

Ynet-News, March 14, 2023 – Thursday

Note: Israel LEAP YEAR Adar-2 this year moves Pesach to April 22

Possible Abomination Days are April 7 & June 20, 2024

Ramadan start March 11 – Ends April 10, Pesach Mar 23-31 move Pesach to April 22

3.14. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in March 14 spot – Thursday

US sanctions two Jewish outposts in West Bank, claiming they undermine stability

3.13. 24 – We- - - News Placed in March 13 spot – Wednesday

Israelis agree with Netanyahu's post-war plan but doubt it would work

3.12. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in March 12 spot – Tuesday

4,500 attacks on Hezbollah, Ben-Gvir wants aid to residents evacuated five months

3.11. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in March 11 spot – Monday Ramadan start Mar 11

PM moves 60 Gaza orphans to Bethlehem at Germany's request - no MK approval

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Oct. 7 victims' families sue PA and Hamas, as they still have means of funding

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IDF commander reprimanded for blowing up Gaza university without approval

3.10. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in March 10 spot – Sunday Ramadan eve Mar 10

Chief rabbi threatens Haredi exodus over conscription, critics call for resignation

3.10. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Ramadan eve Mar 10

Shin Bet arrested Hamas-cell in northern Israel discovered from documents in Gaza

3.10. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday Ramadan eve Mar 10

Dozens of Hezbollah rocket barrages pummel Upper Galilee Sunday morning

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News – Friday

US building a port in Gaza: Israel considers buying Cyprus port as inspection checkpoint

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News – Friday

Families of hostages, Oct. 7 survivors file lawsuit against UNRWA-USA's donor

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News – Friday

West Bank settlement shooting & bomb-throwing attack wounded 4 near IDF checkpoint

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News – Friday

Americans in IDF form 'Hamas Hunting Club,' using demeaning photos of detainees

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News Placed in March 08 spot – Friday

US, UK, France circumvent UN chief to submit Patten report on Hamas sex crimes

3.08. 24 – Fr - - News – Friday

Biden “State-of-Union” announced US building a Gaza pier to receive large aid ships

3.14. 24 – Th

US sanctions two Jewish outposts in West Bank, claiming they undermine stability

3.14. 24 – Th

US imposes sanctions on two Jewish settler outposts in West Bank

US Treasury Department adds 2 farming outposts and 3 Israeli settlers to the 4 Jewish settlers sanctioned earlier as administration reverses Trump-era policies and again considers West Bank settlements illegal

Reuters, Itamar Eichner, Daniel Edelson, New York|11:29

The Biden administration imposed sanctions on two Jewish settler outposts in the West Bank on Thursday, the latest move against settlement activity it says is an obstacle to peace between Israelis and Palestinians, claiming they "undermining stability."

The U.S. Treasury Department added two entities, Moshe's Farm and Zvi's Farm, as well as three Israeli nationals, to its list of sanctioned entities, according to the Office of Foreign Assets Control's website.

The sanctions were imposed on two outposts: Moshe's Farm that was established in 2021 and Zvi's Farm near Halamish in the northern part of the West Bank. Moshe Sharvit, who heads one of the outposts and was already sanctioned by the UK, and Zvi Bar Yosef, who heads the other are also named, as is Neriya Ben Pazi, who heads another outpost.

The sanctions typically freeze any U.S. assets of those targeted and generally bar Americans from dealing with them, but it was not immediately clear how they would affect the outposts.

The State Department said the outposts had been bases for violence against Palestinians.

"There is no justification for extremist violence against civilians or forcing families from their homes, whatever their national origin, ethnicity, race, or religion," State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a statement.

"These West Bank outposts have acted as a base from which to launch violent acts and are illegal even under Israeli law. It is critical that Israel take additional action to stop

settler violence and hold accountable those responsible for it. Not just for the sake of the victims of this violence but for Israel's own security and its standing in the world." Finance Minister Bezael Smotrich leader of the far-right Religious Zionist Party said in response that the Biden administration was capitulating to the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement "which aims to blacken the face of Israel and bring about an end to the settlements and the establishment of a Palestinian terror state." Smotrich went on to say the the government stands with the settlements and will fight to reverse this "unacceptable decision."

Axios reported late on Wednesday, citing three U.S. officials, that the outposts would be targeted with sanctions because they were used as a base for attacks on Palestinians by settlers deemed to be extremist.

The administration in February imposed sanctions on four Israeli men it accused of being involved in settler violence in the West Bank, signaling growing U.S. displeasure with the policies of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The administration said at the time that Israel's expansion of settlements in the West Bank was inconsistent with international law, signaling a return to longstanding U.S. policy on the issue that had been reversed by the previous administration of Donald Trump.

3.13. 24 – We

Israelis agree with Netanyahu's post-war plan but doubt it would work

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Israelis agree with Netanyahu's post-war plan but doubt it would work, survey finds
Consensus among right- and left-wing voters that Saudi Arabia must take part in managing and rehabilitating Gaza; 38% believe that Israel's ability to achieve 'absolute victory' does not exist or exists to a minor extent

Ynetnews | 13:25

A new survey published by the non-profit organization Tmumat Nitzachon (Victory Image) reveals, for the first time, what the public in Israel thinks about Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan for the "day after" the war.

While there is broad support for the plan from both the right and the left, the public doubts its effectiveness in the civil and political spheres, according to the survey released on Wednesday by Victory Image. The survey was conducted by the company Panel Project HaMidgam, and included 495 respondents from both the Jewish and Arab communities in Israel.

