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Israel's Operation Swords of Iron Update June 7, 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 conflict between Israel, the Iranian regime, and the regime's proxies. An update with the latest information and analysis about the war is below. **After eight months of regular updates, today will be JINSA's last Swords of Iron Update.**

Analysis

- On June 6, the IDF indicated that it had [killed](#) 20-30 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) operatives in an airstrike against a UN school in Nuseirat, Gaza. However, media organizations reported on the incident by relying on Hamas-provided casualty data that ignored Hamas's use of the site for terrorist activity.
 - » As military legal scholar and JINSA Distinguished Fellow LTC Geoffrey Corn, USA (ret.) has [noted](#), when assessing whether a military strike is authorized under international law, "it is crucial to consider why the attack was launched."
 - Corn also has noted that Hamas routinely operates from sites, like the UN school in Nuseirat, that are "deeply embedded in urban areas among the civilian population" in Gaza.
- Following increased Hezbollah drone, rocket, and missile attacks that caused widespread [fires](#) in northern Israel, Israeli [political](#) and [military](#) officials have publicly stressed that the IDF is prepared to escalate its operations against Hezbollah and that the decision point for a full-scale war may come soon. Given Hezbollah's large arsenal of roughly 150,000 rockets and missiles, including many with precision capabilities, a wider war with Hezbollah could be significantly more destructive on both sides of the conflict than the war in Gaza.

Since June 4

Attacks Against Israel

- On June 6, Israel Police [announced](#) that a man who attempted to enter vehicles while holding a sharp object in downtown Jerusalem was shot by a police officer. No other injuries were reported in the incident.

- » When a police officer attempted to apprehend the man, the assailant attempted to stab the officer, leading the officer to open fire. The assailant was taken to the hospital in serious condition.

Gaza

- Sirens [sounded](#) in Avshalom, Yevul, Yated, [Holit](#), [Magen](#), and [Ein Habesor](#).
- On June 7, the Eshkol Regional Council [said](#) a rocket landed in an open area after sirens sounded in Magen and Ein Habesor.
- On June 6, the IDF [said](#) that three terror operatives who tried to infiltrate Israel from Rafah that day were killed by the IDF. Later that day, the IDF [said](#) that the terrorists killed Warrant Officer Zeed Mazarib. Hamas took credit for the attack.
- On June 6, *The Times of Israel* [reported](#) that the attempted invasion began “around 4 a.m., when soldiers monitoring surveillance cameras spotted suspicious movement amid foggy weather, according to an initial IDF probe.” The terrorists who fired on the IDF troops dispatched to investigate the situation carried assault rifles and RPGs, according to an IDF probe.
- IDF Spokesman Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari [said](#) on June 6 that the terrorists surfaced from a tunnel approximately 200 meters from the Israel-Gaza border.

Lebanon

- Rockets struck [Kiryat Shmona](#), and sirens sounded in [Malkiya](#), [Reineh](#), Kafr Kanna, Mashhad, and Nof HaGalil.
- On June 7, sirens [sounded](#) near Nazareth for the first time since December of 2023.
- Hezbollah [said](#) on June 6 that it struck an Iron Dome battery near Ramot Naftali in northern Israel the previous day, but some experts later [speculated](#) that the battery in question may have been a decoy.
 - » On June 5, Hezbollah took credit for [firing](#) numerous drones rigged with explosives toward an IDF position in Hurfeish in northern Israel, purportedly in retaliation for an IDF strike in Naqoura on June 4 that killed a Hezbollah operative. Hezbollah’s attack wounded at least 11 people.
 - » On June 5, the IDF [said](#) that it used air defenses to shoot down a “suspicious aerial target” over Metula that crossed into Israel from Lebanon.

