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07.22.22
IDF missile strike on Damascus offices, airfield & Iranian weapons warehouses

07.22.22
Israeli attack on Syria's Damascus kills three -Syrian state media
Syrian opposition group says attack targeted Syrian air force sites including intelligence
offices and the bureau of a senior officer, a nearby military airfield and warehouses
holding Iranian weapons

Liad Osmo,agencies| Published: 07.22.22, 07:56

Israel launched airstrikes targeting Syrian military positions around Damascus overnight, killing three soldiers, wounding seven others, and causing material damage, state media reported Thursday.

Syrian state media quoted a military official as saying the missiles were fired from the Golan Heights just past midnight, adding that the Syrian army was able to shoot down some of the missiles with air defense missiles.

The UK based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Syrian opposition group said that sounds of explosions, which were heard in the capital were from the Syrian air defenses activated during the strike.

The rights group said the targets of the attack were military sites including the Syria air force intelligence offices and the office of a senior officer.

In addition, the group said that a nearby military airfield and a warehouse containing Iranian weapons were also hit.

Israel has made hundreds of strikes on targets inside government-controlled parts of Syria over the past decade of its civil war, but rarely acknowledges or discusses such operations.

Israel has acknowledged, however, that it targets bases of Iran-allied militias, such as Lebanon's Hezbollah that fights on the side of Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces. In June, Israeli airstrikes temporarily put Damascus International Airport out of commission.

07.21.22

Senior Iran chief interrogated by Israel Mossad in Iran, then released in EU

07.21.22

Senior IRGC caught and interrogated by Mossad in Iran, report says

Saudi backed, UK based Iran International says Yadollah Khedmati serves as the deputy chief of the head of the logistics department in the Revolutionary Guard Corps, provides information about arms shipments to Hezbollah and other proxies

Itamar Eichner | Published: 07.21.22, 19:50

A senior Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) member was caught and interrogated by the Mossad intelligence agency, Iran International reported on Thursday.

The Saudi-sponsored TV channel, broadcasting from London claims Yadollah Khedmati was captured by Mossad operatives and provided information about weapon shipments to Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and Yemen.

"A senior IRGC official named Yadollah Khedmati has been interrogated by Israel's Mossad in Iran and confessed to his role in sending weapons to other countries," said the post published on Twitter.

According to the report, the interrogation of the senior IRGC member led to the grounding of an Iranian Plane in Argentina last month, in suspicion of possible links to the IRGC.

The report claimed Khedmati serves as the deputy chief of the head of the logistics department in the Revolutionary Guard Corps Ali Asghar Norouzi who is behind the Iranian arms transfers to Hezbollah.

The mechanism for transferring the weapons to Iran's proxies is even called the "Norouzi mechanism", after him.

In a video that was published in the Iranian media, Khedmati said: "My name is Yadollah Khedmati and I work for the logistics department of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps under the command of Norouzi."

"Norouzi is the man behind all the transfers of missiles, weapons, or drones from the logistics department of the IRGC to neighboring countries and Hezbollah - and I work in Norouzi's office and very much regret what I'm doing. I shouldn't have done that, and I recommend all my coworkers to stop as well," he said.

The alleged interrogation follows a similar reported incident in which Mossad had reportedly interrogated Mansour Rasouli, a member of the IRGC who was tasked with killing an Israeli diplomat in Turkey, an American general in Germany, and a French journalist.

Mansour Rasouli, Interrogated for his role in IRGC assassination plot against Israeli, American and French targets

A recording of his investigation showed the man described his assignment and the payment, he had been promised for planning the assassination and later for their executions.

According to the reports, after his interrogation, he was released and is now residing in Europe.

07.21.22

Israel top court allows revoke of citizenship for terror, treason or espionage

07.21.22

Israel's top court says state may revoke citizenship of terror convicts

Ruling says 'no constitutional fault' in arrangement that would facilitate revocation of citizenship of a person who 'committed acts that constitute breach of trust against the State of Israel'

Yoram Yarkoni | Published: 07.21.22, 15:35

The Supreme Court ruled on Thursday that the state may revoke the citizenship of those convicted of terrorism, treason or serious espionage.

The Supreme Court ruling stated that "there was no constitutional fault in an arrangement that would facilitate the revocation of citizenship of a person who committed acts that constitute breach of trust against the State of Israel, such as an act of terrorism, an act of treason or serious espionage, or acquisition of citizenship for permanent residency in a hostile nation or hostile territory".

The ruling came in response to the first two requests of their kind for the denial of citizenship, which were submitted by the interior minister, and concern two terrorists who were convicted and sentenced to long prison terms.

The terrorists Muhammad Mafaraja, who planted an explosive device on a bus in Tel Aviv in 2012 and injured 24 people, and Alaa Ziad, who carried out a stabbing attack at the Gan Shmuel Junction and injured four people in 2015, will now lose their Israeli citizenship.

Finance Minister Avigdor Liberman welcomed the decision, saying that "justice has finally been done. The situation in which terrorists responsible for brutal acts of terrorism hold Israeli citizenship is untenable, and the court did well to stop this absurdity. This is a significant step in eradicating terrorism in the State of Israel."

07.20.22

Lapid launches election campaign, vows to form unity government for future

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PM says voters must choose between past and future, between man looking out for his own interests, and those concerned with interests of country, in what appears to be a jab at former premier, Benjamin Netanyahu

Yuval Karni | Published: 07.20.22, 22:25

Prime Minister Yair Lapid on Wednesday launched his election campaign, announcing he would form a stable national unity government if elected in the November 1 ballot.

In an event held at his Yesh Atid party headquarters, and in light of the rising cost of living, the prime minister said Israel will not be a rich country with poor citizens.