The context for the survey is a new plan recently presented by Netanyahu to the Security Cabinet for the "day after" the current war in Gaza. In the security sphere, the plan

includes continued Israeli control over the Gaza Strip, disarmament and the establishment of a "southern barrier" to prevent smuggling from Egypt.

In the civil sphere, the plan includes rehabilitation of the Gaza Strip by a foreign state agreed upon by Israel, transferring control of the Strip to civilian entities with managerial experience, replacing the UN Palestinian refugee agency UNRWA with other international relief agencies.

In the political sphere, the plan proposes opposition to unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state, rejection of international dictates for a permanent settlement with the Palestinians and striving for such an agreement only through direct negotiations between the parties, without preconditions.

According to the survey findings, 62% of Israelis support Netanyahu's "Day After" plan, compared to only 16% who oppose it. However, only 23% believe in Israel's ability to fully realize all the plan's objectives. The public thinks its security objectives are the most feasible (41%) but expresses doubt regarding the ability to realize its civil (25%) and political (23%) objectives to a large or very large extent.

Support is high for Saudi, UAE involvement in post-war Gaza

Regarding ways to promote solutions in the civil sphere, there is broad support among the Israeli public for the involvement of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in managing the Gaza Strip in the aftermath of the war.

According to the findings, 58% of Israelis support the idea that, alongside Israel's security responsibility for the Gaza, Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates would take responsibility for managing the Gazan population after the war. Support rates were found to be high among most right-wing voters (Likud and Israel Beitenu 55%, Religious Zionism, Shas and United Torah Judaism -50%) and among center-left voters (National Unity/State Camp 61%, Yesh Atid 67%, Labor and Meretz 50%).

Similar support was also received regarding the question of which countries should be involved in a more moderate management of the Gaza Strip: The United States (40%), the United Arab Emirates (30%), and Saudi Arabia (23%) were the three countries that received the most support.

The survey examined what Israelis think about the concept of "absolute victory" coined by Netanyahu at the start of the war. The majority of Israelis tend to think that the concept serves the war's objectives: 25% stated it does so to a large or very large extent, and 23% to a moderate extent. However, 38% believe that Israel's ability to achieve "absolute victory" today does not exist or exists only to a minor extent.

According to the survey, apart from the dismantling of Hamas and the return of the hostages, the leading ways to achieve "absolute victory" in the war include establishing Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip (26%), de-radicalizing educational, welfare, health and religious institutions (25%), and the rehabilitation of the Gaza Strip by a foreign state agreed upon by Israel (13%).

Israelis doubtful of chances for 'absolute victory'

"The survey findings show that there is broad support in Israel for the need for absolute victory in the war. However, the question marks regarding the ability to achieve it must raise a red flag among Israeli decision-makers," founders of the nonprofit Victory Image, Danel Ben-Namer and Tal Louria, said in a statement.

"They must understand that a **military decision alone is not enough**. Establishing a new civilian **agenda to replace Hamas** is a civilian goal no less important than achieving Israel's military objectives in the war. The **consensus** among right and left-wing voters regarding the need for the **involvement** of the Abraham Accords countries, **led by Saudi Arabia** and the United Arab Emirates, in managing and **rehabilitating the Gaza Strip**, should guide the Israeli government in the direction of realizing civilian objectives on the way to achieving an absolute decision."

3.12. 24 – Tu

4,500 attacks on Hezbollah, Ben-Gvir wants aid to residents evacuated five months

3.12. 24 – Tu

4,500 attacks on Hezbollah targets, more than 300 killed in current war, IDF updates
A threatening message from the IDF to Hezbollah, hours after attacks deep in **Lebanon** and the heaviest **rocket barrages to the north** since the beginning of war, and as rocket alert alarms sound in the **Western Galilee**. Hezbollah threatens: "The **reaction will be stronger**"

Yoav Zitun, Moran Azoulay, Itamar Eichner, Lior Ben Ari|03.12.24 | 10:46

Hours after the **heaviest rocket barrages from Lebanon** into Israeli territory since the beginning of the war, and after additional attacks in the Baalbek region deep in Lebanon, the **IDF** publishes an interim **summary of the damage** to Hezbollah in the last five months, and the map of the targets attacked as a kind of additional message to the Shiite terrorist organization. The **IDF notes that about 4,500 targets have been attacked** since the beginning of the war. Almost at the same time as the announcement was being made, rocket alert sirens sounded on the northern border, this time in the Western Galilee.

According to the IDF announcement, in the **last five months** IDF forces, led by the Northern Command and the Israeli Air Force, attacked more than **1,200 Hezbollah targets from the air, and more than 3,100 targets were attacked from the ground**. Among the targets that were attacked, in the territory of Lebanon and Syria: weapons warehouses, military buildings designated for Hezbollah's offensive activity and operational headquarters where terrorists were located.

The IDF reported that more than **450 infrastructure targets** of the Hezbollah special operation unit Radwan force's attack plan had been **destroyed**, as had more than **70 heavy rocket launch infrastructures**, and more than 150 observation and collection points along the entire border. At the same time, more than **70 manned headquarters were attacked**. The IDF said that, since the beginning of the fighting, its troops have killed more than **300 terrorists**. According to Hezbollah's official announcements, 242 terrorists from the terror organization have been killed. In addition, the IDF stated that more than **750 terrorists were injured** in the fighting and dozens of terrorist squads were attacked that directed or fired rocket towards Israel. "During these five months, we are hitting Hezbollah's infrastructure, commanders and capabilities every day," according to the IDF.

"The intense attacks in the north harm Hezbollah's air and ground capabilities as well as its top command," the IDF reported, noting that five terrorists were also among the dead. "The IDF is constantly working to push Hezbollah forces out of the area of southern Lebanon, and has carried out significant attacks in this area."