IDF Operations

- On June 5, the IDF [said](#) that “it will begin to present its investigations into its failures in the lead-up to the Hamas terror group’s October 7 massacre next month,” as reported by *The Times of Israel*.
- On June 5, the IDF [announced](#) that it formed LOTAR Otef on June 3, a new counter-terrorism unit that will protect towns in the Gaza envelope.
- On June 5, *The New York Times* [reported](#) that “Israel organized and paid for an influence campaign last year targeting U.S. lawmakers and the American public with pro-Israel messaging” that was reportedly spearheaded by Israel’s Ministry of Diaspora Affairs.
 - » The Ministry allegedly hired the Israeli marketing firm Stoic to use “hundreds of fake accounts that posed as real Americans on X, Facebook and Instagram to post pro-Israel comments.”

- » The report also said that “the accounts focused on U.S. lawmakers, particularly ones who are Black and Democrats, such as Representative Hakeem Jeffries, the House minority leader from New York, and Senator Raphael Warnock of Georgia, with posts urging them to continue funding Israel’s military.”
- » According to the report, the Ministry “denied involvement in the campaign and said it had no connection to Stoic.”

Gaza

- On June 7, IDF forces reportedly [reached](#) the coast of Rafah, completing its control of the Philadelphi Corridor along the Egypt-Gaza border. Israeli tanks also reportedly made further advances into western Rafah.
- On June 7, the IDF [said](#) it had killed dozens of terrorists in the ongoing operations in east Bureij and east Deir al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip, including the head of a Hamas rocket-launching cell who was killed in an airstrike. The IDF said it has also located tunnel shafts and demolished infrastructure used by terror groups.
- On June 6, Reuters [reported](#), citing U.S. and Israeli officials, that “ Hamas has seen about half its forces wiped out” since the war began.
 - » Reuters reported, citing three senior U.S. officials, that Hamas “has been reduced to between 9,000 and 12,000 fighters.”
 - » According to the report, Hamas had between 20,000 and 25,000 fighters prior to the war, according to American estimates.
- On June 6, the IDF [said](#) that it used aircraft to strike dozens of terrorist targets throughout Gaza during the previous day.
- On June 6, the IDF [said](#) that it killed approximately 20-30 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) operatives in an airstrike against a UN school in Nuseirat in which they hid. The IDF later [publicized](#) the names of nine terrorists killed in the strike, some of whom “participated in the massacre on October 7,” according to IDF Spokesman Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari.
 - » Hagari also [said](#), “this is the fifth time we have had to target Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists operating from inside UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency] facilities,” and “in the last months alone, Hamas wages wars from schools and hospitals. Hamas hopes that international law and public sympathy will provide a shield for their military activities, which is why they systematically operate from schools, UN facilities, hospitals and mosques.”
 - » He added, “sadly, we saw some media outlets fall for Hamas’s tactics yet again, before checking the facts,” and “while Hamas abuses international law, the IDF will continue to operate according to international law. The systematic abuse of UN facilities is a war crime, and it must be stopped by the world.”
- On June 5, the IDF [found](#) a “significant” tunnel by the Egyptian border in Rafah that stretches for two kilometers. The IDF said that Hamas used the tunnel to smuggle weapons into the territory. IDF combat engineers destroyed the tunnel.
- On June 5, the IDF [said](#) that it gained “operational control” of east Bureij and Deir al-Balah in central Gaza.

- On June 5, *The Times of Israel* [reported](#), “the decision by the Israeli government to raise the number of reservists the IDF is authorized to call up in case of need—from 300,000 to 350,000—has nothing to do with tensions in northern Israel, according to the military.”
- On June 5, the IDF released a statement [denying](#) a recent report that its senior leadership rejected a plan to raid Shifa Hospital in Gaza City and free hostages from the facility early in the war.
 - » The original report, from Israel’s *Israel Hayom* outlet, alleged that some officers in the IDF planned an operation soon after October 7 to attack Hamas leadership hiding under the hospital and free hostages being held at the hospital. However, according to the report, IDF Chief of Staff Lt Gen Herzi Halevi rejected the plan.
 - » In response to the report, the IDF said in a statement that “this was an operational idea without operational plans or intelligence to carry it out, nor was there information on hostages in the hospital ... the plan as presented would have killed hostages and harmed our security and our forces.”
- The IDF [said](#) on June 4 that it initiated a new operation targeting Hamas in Bureij in central Gaza using ground troops and fighter jets.
- On June 4, the IDF [said](#) that it finished an operation to re-clear Hamas from the Sabra neighborhood of Gaza City.

