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## Israel's Operation Swords of Iron Update February 28, 2024

JINSA's [Israel at War](#) webpage is a dedicated resource for analysis, commentary, webinars, and media coverage about the 10/7 attacks and the ensuing Israel-Hamas conflict. JINSA will release the Swords of Iron Update on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. An update with the latest information and analysis about the war is below.

### Analysis

- In recent days, as Israel has launched its deepest strikes into Lebanon in the Hezbollah stronghold of the Beqaa Valley, Hezbollah has escalated its attacks into northern Israel by responding with larger barrages of missiles and rockets, on some days as many as 60 rockets.
  - » Amid ongoing negotiations to reach a ceasefire and hostage deal between Israel and Hamas and with Israel having degraded Hamas's ability in Gaza to launch attacks into Israeli territory, Hezbollah's escalation may be an attempt to pressure Israel into making concessions.
  - » As JINSA Policy Analyst Zac Schildcrout has [argued](#), the United States should support Israel's military operations geared toward compelling the terror group's retreat from the Israel-Lebanon border.

### Last 48 Hours

#### *Attacks Against Israel*

- At least 15,000 rockets, mortars, drones, and other projectiles have been fired at Israel from all fronts combined during the war, according to JINSA data.

#### **Gaza**

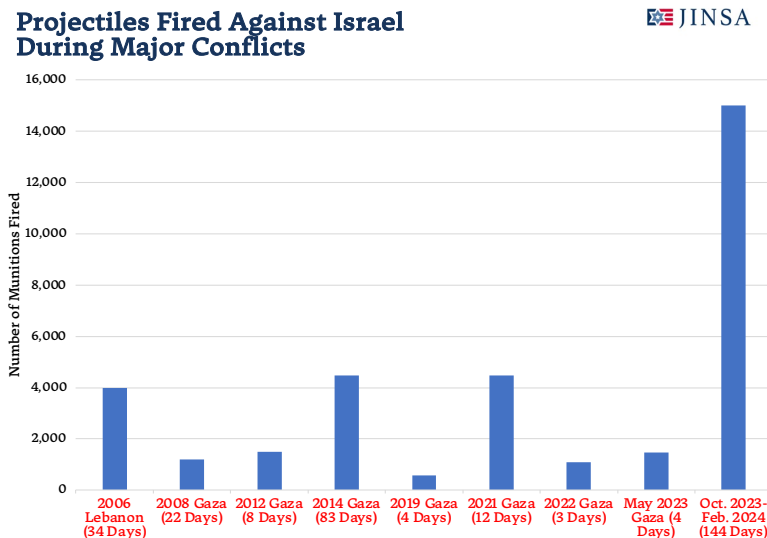
- Rockets struck [Ashkelon](#), and sirens sounded in [Kissufim, Re'im, Nahal Oz, and Alumim](#).
- On February 27, a large fragment of an intercepted rocket [struck](#) a vehicle in the southern Israeli city of Ashkelon, causing damage to the vehicle and no injuries. Palestinian Islamic Jihad claimed credit for the attack.
- Israel's Defense Minister Yoav Gallant [warned](#) the country's Central Command on February 27 that vigilance is needed to keep Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas from [exploiting](#) Ramadan to

initiate “the second stage of October 7, and ignite the ground.” He stressed that unity among military divisions is necessary to frustrate Hamas’s objectives and that prominent figures should refrain from speaking irresponsibly and stoking instability.

- According to a February 26 [report](#) in *The Times of Israel*, citing Israel’s *Channel 12*, roughly 600 IDF soldiers were guarding the Gaza border during Hamas’s October 7 massacre, enabling the approximately 3,000 terrorists to overpower the soldiers by rushing through roughly 60 “infiltration routes,” according to initial IDF findings in an investigation into the attack.
  - » The original [report](#) from *Channel 12* also alleged that the IDF’s Southern Command requested the night of October 6 that a number of combat helicopters be moved closer to the Israel-Gaza border in case “something happens.” The report states that the request was denied to avoid “burn[ing] intelligence sources.”