The IDF also acknowledged the residents who have been evacuated from their homes for the last five months. "We are well aware of the great and ongoing hardship of the residents of the north and appreciate the resilience they are demonstrating. The IDF is committed to continuing to work for a good and stable security reality."

The commander of the Northern Command, Ori Gordin, praised the officers of the Northern Command and gave them encouragement to fight the continuing war against Hezbollah in Lebanon.

"We have embarked on a very significant process of an operative act of a campaign in which we have been hitting Hezbollah's capabilities every day for the past five months, the infrastructure it has built, its activities and its commanders," Gordin said. "The number of targets we attacked and the number of goals we confirm every day for tomorrow and next week, this is a unique and very impressive enterprise. I have a lot of trust in you to bring about the same significant move both at this rate and when we have to take a step forward."

Meanwhile, after the attack in Baalbek, a Hezbollah source told the Qatari Al-Araby Al-Jadeed that "Hezbollah will not be silent about the Israeli attacks in the south, in Baalbek or in any area of Lebanon. The response will be the same and stronger." He added that "we are at war with the enemy. All options are open and Hezbollah is prepared and ready for any expansion."

On the other hand, National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir attacked Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and called for "War Now," on Tuesday after the rocket barrages in the morning in which about 100 rockets were fired into the north. "Gallant, the army is your responsibility. What are you waiting for? More than 100 missiles, 100 launches on the State of Israel and you sit quietly? Stop releasing Abu Ali videos and let's start reacting, attacking. War - now."

His Otzma Yehudit party friend, Minister Yitzhak Wasserlauf, told Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a letter that he would boycott the upcoming government meetings and votes "until the decision is passed in the government regarding aid to the residents of the north. It is impossible for the government not to keep its promises to the residents of the north."

3.11. 24 – Mo

PM moves 60 Gaza orphans to Bethlehem at Germany's request - no MK approval

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Israel transfers 60 Palestinian orphans from Gaza to West Bank at Germany's request
Children moved from German-funded Gaza orphanage that ceased operations due to war through Israeli territory; humanitarian gesture draws ire of far-right ministers after bypassing Cabinet

Itamar Eichner|11:25

At the request of German authorities, Israel facilitated the transfer to the West Bank of approximately 60 orphans, aged 3 to 15, from a German-funded Gaza orphanage that ceased operations due to the war.

Germany submitted a special request to the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT), Israel's liaison to the Palestinians, to allow the relocation of orphans to a new facility in Bethlehem, a request to which Israel agreed.

The children traveled from Gaza to Egypt via the Rafah crossing, and then by bus through the Taba crossing into Israel, en route to Bethlehem across Israeli territory. The unusual gesture was not approved by Security Cabinet ministers, which drew the ire of some of its members.

Finance Minister and senior Cabinet member Bezalel Smotrich criticized the move, saying, "He who is compassionate to the cruel will ultimately become cruel to the compassionate. This represents a moral lapse. I demand clarifications from the prime minister on who authorized this unethical order and by what authority, especially while our hostages and their children languish in enemy captivity."

Echoing Smotrich, National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir said, "This is not how a state seeking total victory behaves. Countless 'fake humanitarian gestures' continue while Israeli citizens pay the price. In war, we must crush the enemy, not constantly display weakness."

3.11. 24 – Mo

Oct. 7 victims' families sue PA and Hamas, as they still have means of funding

3.11. 24 – Mo

Oct. 7 victims' families sue Palestinian Authority and Hamas: 'They will pay for their actions'

124 family members of Israelis murdered on October 7 demand more than a billion shekels from the Palestinian Authority and terrorist organizations in Gaza as reparations and to drain them of resources

Itamar Eichner|06:26

Some 124 family members of Israelis murdered on October 7 are suing the Palestinian Authority and terror organizations in Gaza for their actions.

"The economic war against the terrorists is the only way to defeat them and prevent the next murder; soon they will pay dearly for their actions," said Morris Schneider, a plaintiff in the lawsuit, who is the brother of the late Margit Silberman and uncle of Shiri Bibas, who is still being held captive with her two children in Gaza. Her husband, Yarden is also a Hamas hostage.

According to the lawsuit: "The Palestinian Authority funds the Gaza Strip, including the Hamas Government directly, by investing in civil infrastructure, salaries for public employees and officials, and payment of salaries to prisoners and family members of shahids (martyrs) from the terrorist organization."

In this first lawsuit filed against the Palestinian Authority since the outbreak of the war, the family members are demanding compensation of 100 million shekels per plaintiff.

"We will hunt down every terrorist and each organization that funded the terrible massacre that took my family members and the other terror victims from us," said Schneider, whose sister was murdered in her home in Kibbutz Nir Oz with her husband Yossi.

Among the plaintiffs are also the family of the late Lt. Col. Yehonatan Tzor, who fell in Kerem Shalom; the family of the late Amit Mann who was murdered in Kibbutz Be'eri; the family of the late Kobi Pariente who was murdered in Sderot; the family of the late Eliyahu Orgad who was murdered in Kibbutz Kfar Aza; the family of the late Lior Weizman, who was murdered in Sderot; the family of the late Igal Wachs, who was murdered in Netiv HaAsara; and the families of Jonathan Rom and Adam Ilayev who were murdered at the Nova party.

The lawsuit was filed with the District Court in Jerusalem, with the assistance of the Shurat Hadin-Israel Law Center. "The only way to eliminate the Hamas organization is by cutting off its economic life support," said Attorney Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, the president of the organization that represents the victims.