Lebanon

- Overnight on June 7, the IDF [said](#) it used fighter jets to strike buildings used by Hezbollah in Jabal Rezlane, Ramyeh, and Kafr Kila.
- On June 6, the IDF [said](#) it had struck two Hezbollah operatives in a drone strike in Aitaroun and that it struck several buildings used by the terror group.
 - » On June 6, Lebanese media [reported](#) that one person was killed and another injured in an Israeli strike on a motorbike in Aitaroun.
- Overnight on June 6, the IDF said it used fighter jets to [strike](#) a Hezbollah weapons depot in Wadi Jilou, two other Hezbollah sites near Aadchit, buildings in Beit Yahoun and Seddiqin, and additional infrastructure belonging to the terror group in Odaisseh.
- On June 5, the IDF [said](#) it used fighter jets to strike Hezbollah infrastructure in Naqoura and Matmoura, Hezbollah buildings in Ayta ash-Shab, and an observation post in Khiam. The IDF said troops also shelled multiple sites in southern Lebanon with artillery to “remove threats.”
- Overnight on June 5, the IDF [said](#) it used fighter jets to strike two Hezbollah rocket launchers in Zibqin and Ayta ash-Shab and three buildings used by the terror group in Odaisseh, Blida, and Markaba.
- On June 5, Human Rights Watch claimed “that Israel has used white phosphorus incendiary shells on residential buildings in at least five towns and villages in conflict-hit southern Lebanon, possibly harming civilians and violating international law,” as [reported](#) by The Associated Press.
 - » The outlet also reported that the organization alleged “in its report that there was no evidence of burn injuries due to white phosphorus in Lebanon, but that researchers had ‘heard accounts indicating possible respiratory damage.’”
- Several Israeli leaders have recently warned that Israel will need to escalate its operations against Hezbollah.

- » On June 6, Chief of the IDF Northern Command Maj. Gen. Ori Gordin [said](#), “Hezbollah has suffered severe blows. About 420 terrorists and senior operatives were eliminated. The terror infrastructure built over the years has been destroyed and is attacked every day. We have been doing this for eight months, with the understanding that this time too, like 18 years ago, we have no choice but to continue fighting, together, until the mission is completed.”
 - He added, “last week we completed preparations ... for an attack in the north. I meet with the troops and commanders; they are training and determined. I am sure they will be able to face any task against the Hezbollah terror organization. We are prepared and ready, and when we will be ordered, the enemy will meet a strong and ready army.”
 - He further stated, “we will not rest for a moment and will continue to fight with strength and reason, until the task is completed, restoring security and the sense of security to the north. This responsibility is clear and rests on our shoulders.”
- » On June 5, Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [said](#) while visiting Kiryat Shmona in northern Israel that Israel is “prepared for an extremely powerful action in the north,” and “whoever thinks that he can harm us and we will sit with our hands clasped has made a major mistake.”
- » On June 4, IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi [said](#), “we are approaching the point where a decision will have to be made, and the IDF is prepared and very ready for this decision” regarding Hezbollah, and “we have been attacking for eight months, and Hezbollah is paying a very, very high price. It has increased its strengths in recent days and we are prepared after a very good process of training ... to move to an attack in the north.”
- » That day, Israel’s Minister without portfolio Benny Gantz also [said](#) regarding the Hezbollah threat, “I’ve been engaged for months in a struggle, with the prime minister and with everyone, so that by September 1, we’ll be done here and will be able to deal with something new. It will pass either by arrangement or escalation, but we can’t lose another year.”
 - He also said, “truthfully, [Netanyahu] needed to be here today. One who smells the char of the fire, one who hears the residents’ cries, one who speaks with the local leaders, can lead,” and “it won’t be easy, it will cost us, it will hurt, but it’s the right thing to do.”
- On June 4, the IDF [said](#) it had killed a Hezbollah operative in a drone strike in Naqoura. The IDF said it also carried out airstrikes against Hezbollah buildings and infrastructure in Ayta ash-Shab and Odaisseh.

