages to receive medication in exchange for Gaza aid

01.12.24 – Fr- - - News Placed in January 12 spot – Friday
US & UK strike Houthi targets in Yemen; 22 nations guard traffic in the Red Sea

01.11.24 – Th- - - News Placed in January 11 spot – Thursday
UN South African charges are exaggerated and bizarre; Blind to Hamas actions