"Alongside the military effort, we must continue to act on the economic-legal axis against them, because as soon as they still have means of funding, they will be able to re-establish themselves in the future. If we want to eliminate Hamas completely, not only in Gaza, but also abroad and in Judea and Samaria, we must cut them off from any economic viability," she said.

3.11. 24 – Mo

IDF commander reprimanded for blowing up Gaza university without approval

3.11. 24 – Mo

IDF Gaza division commander reprimanded for blowing up Gaza university
Brigadier General Barak Hiram issued an order to level Israa University in Gaza City in January without prior authorization; He has been issued a command citation and is expected to leave this position though will assume a spot in the IDF general staff
Elisha Ben Kimon|04:17

Brigadier General Barak Hiram was issued a command citation in connection with an event that took place amid the hostilities in the Gaza Strip. Hiram, who is expected to relinquish his command of the Gaza Division due to a tank shell incident on a residence

in Kibbutz Be'eri on October 7 where Israelis were being held hostage, was reprimanded following the explosion at a university in Gaza roughly two months prior.

The incident that triggered this disciplinary action by Major General Yaron Finkelman, the head of the Southern Command, toward the commander of the 99th Brigade, took place about two months ago. Hiram had ordered a strike on Israa University in the vicinity of Gaza City because intelligence reports revealed the presence of terrorists and tunnel entrances on the university's premises.

The citation was issued against Hiram because he made this decision independently without adhering to the established chain of command. During the conflict in Gaza, explicit protocols are in place to regulate who has the authority to approve bombings and destruction of significant structures like government institutions, hospitals and other facilities.

Beneath the university, the IDF identified a vast network of tunnels – the largest discovered in Gaza. The university, located just a few hundred meters from the main entrance to the Strip, and the terrorists within it, posed a significant threat to the forces. While there were other instances where high-ranking officers who sensed a threat in the field sanctioned the demolition of buildings, the timing – near the start of Israel's trial at the International Court of Justice in the Hague, which attracted international media criticism – may have been a contributing factor to this unusual decision.

The IDF announced that a comprehensive review would be conducted regarding the destruction of a building at the university and the associated approval process for the detonation, overseen by the Southern Command's commander and then presented to the Chief of Staff. The probe found that Hamas had exploited the building and its vicinity for military operations against Israeli forces.

IDF Chief of Staff Herzi Halevy recently initiated an inquiry into a situation at the Be'eri Kibbutz involving Hiram. Reports from Ynet and Yedioth Aharonoth revealed that Halevy has already engaged in discussions with the brigade commander. The latter demonstrated comprehension of the situation and appears poised to relinquish his position as Gaza Division commander for a role on the General Staff.

In a meeting within the Chief of Staff's assembly, Halevy affirmed the IDF would not lose Hiram. His military future will hinge upon whether his decision is deemed justifiable, or if he is absolved of responsibility for civilian fatalities that were not a consequence of his ordered tank shell fire. This will be determined through coordination between the two parties.

Prior to the war, in July 2023, it was agreed Hiram would assume command of the Gaza Division. In light of the incident at Kibbutz Be'eri, where it was alleged that civilian casualties resulted from a tank shell fired under Hiram's orders, closed-door IDF discussions, as reported in Ynet and Yedioth Aharonoth, suggested the possibility of assigning him to a staff role rather than the Gaza Division commander position.

3.10. 24 – Su

Chief rabbi threatens Haredi exodus over conscription, critics call for resignation

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'If you force us to go to the army, we'll all move abroad,' says Rabbi Yitzhak Yosef, tying Israel's military successes to Torah study; 'Rabbi Yosef's words are an insult and disgrace to IDF soldiers who risk their lives to defend the country,' Lapid says
Moran Azulay|07:52

Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Yosef threatened in his weekly Saturday night sermon that Haredim would leave Israel en masse if their exemption from the country's compulsory service is not renewed, sparking calls from critics for his resignation.

Speaking to his adherents, Rabbi Yosef compared the Haredim to the ancient priestly tribe of Levi and tied Israel's military successes to studying the Torah.

"The tribe of Levi is exempt from the army. They are not taken, under any circumstances," he said. "If you force us to go to the army, we'll all move abroad. We will buy tickets; there is no such thing as forcing us into the army. The state stands on this.

"The yeshivas and kollels are what holds up the world. The state exists on Torah study, and without the Torah, there would have been no success for the army."

Yosef's words, spoken in the same place as his father, former chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef, used to lecture on Saturday nights, also echoed his sentiments about Haredi military service in Israel.

"A severe sentence is hovering over us," the late Rabbi Ovadia Yosef said in 2013 when the issue of Haredi conscription also came to the fore. "Blessed are those who labor in the Torah... the Torah is in danger, when will there be scholars, if they are conscripted into the army? Gentlemen, we are in great sorrow, great danger, spare your sons, spare your sons' sons who will engage in Torah study."

"We will have to, God forbid, leave the Land of Israel to move abroad," he said at the time.

"Rabbi Yosef's words are an insult and disgrace to the IDF soldiers who risk their lives to defend the country. Rabbi Yosef is a public servant receiving a salary from the state, he cannot threaten the state," Opposition Leader Yair Lapid said in response to Yosef's statements.

Lapid doubled down on Sunday morning in an interview on Army Radio. "If the Haredim go abroad, they will find that the ultra-Orthodox there work for a living, not even dreaming that someone will finance them," he said.

On social media, he explained how a service exemption for ultra-Orthodox yeshiva students hinders Israel's ability to defend itself.