Syria

- On June 4, Iran’s state-run *Tasnim News Agency* outlet [reported](#) that an IDF airstrike near Aleppo the previous day killed Saeed Abiyar, a general in Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Quds Force (IRGC-QF).
 - » According to the report, 17 people were killed in total in a series of IDF airstrikes against targets near Aleppo.

West Bank

- On June 6, the IDF [said](#) it had detained a wanted Palestinian and killed several gunmen during a raid in Jenin. The IDF said that during the raid, an Israeli Air Force (IAF) attack

helicopter carried out strikes to aid ground forces who were under fire from Palestinian gunmen.

Humanitarian Efforts

- According to Israel's Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories ([COGAT](#)), from the beginning of the war to June 5, there have been 657,890 tons of humanitarian aid that entered Gaza on 34,199 trucks.
- According to an [Axios report](#) on June 7, Israel has ruled out allowing the Palestinian Authority (PA) to have any role in operating the Rafah crossing.
 - » Israel proposed an alternative solution of having a list of Palestinians in Gaza that the PA has vetted to operate the crossing. However, Egypt and the PA rejected the proposal.
- On June 7, *The Times of Israel* [reported](#) that humanitarian aid deliveries through the U.S.-constructed temporary pier offshore of Gaza would resume that day. The pier was damaged in bad weather at the end of May.
 - » On June 5, the Pentagon [lowered](#) the expected cost of the pier from \$320 million to \$230 million, which included the costs of repairing it.

Ceasefire and Hostage Negotiations

- On June 6, *The Wall Street Journal* [reported](#) that " Hamas's leader in Gaza [Yahya Sinwar] told Arab negotiators that he would accept a peace deal only if Israel commits to a permanent cease-fire." According to Arab mediators, Sinwar said, " Hamas will not surrender its guns or sign a proposal that asks for that."
- On June 6, Osama Hamdan, a Hamas official based in Beirut, [told](#) AFP that "there is no proposal—they are just words said by Biden in a speech." He claimed that "so far, the Americans have not presented anything documented or written that commits them to what Biden said in his speech."
- On June 6, Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters that a U.S. draft resolution at the UN Security Council [references](#) an Israeli ceasefire proposal which Hamas has already rejected.
 - » Zuhri stated that the draft resolution "has no mention of ending the aggression or the withdrawal," and added that Israel's proposal involved "a stage during which the occupation regains its hostages and resumes the war ... such a [proposal] wasn't acceptable to us."
- On June 5, U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan [stated](#) that Israel has reaffirmed its commitment to the hostage deal proposal it offered last week as recently as that day, saying that "now it's up to Hamas to accept it. The whole world should call on Hamas to accept it."
 - » Sullivan [said](#) in separate remarks that day that "Hamas may choose they think it's just better to let the war and the suffering and the violence continue," adding, "that wouldn't be terribly out of character for a vicious and brutal terror group."
- On June 4, *The Times of Israel* [reported](#) that a senior Israeli official told Israel's *Channel 12* outlet that day that "there will not be a better offer" than the hostage deal proposal Israel submitted last week and that Israel "went as far as possible."