## Lebanon

- Rockets struck [Kiryat Shmona](#), and sirens sounded in [Margaliot](#), [Ortal](#), [Sha’al](#), [Shtula](#), and [other areas in northern Israel](#).
- On February 28, Hamas [said](#) that it targeted IDF bases close to the northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shmona with 40 Grad rockets from Lebanon, and one rocket of the 10 that entered Israel impacted one building but caused no injuries. Terrorists fired an additional four rockets toward Kiryat Shmona earlier, but inflicted no damage.
- According to a Reuters [report](#) on February 27, citing two sources familiar with Hezbollah’s thinking, the terrorist group would stop attacking Israel if Hamas agrees to a ceasefire. However, the sources indicated that Hezbollah’s attacks would continue even if a ceasefire were implemented if Israel continued striking Lebanon.
- On February 27, Hezbollah [said](#) that it struck an air traffic control base on Mount Meron in northern Israel with anti-tank missiles, and the IDF confirmed a missile impact on the base that did not cause “damage to the site’s capabilities.”
  - » Earlier that day, [reports](#) indicated that terrorists in Lebanon fired 35 rockets toward the base.
- On February 26, Hezbollah [said](#) in a statement that “in response to the Zionist aggression near the city of Baalbek” – referring to Israeli airstrikes against terrorist targets in Lebanon—the group bombarded an IDF base in the Golan Heights “with 60 Katyusha rockets.” No injuries were reported.



## *IDF Operations*

- Israel's *Makor Rishon* [reported](#) on February 26 that Israel will end its program of civilian defense units in most communities across Israel on February 29. Civilian defense units will reportedly remain active in a small number of locations in high-threat areas near Israel's borders.

## **Gaza**

- On February 28, the IDF [said](#) it had killed dozens of Hamas operatives over the past day, striking tunnel shafts, eight “significant targets” from which rockets were fired at Ashkelon the previous night, and several buildings in the southern Gazan city of Khan Younis where Hamas operatives were preparing to attack IDF troops. A five-man Hamas cell in a vehicle was also killed using a guided munition.
- On February 27, the IDF [conducted](#) strikes against several Hamas targets in central Gaza in response to earlier rocket attacks, including a command center, an apartment used to conduct ambush attacks against IDF troops, and a rocket launcher.
  - » Combat engineers operating with the IDF's Nahal Brigade destroyed dozens of military installations used by Hamas, and the Nahal Brigade eliminated several Hamas operatives.
- The IDF [continued](#) its large-scale operation in the Gaza City neighborhood of Zeitoun, raiding Hamas sites and eliminating Hamas operatives. Troops located a tunnel shaft where terrorists were hiding, a weapons depot, a weapons manufacturing plant, rocket launchers, and other weapons systems used against IDF forces.
- The IDF's 7th Armored Brigade and Paratroopers Brigade [continued](#) operations in Khan Younis, killing several Hamas gunmen.
  - » Troops also captured several Hamas operatives who attempted to hide among civilians during a civilian evacuation.
  - » The IDF's Givati Brigade operated in eastern Khan Younis, clearing areas of Hamas infrastructure, including areas close to the Israeli border.
- *The Washington Post* [reported](#) on February 26 that although the IDF believes that Hamas leader in Gaza Yahya Sinwar is hiding in the terror group's tunnel network below Khan Younis, he is keeping hostages nearby to impede any Israeli efforts to assassinate him.
  - » An unnamed senior Israeli official told the *Post*, “it's not about locating him, it's about doing something” while avoiding harm to hostages.
- On February 26, the IDF [said](#) that it located underground tunnels that stretched six miles and linked northern and southern Gaza. According to the IDF, the tunnels ran underneath the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital and Al-Israa University. Nahal Brigade soldiers, combat engineers, and Yahalom unit soldiers destroyed much of the tunnel complex.
- On February 26, Israel [submitted](#) a report to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that documents steps Israel has taken to abide by the court's provisional measures issued in January.
  - » The provisional measures [instructed](#) Israel to “prevent and punish the direct and public incitement to commit genocide;” “enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance to address the adverse conditions of life faced by Palestinians in the Gaza Strip;” and “prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence” relevant to genocide.