"If 66,000 ultra-Orthodox youth enlist, the IDF will get 105 new battalions that are needed for Israel's security," Lapid wrote.

The ultra-Orthodox Shas party, a member of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government which considers Rabbi Yosef its spiritual leader, sharply criticized Lapid for his remarks.

"Take off your shoes before you speak disparagingly toward the chief rabbi, who expressed a clear and decisive opinion about the tremendous right of Torah scholars who defend the land. Those who silently encourage the insubordination of organizations opposing judicial reform should not lecture us about morals," the party said in a statement.

National Unity Party leader Benny Gantz, a former IDF chief who joined the government and War Cabinet after the start of the war on Hamas in Gaza, labeled the chief rabbi's remarks a "moral affront" to the Israeli state and society.

"After 2000 years in exile, we returned to our land. We will fight for it and never abandon it. Rabbi Yosef's words are a moral affront to the state and Israeli society. Everyone should take part in the sacred right to serve and fight for our state, especially in this difficult time. Even our ultra-Orthodox brothers," Gantz said in a statement.

The ultranationalist Otzma Yehudit Party, headed by National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, said in a statement that serving in the IDF hews to the dictates of the Torah. "Serving in the IDF is an immense right of a Jew who defends himself in his own land and a great commandment," the statement read. "In King David's army, there were Torah scholars. We do not believe in coercing the Haredi community to enlist, and things should be done with understanding and love. Much of the controversy can be resolved through appropriate recruitment. We will never leave our holy land!"

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, in a post in memory of his cousin Major (res.) Amishar Ben David who fell in the southern Gaza Strip the night before Yosef's comments, wrote "I hope that whoever made these remarks will understand his mistake, retract it and apologize."

Avigdor Liberman, leader of the opposition's right-wing Yisrael Beiteinu party and a vocal critic of Israel's Haredi community, asserted that "without duties, there are no rights," adding, "It's a shame that Rabbi Yitzhak Yosef and the ultra-Orthodox marchers continue to harm the security of Israel and act against Jewish law."

Rabbi David Stav, chair of the Tzohar Rabbinical Organization, said, "During this time of continued pain and tragedy for the people of Israel, where nearly every day we are witness to more and more of our children falling in defense of this land, every focus must be on defending and supporting service in our military. Any statement that encourages avoiding IDF service is a despicable moral stain and blasphemous.

"The threat of leaving Israel specifically to avoid defending our nation is particularly reprehensible and completely contradicts the spirit of Halacha. One would expect that someone who sits at the head of the Israeli Chief Rabbinate would encourage IDF service as opposed to dodging service to the extent of actually leaving the country."

Some organizations called for Yosef to be removed from his position over the statements.

3.10.24 – Su

Shin Bet arrested Hamas-cell in northern Israel discovered from documents in Gaza

3.10. 24 – Su

Shin Bet cracks down on Hamas-linked terrorist cell in northern Israel discovered from documents found in Gaza

13 suspects, all Israeli Arabs, arrested on suspicion of planning terrorist attacks within Israel, purchasing weapons from West Bank and receiving instructions from Hamas in Gaza on how to make explosives

Elisha Ben Kimon, Lior El-Hai|06:00

According to a joint statement, a total of 13 suspects, all Israeli Arabs mostly from Sakhnin, were apprehended and indictments were filed Sunday against seven of those involved, residents of Sakhnin.

Documents found by soldiers in the Gaza Strip led to an investigation against two of those involved - Muhammad Khaled Halaila and Muhammad Yosef Halaila - and they detailed the involvement of the others.

The seven were charged with conspiracy to commit a terrorist act of murder under aggravated circumstances, revealing a decision to betray, preparing for a terrorist act of murder under aggravated circumstances, using weapons for terrorist purposes, contact with a foreign agent, and arson, as well as other charges.

Some suspects were involved in a firebombing attack on Kibbutz Eshbal during the May 2021 Gaza war.

Four firearms, ammunition and bulletproof vests were seized as part of the operations. The weapons were reportedly purchased from operatives in the West Bank.

According to the information revealed in the investigation by the Shin Bet and the police, one suspect was in contact with Hamas operatives in the Gaza Strip, who provided him with instructions for manufacturing explosives and instructed him to recruit additional members. In addition, the members of the squad recruited other members from Sakhnin, with the aim of promoting terrorist activity within Israel.

"This is a serious act against the security of Israeli citizens, involving a terrorist plot woven with Hamas' involvement in Gaza, potentially harming the normative majority in the Arab sector," the statement read.

"The Shin Bet and the police will continue to thwart terror and track down those threatening national security, including those involved in terrorist activities during the Guardian of the Walls riots," the internal intelligence agency added, using the name given to the 2021 war by Israel.

Muhammad Khaled Halaila, 25, and Muhammad Yosef Halaila, 24, discovered a growing interest in Hamas and its activities, and developed an ideological identification with the organization's actions. Against the backdrop of the Guardian of the Walls events, one of the suspects, Muhammad Agbaria, planned to establish an armed military unit that would carry out attacks against Jews when a war broke out against Israel, with the aim of helping the enemy in his war against Israel and from a nationalist-ideological motive.

He was later joined by the accused Muhammad Khaled Halaila. In order to promote the plan, they started buying weapons from a resident of the Palestinian Authority whom they

knew through work relationships. During the year 2021, the two defendants purchased two improvised submachine guns with cartridges and bullets. The accused went to an open area in Sakhnin and checked the integrity of the weapon and practiced using it.