- On June 4, when asked about the discrepancy between the ceasefire proposal that President Biden outlined on May 31 and pledges that Prime Minister Netanyahu made, U.S. State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller [argued](#), “the details of how you get to phase two are going to have to be negotiated, and that’s what we were prepared to do.”
 - » Miller added, “ Hamas cannot continue to govern Gaza [after the war]. We also don’t believe that you can eliminate Hamas just with a military campaign. A military campaign can kill fighters, can detain fighters, but those fighters in many cases will be replaced by other recruits. So we need a political path forward, and that’s what we want to try to negotiate.”
 - » When asked why Hamas would want to reach a deal that could lead to its destruction, Miller argued, “because they don’t want to see continued conflict, continued Palestinian people dying, war in Gaza and the reconstruction of Gaza,” while also noting that Hamas’s leader in Gaza, Yahya Sinwar, might decide “that he’s safe in a tunnel and that his interests have diverged from the people of Gaza.”
 - Miller stressed, “if you look at the deal that’s on the table, it is manifestly in the interest of the Palestinian people, it is manifestly in the interest of the Israeli people, it is manifestly in the interests of the world. That’s why we’ll continue to push for it.” He stated, “if Hamas really does represent the interests of the Palestinian people— as they say over and over—without a doubt they’ll take this deal.”
- On June 4, Hamas official Osama Hamdan [said](#) at a press conference in Beirut that Hamas insists on a deal that includes “a clear Israeli position to commit to a permanent ceasefire and a complete withdrawal from Gaza.”

Post-War Planning

- According to an *Axios* [report](#) from June 6 citing unnamed sources, during a meeting at the World Economic Forum among U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and several Arab leaders, Emirati Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed and Palestinian Authority minister Hussein al-Sheikh shouted at one another after the former said that Palestinian leadership is “Ali Baba and the forty thieves,” and “replacing them with one another will only lead to the same result.”
- On June 4, U.S. State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller [indicated](#) that the Biden administration “still [has] not seen the kind of rigorous [Israeli] planning for the end of the conflict that we think is essential.”

Iranian Involvement and Response

- On June 6, U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) [indicated](#) that the Houthis had launched eight drones from Yemen over the Red Sea during the previous 24 hours that U.S. forces had intercepted.
- On June 6, the Houthis [launched](#) one drone from Yemen over the Red Sea that a coalition vessel neutralized.
- On June 6, the Houthis [launched](#) one anti-ship ballistic missile from Yemen into the Red Sea.
- On June 4, CENTCOM [indicated](#) that the Houthis had launched two anti-ship ballistic missiles from Yemen into the Red Sea over the previous 24-hours.

U.S. Response

- On June 7, an aide to Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (R-LA) [confirmed](#) to *The Times of Israel* that Prime Minister Netanyahu will speak before a joint session of Congress on June 24.
- On June 7, the State Department confirmed that Secretary of State Antony Blinken will [travel](#) to Israel on June 10.
- Announcing sanctions on June 6 against the West Bank-based Palestinian terrorist group Lion's Den, U.S. State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller [said](#), "the United States condemns any and all acts of violence committed in the West Bank, whoever the perpetrators, and we will use the tools at our disposal to expose and hold accountable those who threaten peace and stability there."
- When asked during an [interview](#) with *ABC News's* David Muir on June 6 whether he thinks that Prime Minister Netanyahu is listening to him, President Biden responded, "I think he's listening to me." Biden added, "they were going to go into Rafah full bore—invade all of Rafah, go into the city, take it out, move with full force. They haven't done that."
- According to a [report](#) in *Axios* on June 6, the Biden administration has warned Israel against the idea of conducting a "limited war" with Hezbollah and cautioned that such a war could cause Iran to join the conflict. Biden administration officials told *Axios* that it would be difficult to contain a war between Israel and Hezbollah, even if it is only in the area near the border.
- On June 4, Israel's *Channel 12* outlet [reported](#) that Israel's Ministry of Defense announced that day that it signed a procurement deal with the United States to acquire a squadron of 25 F-35 fighter jets.
 - » According to the report, Israel agreed to procure the "advanced stealth model" of the F-35, which is likely a reference to the F-35A Lightning II.
 - » The F-35s will reportedly begin to be delivered to Israel in 2028 at a rate of three to five aircraft per year.
- When asked by a reporter on June 4 whether he thinks that Prime Minister Netanyahu is playing politics with the war, President Biden [responded](#), "I don't think so." Biden added, "he's trying to work out the serious problem that he has."
 - » The statement was an apparent backtrack from a statement he made during an [interview](#) that *TIME Magazine* released earlier that day. When asked during the *TIME Magazine* interview whether Prime Minister Netanyahu is prolonging the war for political reasons, Biden responded, "there is every reason for people to draw that conclusion."
- On June 4, the House of Representatives [passed](#) a bill that would apply economic sanctions and visa restrictions to individuals and judges associated with the International Criminal Court (ICC), as well as their families, for requesting arrest warrants for Prime Minister Netanyahu and Israel's Defense Minister Yoav Gallant. The vote passed 247 to 155, with all 205 voting Republicans and 42 Democrats supporting the legislation.
 - » The legislation now heads to the Senate, where it is expected to face tougher resistance, and President Biden has opposed the bill.

