

Ynet-News, March 08, 2021 – Monday

03.08.21 – Mo - - -

Iran Shi'ite & Quds revenge blast outside Israeli embassy in New Delhi India  
January 29

03.07.21 – Su - - - News Placed in Mar 06 spot – Saturday

Brazil breaks ICC probe to assert efforts on Abraham Accords & nuclear Iran

03.07.21 – Su - - - News Placed in Mar 07 spot – Sunday

Two US B-52s warned Iran accompanied by Israel, Saudi Arabia & Qatar

03.08.21 – Mo - - - News Placed in Mar 08 spot – Monday

CDC allows cities and states to lift restrictions on 9.2% that are fully inoculated

03.08.21 News of January 29

Iran Shi'ite & Quds revenge blast outside Israeli embassy in New Delhi India

03.08.21

Report: India believes Iran behind blast outside Israeli embassy in New Delhi

Hindustan Times says investigation by Indian officials revealed the terrorists are part of a Shi'ite cell aided by Tehran's Quds Force; investigators found letter addressed to Israeli envoy in India, threatening revenge for killing of Iranian officials

Ynet, i24NEWS | Published: 03.08.21 , 10:05

India believes Iran is behind the explosion outside of the Israeli embassy in New Delhi in late January, according to a report in an Indian English-language daily newspaper on Sunday.

On January 29, a "low density" bomb exploded in front of the embassy, causing damage to several vehicles but not wounding anyone. The explosion occurred on the 29th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Jerusalem and New Delhi, raising suspicions.

The Hindustan Times reported the investigation by India's counterterrorism agencies concluded the attack was engineered by the Islamic State's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' Quds Force and carried out by a local Shi'ite cell, with the explosive device detonated by remote control.

According to Indian security officials, the blast was carried out in revenge for the death of several Iranian officials in alleged Israeli and U.S. operations over the past year.

Indian investigators found a letter addressed to Israel's Ambassador to India Ron Malka, who the note labeled a "terrorist in a terrorist nation," threatening revenge for the U.S.

killing of top Iranian commander Qassem Soleimani and alleged Israeli assassination of Iranian nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh November 2020.

According to the report, quoting sources familiar with the investigation, the terrorists left "evidence" apparently pointing to Islamic State's involvement in the incident in order to confuse officials.

"The fact that the bomb was not of high intensity, with no human targets in mind, was perhaps because the Iranians did not want to run afoul of a friendly nation like India. But the message was clear and the threat is real," an unnamed expert told the outlet.

The paper also said that Indian investigators were aided in the probe by Mossad officials. I24NEWS contributed to this report

03.07.21

Brazil breaks ICC probe to assert efforts on Abraham Accords & nuclear Iran

03.07.21

Israel praises Brazil for steadfast support against ICC war-crimes probe

In meeting with Brazilian counterpart, FM Ashkenazi reiterates condemnation of ICC decision which 'violates international law and distances the possibility to advance negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians'

i24NEWS| Published: 03.07.21 , 19:43

Foreign Minister Gabi Ashkenazi thanked Brazil on Sunday for its support of Israel as the International Criminal Court decided to launch a war-crimes probe against the Jewish state.

"Israel is thankful for Brazil's steadfast position against the International Criminal Court's (ICC) decision to launch a [war crimes] probe [against the Jewish state]," Ashkenazi told his Brazilian counterpart, Ernesto Araujo, during a meeting with a Brazilian diplomatic delegation in Jerusalem.

"It is a decision that violates international law and distances the possibility to advance negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians."

Last week, ICC Chief Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda announced she had opened a formal probe into alleged war crimes in the Palestinian territories, consisting of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

The decision led to a stinging backlash from the Israeli establishment, with officials urging allies around the world to exert diplomatic pressure against the ICC.

Ashkenazi and Araujo further discussed Middle East developments, with the former IDF chief stipulating landmark changes that have taken place after four Arab nations — the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco — have signed U.S.-brokered peace agreements with Israel, dubbed the Abraham Accords.

Ashkenazi warned of increasing Iranian efforts in recent days to destabilize the region.