During 2022, the two defendants worked to add another defendant, Muhammad Ayush, to the squad, they presented to him the need for the squad to be armed in order to carry out the attacks, and offered him to join the activity. In response, Ayush expressed his agreement to join the squad and even purchase weapons. Ayush even bought a weapon from Mohammed Khaled Halaila. Later, the accused Muhammad Shohana and Abu Salah were added to the squad. They decided that the official name of the squad would be "Khoras Kalat al Tawahid," In one of the squad's meetings, squad members discussed the possibility of enlisting in the Israel Police or the IDF in order to acquire combat skills and steal weapons from the army.

Muhammad Khaled Halaila continued to buy weapons, bullets and protective vests in order to be used by the members of the squad when carrying out the attacks, as part of the preparation for carrying them out, which he kept in his home until the day of his arrest. Muhammad Khaled Halaila and Muhammad Yosef Halaila talked about possible places to carry out the attacks near Haifa, placing a bomb and detonating it on a bus carrying soldiers or shooting at soldiers sitting on the bus. The accused discussed photographing the Rafael weapons factory and sending the photo to Hamas operatives in order to fire rockets at the place, and also discussed the possibility of hitting a lightning pole located in Sakhnin in order to damage the state's infrastructure. Promotion Picturea and produced 30 Molotov cocktails in order to set them on fire and throw them at Kibbutz Eshbal. The next day, Ali Khalil joined them, and the five went out on foot toward the settlement, throwing Molotov cocktails.

3.10. 24 – Su

Dozens of Hezbollah rocket barrages pummel Upper Galilee Sunday morning

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Dozens of Hezbollah rockets pummel northern Israel

Terror group claims responsibility for attack, saying fired 'dozens of Katyusha rockets' in response 'Israeli attacks on villages and civilian homes in southern Lebanon'; over 35 rockets reportedly fired in one of several rocket volleys

Lior Ben Ari|03:01

Heavy consecutive rocket barrages were fired from southern Lebanon toward around a dozen Upper Galilee communities in northern Israel Sunday morning.

Rocket warning signs were activated in Meron, Bar Yochai, Merom Galil Regional Center, Kfar Shamai, Jish - Gush Halav, Tzivon, Bar'am, Safsufa - Kfar Hoshen, Or HaGanuz, Kerem Ben Zimra and Dovev.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, stating it fired "dozens of Katyusha rockets... in response to the Israeli attacks on southern villages and civilian homes in southern Lebanon," citing an attack on a house in Khirbet Selm that, according to the terrorist group, resulted in a family's death on Saturday night.

Al Jazeera reported that at least 36 rockets were fired from southern Lebanon in one of the barrages "toward Israeli military outposts."

Shortly after the barrage on Upper Galilee, Lebanese media reported artillery fire hitting the southern Lebanon towns of Hebbariyeh and Kunin.

The IDF said it identified some 35 rocket launches from Lebanon toward Israeli territory and several were intercepted by air defenses.

The army added that IDF fighter jets struck Hezbollah terrorist infrastructure in Aya ash Shab, an anti-tank missile launch post in Maroun El Ras and a military site in which Hezbollah terrorists were identified in Khirbet Selm.

3.08. 24 – Fr

US building a port in Gaza: Israel considers buying Cyprus port as inspection checkpoint

3.08. 24 – Fr

Following US talks of building a port in Gaza: Israel considers buying Cypriot port

The port under consideration could potentially safeguard Israel's import of goods in case security risks arise at the Haifa port; If the acquisition does proceed, this port could also act as a checkpoint for inspecting goods prior to their arrival at the upcoming US-built port located on the Gaza coastline

Itamar Eichner, Roi Rubinstein|| 15:22

On Saturday evening, Israel's Ministry of Transport announced that an Israeli delegation, led by Uzi Yitzhaki, the chairman of the Israel Ports Company, will depart for Cyprus on Monday. Under the guidance of Transport Minister Miri Regev, this delegation will explore the potential purchase of one of the island's ports. This initiative is part of Israel's efforts to find maritime solutions for the supply of goods to the country, particularly in response to national security scenarios and challenges related to maritime logistics.

The idea, which was proposed by the Ministry of Transport, has received approval from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The estimated cost of such a purchase is around \$140 million, and it's understood that the Cypriots are interested in the proposal. However, this is just the initial stage of the process. The idea will only be thoroughly examined by the National Security Council and brought to government approval once negotiations have progressed.

Starting next week, a team will begin working on addressing a number of problems and formulating strategic solutions. It's estimated both in Israel and internationally that it will take five years to rehabilitate the Gaza Strip following the war. During this period,

humanitarian supplies to the Strip will be routed through a US-established port in Gaza, as promised by President Joe Biden in his State of the Union address earlier this week. The purchase of the port in Cyprus would allow Israel to control security arrangements, enabling them to conduct security checks on any goods arriving in the Strip via the sea. If the purchase goes ahead, until the American port in Gaza is established, goods will be transferred to the port of Ashdod and then transported by road to the Strip.

However, the potential purchase of the port is not solely related to the Gaza situation. It's also a response to Israeli concerns about a potential conflict from the north, where Hezbollah may attempt to target the port of Haifa. In such a scenario, cargo ships transporting goods to Israel would sail from the port in Cyprus to one of Israel's southern ports in Ashdod or Eilat.

Looking at the bigger picture, the port purchase could also serve as a crucial part of the Peace Railway project, a concept that both Israel and the United States continue to support. In the future, goods arriving from India to Israel could potentially be transported from Israel's ports to Cyprus, and from there to destinations across Europe.