## Lebanon

- On February 28, the IDF [carried out airstrikes](#) against a number of Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon, including military compounds and facilities in Beit Lif, Khirbet Selm, Seddiqine, and Tayibe. The IDF also conducted strikes against a Hezbollah terror cell in the town of Ayta ash Shab.
- On February 27, the IDF [responded](#) to the attack against an air traffic control base on Mount Meron and an earlier salvo of 20 rockets targeting the Western Galilee by striking Hezbollah targets in Lebanon. The IDF [struck](#) targets in Jibchit, Mansouri, and other southern Lebanese towns with fighter jets, and it fired artillery toward a target in Yaroun to “remove a threat.”
- On February 26, the IDF [said](#) that it killed Hassan Hussein Salami, a Hezbollah brigade-level commander, in an airstrike against his car as he drove through Majadel in southern Lebanon. The IDF also said that Salami helped orchestrate anti-tank missile attacks against military and civilian targets in Israel.
- The IDF [said](#) on February 26 that it responded to Hezbollah’s 60-rocket barrage against a military base in the Golan Heights with strikes against Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon, including the site in Kawkaba from which Hezbollah’s attack was launched. The military also said that it launched tank fire toward a building that Hezbollah used in Kafr Kila that day.

## West Bank

- Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) operative who commanded PIJ’s Tubas Battalion, in a raid near the town of Tubas. According to Palestinian media reports, two other terror operatives were killed in the raid.
- On February 27, IDF forces [conducted](#) raids throughout the West Bank, arresting 14 terror suspects and seizing improvised explosive devices and firearms.

## Humanitarian Efforts

- On February 28, the IDF [said](#) that it worked with other countries to implement air drops of 160 packages of humanitarian aid to 17 areas in Gaza, as well as food, medical supplies, and fuel to a Khan Younis-based Jordanian field hospital. U.S., Egyptian, Emirati, French, and Jordanian pilots carried out the operations.
- Israel’s Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) [wrote](#) on X on February 28 that “overnight, (Feb 28.) a convoy of 31 trucks carrying food made its way to [the] northern Gaza Strip. Over the last 3 days, close to 50 trucks were transferred to the northern Gaza Strip. There is no limit to the amount of humanitarian aid for the civilians in Gaza.”
- On February 27, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Samantha Power [announced](#) that the agency will provide civilians in Gaza and the West Bank with \$53 million in additional humanitarian aid, bringing the total for such U.S. contributions since October 7 to over \$180 million.
  - » The funds will bolster organizations such as the World Food Program (WFP) and other NGOs, enhancing their ability to distribute “food, health, nutrition, shelter, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance.”

- Israel's *Israel Hayom* [reported](#) on February 26, citing an Israeli security source, that Israel has “significantly reduced the scope of aid distributed through UNRWA [the United Nations Relief and Works Agency].”
  - » According to the report, “the shift is not coincidental and reflects Israel's desire to reduce UNRWA's role in managing civilian life in the Gaza Strip as much as possible.” The report notes that the move “comes against the backdrop of mounting evidence showing UNRWA employees were active participants in the Oct. 7 atrocities.”
  - » The report states, citing figures obtained from Israel's COGAT agency, that 52% of the aid entering Gaza is delivered to the UN World Food Program, 34% is delivered to UNRWA, and the rest is delivered by other aid organizations.
- During a February 26 meeting with families of Israeli hostages still held captive in Gaza, Israel's Defense Minister Yoav Gallant [said](#), “the full return of civilians to the northern area of the Gaza strip will only take place following the return of all the hostages.”
  - » He added, “as I have said repeatedly since day one, we have no moral right to stop the fighting as long as we have even a single hostage in Gaza. This position has not and will not change. Even if we achieve a framework that requires a temporary ceasefire, we will then return to fighting, in order to destroy the Hamas terrorist organization and to return all the hostages.”
- On February 26, Israel's *Channel 12* [reported](#) that Jordan attempted four airdrops of humanitarian aid across the Gaza Strip, but a significant portion of the aid fell into the Mediterranean Sea. According to the report, which cited local Gazan residents, many Gazans rushed into the sea to try to secure the relief packages.

#### *Ceasefire and Hostage Negotiations*

- On February 28, Israel's *Army Radio* reported that Hamas had [rejected](#) a U.S. ceasefire proposal, calling it a “Zionist document.” According to the report, Hamas objected to the proposal not ending the war, not including an Israeli agreement to allow all internally displaced residents to return to northern Gaza, and including the release of too few Palestinian security prisoners in exchange for Israeli hostages.
  - » *The Washington Post's* David Ignatius [wrote](#) on February 25 that CIA Director William Burns proposed a plan on February 23 during hostage deal negotiations to Israeli, Qatari, and Egyptian envoys in Paris. The plan proposed freeing 40 mostly female and elderly male Israeli hostages in exchange for a minimum of a 40-day fighting pause and more humanitarian aid to Gaza.
    - The plan included three phases: increasing aid to Gaza and working to reconstruct destroyed infrastructure, allowing Palestinians to return to their homes during the fighting pause, and releasing Palestinians in Israeli prisons in exchange for hostages held in Gaza.
    - Israel's *Channel 12* [reported](#) on February 27 that during hostage release negotiations in Paris, the United States proposed the release of 400 Palestinian prisoners for 40 Israeli hostages during a six-week fighting pause.
- During a recorded video released on February 28, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh [claimed](#) that the terrorist group has shown flexibility during the negotiations but that it is still prepared to fight and called on Iran's “Axis of Resistance” proxies to escalate their attacks against Israel.