"The voters are not asked to choose between me and Benjamin Netanyahu," Lapid said, "they must choose between the past and the future, between the man who thinks only of his own good and those who think about what is best for the country," he said.

"These elections were imposed on us, but they could be an opportunity to finally get out of the political stalemate. The lack of a stable government is causing economic and security damage. It is time to end this once and for all," he said.

"Israel is facing great challenges in the economy, in national security and in the spreading corruption. The last thing we need is yet another election. We must busy ourselves with what is really important to Israelis: a good living, security and the future of their children," Lapid said.

Lapid stands at the head of a caretaker government after the coalition he led with former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett lost its parliamentary majority last month and dissolved the Knesset, calling a snap election for November 1.

07.20.22

Settlers demonstration to establish outposts on West Bank opposed by Gantz

07.20.22

Settlers attempt to establish illegal outposts on West Bank

Police set up roadblocks to block efforts in what minister of public security says is criminal action by outlaws; dozens of families and hundreds of youth congregate in different locations as part of demonstration

Elisha Ben Kimon | Published: 07.20.22, 18:17

Settlers and peace activists clashed on Wednesday on the West Bank.

The settlers embarked on a demonstration of strength despite police and military efforts to prevent their actions, supported by religious nationalist rabbis, right-wing political activists and a successful fundraising effort.

Dozens of families and hundreds of youths joined to participate in the establishment of illegal outposts.

Police set up road blocks and closed a main highway leading into the West Bank, to prevent supporters of the settlement movement from arriving to the area.

"We want outposts with building that cannot be removed by authorities," said one settler.

"We want homes with families blessed with many children and gardens," she said.

Public Security Minister Omer Barlev said the group of "outlaws" is interfering in the ability of security forces to carry out their mission of protecting Israeli civilians, in the West Bank.

"Such criminal behavior will be met with a forceful response," he said.

Minister of Defense Benny Gantz, on Tuesday instructed officials to make clear to anyone intending to participate in the settlers' demonstration, that they will be taking part in an illegal action.

Far right Religious Zionism leader Bezael Smotrich said the government was allowing illegal construction when it is done by Palestinians on the West Bank. "Half the Israeli security forces are mobilized to prevent Jewish settlements," he said, likening the government to the British Mandate before the establishment of the state, which prevented Jews from entering and settling in then Palestine.

07.18.22

Israel's chief of staff to explore defense training Morocco visit

07.18.22

Israel's chief of staff to explore defense deals in first Morocco visit

IDF Spokesman Brigadier-General Ran Kochav tells Ynet among topics set to be discussed between Aviv Kochavi and his counterpart will be 'ability to train together in joint maneuvers, weapons development, transfer of know-how and weaponry'

Reuters, Ynet | Published: 07.18.22, 12:17

The chief of Israel's armed forces will visit Morocco on Monday in the highest-level public engagement between the countries, which upgraded ties in 2020 under a U.S. diplomatic drive.

While Lieutenant-General Aviv Kochavi's trip has been showcased by Israel as part of emerging defense cooperation with the North African country, Rabat has also been trying to broker improved conditions for the Palestinians.

"One of the subjects that will be discussed (in Morocco) this week will be knowledge-sharing, training - the ability to train together in joint maneuvers - weapons development, the transfer of know-how and perhaps also of weaponry," IDF Spokesman Brigadier-General Ran Kochav told Ynet.

There was no immediate comment from Rabat.

The Moroccan rapprochement with Israel followed its normalization deal with the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, pacts that Washington, seeking closer cooperation among its allies to offset a rising Iran, dubbed the "Abraham Accords".

Israel and Morocco established low-level relations in the 1990s but these had been suspended after a Palestinian uprising against Israel erupted in 2000. The upgrade of ties in 2020, which remains short of full normalization, has brought direct flights between the countries and a range of bilateral deals.

"Not everything is about security," Transportation Minister Merav Michaeli said in an interview about relations with Morocco. "There are wide interests that we have together and we share."

She credited Morocco with mediating a deal to permanently open a border crossing from Jordan to the West Bank that is important for Palestinian traffic, and said she was in talks with Rabat about other infrastructure projects.

"Morocco is the player that is able to bring everyone together, to soften everybody's hardships around whatever issue there is," Michaeli said. "They just have a way of speaking to everyone in a way that gets them around the table and gets them to cooperate."

The Israeli military said it hosted a Moroccan commando unit for a multi-nation exercise in July 2021, established direct military ties with Rabat in March 2022 and, last month, hosted Moroccan top brass to agree on a year-long joint work program.

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Ynet-News, July 17, 2022 – Sunday

07.17.22 – Su- - - News

IDF option against nuclear Iran 'a moral imperative' to acquire weapons

07.17.22 – Su- - - News Placed in July 17 spot – Sunday

Israel suspends 1,500 Palestinian work permits after rocket attack

07.16.22 – Sa- - - News

Four Hamas rockets fired; IDF hit a Gaza rocket manufacturing site

07.12.22 – Tu- - - News Placed in July 14 spot – Thursday

Nine EU states reject Israeli terrorist designation for PA blacklisted groups

07.12.22 – Tu- - - News Placed in July 12 spot – Tuesday

Gantz grants more PA work permits & legal status of 5,500 ahead of Biden visit

07.12.22 – Tu- - - News Placed in July 09 spot – Saturday

UNRWA teaches hate in PA schools with US funding; 30 PA schools, \$400 million

07.12.22 – Tu- - - News

Putin will visit Tehran next week preparing Iran UAVs against Ukraine

07.11.22 – Mo- - - News Placed in July 15 spot – Friday

Veterans volunteer to Magen project, civil defense organization to assist police