3.08. 24 – Fr

Families of hostages, Oct. 7 survivors file lawsuit against UNRWA-USA's donor

3.08. 24 – Fr

Families of hostages, Oct. 7 survivors file lawsuit against major UNRWA donor

In filing with Delaware court, plaintiffs allege UNRWA-USA's contributions indirectly supported Hamas attack, citing links between UN Palestinian relief agency and terror group

Daniel Edelson, New York | 10:11

Survivors of the October 7 Hamas massacre and families of hostages abducted to Gaza by the terrorist group filed a lawsuit with a U.S. court against a major UNRWA donor, claiming its contributions indirectly supported the murderous attack.

Nonprofit organizations generally do good work... But on some very rare occasions, a nonprofit organization finances an international terrorist plot that kills over 1,200 innocent people. This case involves one of those rare occasions," the plaintiffs, represented by the National Jewish Advocacy Center (NJAC), argued in a filing with a Delaware court against UNRWA-USA, the largest private donor in the United States to the United Nations' Palestinian relief agency.

Over the past year, UNRWA-USA has transferred about \$3.8 million to the agency, including over \$600,000 for UNRWA's education system, which the lawsuit claims "glorifies and teaches terrorism."

The lawsuit comes on the heels of similar actions taken against the Associated Press (AP) and the cryptocurrency exchange Binance.

UNRWA-USA has not responded to the lawsuit but said it will continue "its tireless efforts to help Palestine refugees in desperate need in Gaza. The need for international aid is more urgent than ever, and UNRWA has a critical role to play in providing it." UNRWA, which provides aid and essential services to Palestinian refugees in Gaza, the West Bank and across the region, has been in crisis since Israel accused 12 of its 13,000 staff in Gaza of involvement in the Oct. 7 attack on Israel that triggered the war in the Palestinian enclave.

The allegations prompted several countries, including the United States, to pause funding.

When the allegations emerged, UNRWA fired some staff members, saying it acted to protect the agency's ability to deliver humanitarian assistance, and an independent internal UN investigation was launched.

UNRWA runs schools, healthcare clinics and other social services in Gaza, and distributes humanitarian aid. The UN has said some 3,000 members of staff are still working to deliver aid in the enclave.

3.08. 24 – Fr

West Bank settlement shooting & bomb-throwing attack wounded 4 near IDF checkpoint

3.08. 24 – Fr

4 wounded in West Bank bomb attack

Attackers open fire before detonating explosive device near West Bank settlement of Homesh; 2 airlifted to hospital, others treated on-scene
Elisha Ben Kimon|09:35

Four people were wounded in a bomb-throwing attack near the West Bank settlement of Homesh, with attackers opening fire close to the area before detonating an explosive device.

The incident took place on the route from Shavei Shomron to Homesh, an area surrounded by IDF checkpoints and barriers.

The explosive was thrown during a proactive IDF operation in Silat. Two of the injured were airlifted to Rabin Medical Center in Petah Tikva, while the other two were treated at the scene.

The perpetrators fled the scene and the IDF launched search operations. The condition of the wounded remains uncertain. Smoke was seen rising from Silat in footage circulated, purportedly at the moment of the explosion.

3.08. 24 – Fr

Americans in IDF form ' Hamas Hunting Club,' using demeaning photos of detainees

3.08. 24 – Fr

Americans serving in IDF form ' Hamas Hunting Club,' draw condemnation

Group posts humiliating images of suspected terrorists detained in Gaza, sell patches showing the skull of a Hamas terrorist crushed under boot; IDF says conduct contradicts military value

Elisha Ben Kimon|06:37

A group of American citizens who serve in the IDF has gained world notoriety on social media and now in international press reports after posting demeaning photographs of detainees in Gaza. The group calling themselves " Hamas Hunting Club " posted pictures of suspected terrorists detained by the IDF in Gaza, with their eyes covered and their hands bound, according to a report in the Daily Mail.

In their photos on Instagram as group members pose with them. Members of the group also displayed patches they prepared with the words: " happy hunting " on them, they showed munitions with the writing " send nudes " on them.

The Daily Mail said some of the members, who have dual Israeli-American citizenship avoided revealing their identifies while others posted pictures of themselves without any hesitation. They said group members have previously been investigated after footage of them humiliating Palestinian detainees was shared to social media.

In incident, an IDF reservist was discharged after he was filmed abusing seven Palestinian laborers from near Hebron on the West Bank after they were caught attempting to enter Israel without a permit, according to the report.

The IDF said in response that such an organization contradicts the values of the military and it considered reprehensible.

3.08. 24 – Fr

US, UK, France circumvent UN chief to submit Patten report on Hamas sex crimes

3.08. 24 – Fr

US, UK, France call for UN Security Council session on Hamas sex crimes

Israeli officials believe UN chief Guterres won't call council meeting, will try to appeal to member states with authority to present Patten report and issue condemnation of Hamas instead

Itamar Eichner|05:14

The U.S. Britain and France called for an official meeting of the UN Security Council to be summoned over Hamas sexual crimes during the October 7 massacre. The call came after Israel appealed to the eight members of the council after the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten released her report detailing some of the atrocities, last week.

In a statement, the Foreign Ministry said the three-member states asked that Patten's report be submitted to the council.

Foreign Minister Israel Katz said he expects other countries to join in the request for the general council's session and to issue a clear condemnation of the Hamas crimes and an unequivocal call for the immediate release of all hostages.

Israeli officials believe UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres will not summon the security council and are therefore trying to circumvent him by appealing directly to member states who have the authority to do so. Israel hopes this would lead to the UN officially recognizing Hamas as a terror organization, something the international body has thus far avoided.

In her 24-page report, Patten concluded that during the massacre, rapes, group rapes, necrophilia and genital mutilation were carried out by the Hamas terrorists. She also said there was sufficient evidence to believe that the hostages still held captive by Hamas are subjected to more sexual crimes.