- On February 26, President Biden [indicated](#) that he thought a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas could be in place “by next Monday [March 4].”
- On February 26, Israeli outlets *Channel 12* and *Kan* [cited](#) an unnamed senior Israeli official who said that Hamas’s demands do not align with the proposals that U.S., Egyptian, and Qatari mediators in Paris put together. The former outlet cited Mossad director David Barnea, who said that a deal will not materialize if Israel does not substantially augment the quantity of aid entering Gaza.
  - » In addition, the Israeli outlet *Ynet* reported that according to Israeli officials, “there is no progress at the moment,” and “there are very big gaps between the sides and [mediators] are trying to bridge them. We continue to work to achieve a result.”
- According to a *New York Times* report on February 26, Israeli officials privately [agreed](#) to a U.S. proposal that would involve the release of 5 female Israeli soldier hostages in exchange for 15 high-profile Palestinian prisoners who were convicted of major terrorism charges.

### *Post-War Planning*

- On February 28, Russian state-owned media [reported](#) that representatives of Hamas and Fatah will meet tomorrow in Moscow to discuss the formation of a unified government and the rebuilding of Gaza.
- On February 26, Nabil Abu Rudeineh, the Palestinian Authority’s information chief, [criticized](#) Prime Minister Netanyahu’s plan for post-war Gaza, which he described as the mass destruction of “Palestinian brethren in Gaza” and an attempt to “exile the Palestinians.”

### *Casualties and Hostages*

- Over 1,200 people were [killed](#) in Israel, and 13,000 Israelis have been [injured](#) in the war.
  - » 582 Israeli soldiers have been [killed](#).
    - 242 IDF soldiers have been [killed](#) during ground combat in Gaza so far.
    - The IDF [announced](#) the deaths of Maj. Iftah Shahr, 25, from Moshav Paran, and Cpt. Itai Seif, 24, from Yeruham.
  - » Numerous foreign nationals have been killed in the war, including at least 33 [American](#) nationals, 34 [Thai](#) nationals, 39 [French](#) nationals, 19 [Russian](#) nationals, 12 [British](#) nationals, 10 [Nepalese](#) nationals, 9 [Argentinian](#) nationals, 6 [Canadian](#) nationals, 4 [Philippines](#) nationals, 4 [Austrian](#) nationals, 4 [Romanian](#) nationals, 4 [Portuguese](#) nationals, 4 [Chinese](#) nationals, 3 [Brazilian](#) nationals, 3 [Belarusian](#) nationals, 3 [Italian](#) nationals, 3 [Peruvian](#) nationals, a [Cambodian](#) national, a [Chilean](#) national, an [Irish](#) national, a [Spanish](#) national, an [Australian](#) national, an [Azeri](#) national, a [Honduran](#) national, a [Swiss](#) national, a [Tanzanian](#) national, and a [Turkish](#) national.
- According to unverified figures from the Hamas-controlled Gaza Health Ministry, at least 29,954 people have been [killed](#) in Gaza, and 70,352 have been injured during the war.
  - » On October 25, 2023, President Biden [cautioned](#) against trusting Gaza Health Ministry casualty figures, stating: “I have no notion that the Palestinians are telling the truth about how many people are killed ... I have no confidence in the number that the Palestinians are using.”