“We clearly identify Iran’s fingerprints in recent attempts to harm Israeli targets around the world. The international community must ensure that Iran ceases its efforts to reach the threshold of military nuclear technology and fulfills its commitments to the last detail,” Ashkenazi asserted. Reprinted with permission from i24NEWS.

03.07.21

Two US B-52s warned Iran accompanied by Israel, Saudi Arabia & Qatar

03.07.21

IAF joins U.S. B-52s in aerial warning to Iran

U.S. Army's Central Command says the two heavy bombers were also accompanied by military aircraft from Saudi Arabia and Qatar as they carried out fourth such deployment this year and second since Biden took office

Associated Press| Published: 03.07.21 , 16:51

A pair of B-52 bombers flew over the Mideast on Sunday, the latest such mission in the region aimed at warning Iran amid tensions between Washington and Tehran.

The U.S. military's Central Command said the two B-52s flew over the region accompanied by military aircraft from nations including Israel, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. It marked the fourth-such bomber deployment into the Mideast this year and the second under President Joe Biden.

Flight-tracking data showed the two B-52s flew out of Minot Air Base in North Dakota, something Central Command did not mention in its statement on the flights.

The military did not directly mention Iran in its statement, saying the flight was to “deter aggression and reassure partners and allies of the U.S. military’s commitment to security in the region.”

However, such flights had become common in the last months of former President Donald Trump’s administration. Trump’s 2018 decision to unilaterally withdraw from Iran’s nuclear deal with world powers sparked a series of escalating incidents in the region.

Biden has expressed a desire to return to the deal if Iran honors the deal’s limits on its nuclear program. However, tensions remain high after militias in Iraq — likely backed by Iran — continue to target American interests.

Biden last month launched an airstrike just over the border into Syria in retaliation, joining every American president from Ronald Reagan onward who has ordered a bombardment of countries in the Middle East.

03.08.21

CDC allows cities and states to lift restrictions on 9.2% that are fully inoculated

03.08.21

Fully vaccinated people can gather unmasked with others indoors, CDC says  
U.S. health agency allows meetings without face covering or social distancing, but stresses need to keep masks on in public, avoid large gatherings as growing swathes of the population are immunized against the pathogen  
Reuters| Published: 03.08.21 , 20:29

Individuals fully inoculated against COVID-19 can meet in small groups with other vaccinated people without wearing masks, but should keep wearing them outside the home, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said on Monday.

CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said during a briefing that the agency's new guidance for fully vaccinated individuals stipulated that they can also visit with unvaccinated, low-risk people from one other household without masks.

The CDC advised fully vaccinated people that they should continue with many precautions such as avoiding medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings, wearing masks when visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple households or wearing masks when with people who are at risk for severe COVID-19.

"It's important to realize... that still over 90 percent of the population is not yet vaccinated, and that is our responsibility to make sure, in the context of 60,000 new cases a day, that we protect those who remain unvaccinated and vulnerable," Walensky said. The public health guidelines address how vaccinated people can safely resume some more normal activities and contacts with those outside their households while the coronavirus is still widely circulating.

The recommendations come as about 30 million people, or 9.2% of the U.S. population, have been fully inoculated with COVID-19 vaccines made by Pfizer Inc/ BioNTech SE, Moderna Inc and Johnson & Johnson, according to CDC data.

Nearly 18% of the U.S. population, or 58.9 million adults, had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

Currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines prevent people from becoming ill but not necessarily from being infected. Data on whether vaccinated people can still spread the virus to unprotected people is sparse.

The CDC previously recommended that people should wear masks at all times when unable to remain at least six feet (1.83 m) apart from others, or at all times indoors other than in their own homes.

The CDC last month advised that individuals who had been vaccinated within three months could skip the standard 14-day quarantine after exposure to someone with COVID-19, as long as they remain asymptomatic.

Some cities and states have begun lifting pandemic restrictions in recent weeks against the advice of public health experts, who say the measures should remain until many more people get vaccinated with case numbers still high and more contagious virus variants becoming prevalent in much of the country.