3.08. 24 – Fr

Biden “State-of-Union” announced US building a Gaza pier to receive large aid ships

3.08. 24 – Fr

Biden announces a pier to provide aid into Gaza

President tells Israel humanitarian aid cannot be a bargaining chip and it must do more; says Hamas can end war by releasing hostages and calls for a two-state solution
Tzippy Shmilovitz, New York, Agencies|00:15

U.S. President Joe Biden announced his plan to increase delivery of aid to Gaza through the sea, by building a pier off on the shores of the Strip.

" Tonight, I'm directing the U.S. military to lead an emergency mission to establish a temporary pier in the Mediterranean on the Gaza coast that can receive large ships carrying food, water, medicine and temporary shelters," he said adding no U.S. boots would be on the ground. "This temporary pier would enable a massive increase in the amount of humanitarian assistance getting into Gaza every day."

But the president said Israel must do more. "Israel must allow more aid into Gaza and ensure that humanitarian workers aren't caught in the cross fire. To the leadership of Israel I say this. Humanitarian assistance cannot be a secondary consideration or a bargaining chip. Protecting and saving innocent lives has to be a priority.

Biden invited families of some who are held among the hostages abducted by Hamas to Gaza during the October 7 massacre, with them was Mia Schem who was freed in November.

"We've been working non-stop to establish an immediate **cease fire** that would last **for at least six weeks**. It **would get the hostages home**, ease the intolerable humanitarian crisis, and build toward something more enduring," Biden said.

Israel has a right to go after Hamas," Biden said. "Hamas could end this conflict today by releasing the hostages, laying down arms, and surrendering those responsible for October 7th. Israel has an added burden because Hamas hides and operates among the civilian population. But Israel also has a fundamental **responsibility to protect innocent civilians in Gaza.**"

The **president** repeated **his call for a two-state solution** to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. "As we look to the future, the only real solution is a two-state solution. I say this as a lifelong supporter of Israel and the only American president to visit Israel in wartime. There is no other path that **guarantees Israel's security** and democracy. There is no other path that guarantees Palestinians can live with peace and dignity. There is no other path that guarantees peace between Israel and all of its Arab neighbors, including Saudi Arabia."

The greater part of his speech however was devoted to domestic matters including the economy which he said had improved under his administration. He specifically **targeted his supposed rival in the 2024** November presidential **race**, former president Donald Trump who increased the American deficit by providing tax cuts to the very rich. He called on Trump to join him in protecting freedom around the world by providing aid to **Ukraine** which in its **war is preventing Russian** President Vladimir Putin **from invading more European countries**. Unlike Trump Biden hailed the NATO alliance which he said was the strongest military alliance the world has ever known.

Biden went after Trump for preventing a solution to the crisis on the U.S. southern border and for continuing his efforts to subvert elections. "Not since President Lincoln and the Civil War have freedom and **democracy** been **under assault** here at home as they are today. What makes our moment rare is that freedom and democracy are under attack, both at home and overseas, at the very same time," he said.

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Ynet-News, March 07, 2023 – Thursday

Note: Israel LEAP YEAR Adar-2 this year moves Pesach to April 22

Possible **Abomination Days** are **April 7 & June 20, 2024**

Ramadan start March 11 – Ends April 10, Pesach Mar 23-31 move Pesach to April 22

3.07. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in March 07 spot – Thursday
US considering banning use of its weapons in IDF Rafah operation

3.06. 24 – We- - - News Placed in March 06 spot – Wednesday
Germany & US disappointed over Israel approval of 3,000 settlement housing units

3.05. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in March 05 spot – Tuesday

No restrictions on Arab visits to Temple during Ramadan; Ben-Gvir demanded a limit

3.05. 24 – Tu- - - News – Tuesday

Cost of war: 151 days, 1,469 dead, tens of thousands of victims of terror

3.04. 24 – Mo- - - News Placed in March 04 spot – Monday

WB cell planning attacks on IDF, leads to restrict access to Mosque during holiday

3.04. 24 – Mo- - - News – Monday

With Sinwar incommunicado, mediators warn hostage deal could be delayed

3.03. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

No Israeli delegation in Cairo; No hostage deal without names of live ones

3.03. 24 – Su- - - News – Sunday

Israel, US come to heads over sanctioning a list of Hamas charities

3.03. 24 – Su- - - News Placed in March 03 spot – Sunday

IDF Khan Younis siege of 50 airstrikes in 6 minutes preparing ground troop assault

3.02. 24 – Sa- - - News Placed in March 02 spot – Saturday

US C-130 airdrop dropped 66 bundles of aid into Gaza, coordinated with Jordan

3.01. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday

Gantz pushes hostage deal to Biden without Knesset approval; Israel has only one PM

3.01. 24 – Fr- - - News – Friday

Israel's Knesset approves move to adopt EU sample-based inspection on imports

3.01. 24 – Fr- - - News Placed in March 01 spot – Friday

IDF drone video show Gazans ambush 38 aid trucks, stampede caused 100+ deaths

2.29. 24 – Th- - - News Placed in February 29 – Thursday Calendar Leap Year

2.28. 24 – We- - - News – Wednesday

At least two Hezbollah operatives killed in Damascus strike

2.28. 24 – We- - - News Placed in February 28 spot – Wednesday

Gazans protest food costs amid Hamas merchants selling aid

2.27. 24 – Tu- - - News Placed in February 27 spot – Tuesday

IDF chief says Hezbollah 'will pay very heavy price' after rockets strike strategic base