- The IDF [said](#) on February 19 that it has killed approximately 12,000 Hamas operatives over the course of the war.
- According to the Palestinian Authority-run Palestinian Ministry of Health, 410 people have been [killed](#), and at least 4,600 have been wounded in the West Bank.
- The IDF [claims](#) that it has killed at least 1,500 infiltrators from Gaza since the start of the war.
- So far, [105](#) hostages in Gaza have been released, [three](#) have been rescued by the IDF, [seven](#) have been [found](#) dead, three have been [mistakenly](#) killed by the IDF, and one was [killed](#) during an IDF attempt to rescue him.
  - » 81 Israeli hostages have been released.
  - » 46 hostages with foreign nationalities—some also holding Israeli citizenship—have been released.
    - Thus far, 23 [Thai](#) nationals, 6 [Argentinian](#) nationals, 5 [German nationals](#), 3 [French](#) nationals, 4 [Russian nationals](#), 1 [Dutch](#) national, 1 [Filipino national](#), 1 [Mexican](#) national, 1 [Uruguayan](#) national, and 1 [American](#) national have been released.
    - Hamas has released [36 children](#) and still holds two as hostages.
- Israel has said that terrorists in Gaza currently [hold](#) 134 hostages, and according to IDF spokesman Rear Adm Daniel Hagari, the IDF has [notified](#) the families of 31 of the 136 hostages that their loved ones died, including two who were abducted prior to October 7.
  - » Many of the hostages are foreign or dual nationals, including up to 8 [American](#) nationals, 6 [German](#) nationals, 13 [Thai](#) nationals, 4 [Portuguese](#) nationals, 3 [British](#) nationals, 2 [Italian](#) nationals, 4 [Romanian](#) nationals, and 2 [Mexican](#) nationals.

### *Iranian Involvement and Response*

- A February 28 [report](#) from the Kuwaiti daily *al-Jarida* cited a source close to Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Quds Force (IRGC-QF) as saying that in a meeting between IRGC-QF Commander Esmail Qaani and Hezbollah Secretary-General Hassan Nasrallah ten days ago, the former assured the latter that “a decision of whether to enter a war with Israel rests with Hezbollah and that Iran would support it with whatever weapons it needs.”
  - » The source also confirmed that Iran approved new weapons shipments to Hezbollah, including anti-aircraft shoulder-launched missiles, drones, and vehicles.
  - » The source added that Nasrallah believes Netanyahu is interested in opening a northern war with Hezbollah once it finishes in Gaza or in tandem with Israel’s Rafah operation and that therefore Hezbollah needs weapons to “deal painful economic and civilian blows to confront any Israeli attack on economic or civilian ports in Lebanon.”
  - » According to the report, Nasrallah apparently indicated Hezbollah would target Israeli facilities in the Mediterranean, including gas facilities, ports and ships, as well as Israeli military airports, aircraft surveillance, and communications systems.
- According to a February 27 [report](#) from *The New York Times*, citing American and Iranian officials, Iran began an effort “to rein in” its proxy forces after Iran’s proxies killed three Americans in a drone attack in Jordan on January 28.

- » The report states, citing Iranian officials, that after the January 28 attack, “Iranian leaders worried that the level of autonomy provided to the militias was starting to backfire and might drive them into war.”
- » The report further alleges, citing two Iranian officials, that IRGC-QF Commander Esmail Qaani held a series of “emergency meetings in late January in Tehran and Baghdad with strategists, senior commanders of the Revolutionary Guards and senior commanders of the militia to redraw plans and avert war with the United States.”
- » Qaani’s meetings reportedly resulted in a new Iranian strategy for regional proxy aggression, which included a continuation of attacks from Yemen and Lebanon.
- » However, the new strategy—according to Iranian officials cited in the report—called for proxy groups in Syria “to lower the intensity of attacks on American bases to avoid fatalities” and for proxy groups in Iraq to “stop all attacks on American bases in Iraq” and cease attacks on the U.S. embassy in Baghdad.
- » Noting the reversal of a trend in which Iran “had for months directed its regional proxies in Iraq and Syria to attack American bases in the Middle East,” the report alleges that since U.S. strikes on February 2 on proxy sites in Iraq and Syria, “there have been no attacks by Iran-backed militias on American bases in Iraq and only two minor ones in Syria.”
  - According to a Pentagon official, the United States was “prepared to hit more militia targets if necessary but had determined that carrying out more strikes now would be counterproductive.”
  - The report cites Pentagon officials as saying that prior to the February 2 airstrikes, there had been at least 170 attacks on U.S. troops in the previous four months.
  - The report quotes the former head of U.S. Central Command, General Frank McKenzie, as saying that the U.S. response “may be having some effect.” General McKenzie added, “the question is are the militias attacking or not, and at least for now, they are not.”
- On February 27 between 9:50 p.m. and 10:55 p.m. local time, the Iran-backed Houthis [launched](#) five one-way attack drones over the Red Sea. U.S. aircraft and a coalition warship shot down the drones.
- On February 27, a Houthi spokesperson [said](#) that the group’s Red Sea attacks will only stop when Israel’s “aggression” in Gaza ends.

### *U.S. and International Response*

- During a television interview on February 27, President Biden [claimed](#) that Israel agreed to “not engage in activities during Ramadan, as well, in order to give us time to get all the hostages out.” Biden also [argued](#) that Israel risked losing world support if it continued with its “incredibly conservative government they have, and [far-right National Security Minister Itamar] Ben Gvir and others ... they’re going to lose support from around the world. And that is not in Israel’s interest.”
  - » Prime Minister Netanyahu [responded](#) in a recorded video, stating, “from the beginning of the war, I have been leading a diplomatic campaign whose goal is to deflect the pressure to end the war prematurely, and at the same time to also gain support for Israel.”



- As security aid packages for Israel remain stalled in Congress, Israel’s Minister for Strategic Affairs Ron Dermer, a former JINSA Distinguished Fellow, [stressed](#) on February 27 that “we need the aid yesterday ... because it’s very important, as we’re [also doing] our planning. Remember, we’re not just dealing with one front ... we’re dealing not just with Hamas in the south, we’re dealing with Hezbollah in the north.”
- On February 27, the [United States and the United Kingdom](#) both [sanctioned](#) Iran’s IRGC-QF Deputy Commander Mohammad Reza Falahzade, Houthi member Ibrahim al-Nashiri, as well as three individuals and entities responsible for transferring Iranian weapons to the Houthis.
- On February 27, the United States also [sanctioned](#) Hong Kong-registered Kohana Company Limited and Marshall Islands-registered Iridescent Co Ltd, who own and operate, respectively, the Panama-flagged *Kohana* shipping vessel, which has acted on behalf of Iran’s Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics (MODAFL) in shipping over \$100 million of Iranian commodities to China.
- On February 26 between 4:45 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. local time, the United States [struck](#) three unmanned surface vessels (USV), two anti-ship cruise missiles (ASCM), and a one-way attack drone in Yemen that were prepared to target ships in the Red Sea.
- On February 26, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borell repeated [claims](#) that Israel helped create Hamas, arguing, “I do not say that (Israel) financed it by sending a check, but it has enabled the development of Hamas” as a rival to the Palestinian Fatah party. Borell added, “it is an unquestionable reality that Israel has bet on dividing the Palestinians, creating a force to oppose Fatah.”
- On February 26, Greece [agreed](#) to participate and lead the European Union’s Aspides operation—its naval mission in the Red Sea to protect commercial shipping.

#### *Rising Antisemitism, Islamophobia, Protests, and Attacks*

- On February 28, Gazans [burned](#) tires in Rafah to protest rising prices.
- On February 28, it was [reported](#) that the leading Los Angeles teachers union, United Teachers Los Angeles, had stopped campaigning for a school board candidate they had previously backed, Kahlid Al-Alim, who had promoted an antisemitic book published by the Nation of Islam, *The Secret Relationship Between Blacks and Jews*.
- On February 27, students at El Camino Real High School in Woodland Hills, California, [staged a walkout](#) to protest what they said was a rise in antisemitic incidents at their school, including an attack against a 15-year-old Jewish student. The attacked student, Danielle Eshed, said she was verbally and physically assaulted by a male classmate who shouted antisemitic slurs at her.
- On February 27, Australian pro-Palestinian activist Laura Allam was [charged](#) with kidnapping, armed robbery, illegal detention, assault, and battery against a 31-year-old man, whom she allegedly abducted and tortured in Melbourne earlier this month because he worked for a Jewish employer.
- On February 26, University of California, Berkeley police [evacuated](#) an event organized by Jewish students and escorted the students to safety after pro-Palestinian protesters broke open a door to the building and shattered a window. The speaker, Ran Bar-Yoshafat, an Israeli attorney and deputy director of the Kohelet Policy Forum, was invited by Students Supporting Israel at Berkeley and Berkeley Tikvah.

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- Webinar: [Gaza Update 2/22](#), with IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror and John Hannah, February 22, 2024
- Ari Cicurel, [Unnecessary U.S. Investigation into Israeli Operations](#), February 16, 2024
- Zac Schildcrout, [Urging Israeli Restraint Against Hamas Might Enable Group's Survival](#), February 14, 2024