International Response

- On June 7, *CNN* reported, citing a U.S. official, that Qatar had [threatened](#) to expel Hamas officials from Doha if they refused the Israeli ceasefire proposal.
- On June 6, the leaders of the United States, Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Thailand, and the United Kingdom signed a [joint statement](#) in support of the ceasefire and hostage deal proposal that President Biden described on May 31. In the statement, the leaders “call on Hamas to close this agreement, that Israel is ready to move forward with, and begin the process of releasing our citizens.”
 - » The signatories recognized that the deal “would lead to an immediate ceasefire and rehabilitation of Gaza together with security assurances for Israelis, and Palestinians, and opportunities for a more enduring long-term peace and a two-state solution.”
- On June 6, Palestinian Authority Prime Minister Mohammed Mustafa [stated](#), “we are ready, as Palestinians, to assume our responsibilities from the day after [the Gaza war ends] in order to help ... restore the unity of the Palestinian people and leadership.”
- He added, “we also need to be well prepared for the creation of a [Palestinian] state and the responsibilities that this entails.”
- On June 6, Spain [announced](#) that it would join South Africa’s case at the International Court of Justice alleging that Israel is committing genocide in Gaza.
- On June 4, Slovenia’s parliament [voted](#) to recognize a Palestinian state.

Rising Antisemitism, Protests, and Attacks

- On June 5, thousands of demonstrators [marched](#) in Tel Aviv in a protest called “The March of Rage” to demand a hostage deal and the end to the war.
- On June 5, a gunman [opened fire](#) at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon, seriously injuring a local guard. State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller said the gunman was arrested after the incident “wearing what appeared to be ISIS insignia, but we are conducting a full investigation with the Lebanese authorities into the actual motivations.”
- On June 5, several anti-Israel protesters at Stanford University were [arrested](#) after they occupied a campus building that houses the offices of the university’s president and provost. Law enforcement removed the protesters and made multiple arrests after around 10 students barricaded themselves inside the building while another 50 protesters linked arms outside.
- On June 5, Israeli police [arrested](#) eighteen people during the annual Jerusalem Day March, including a suspect who was carrying a knife and five youths who attacked a journalist.
- On June 4, Columbia University [said](#) it will now provide round-the-clock “walking escorts” across campus and appoint a “Safe Passage Liaison” as new safety measures to be implemented as part of its settlement with a Jewish student who had sued the university after she alleged the campus had become too dangerous for Jewish students to receive the education they were promised due to the anti-Israel encampment and protests on campus. Students unable to finish exams or key assignments because of protests can also seek accommodations from the university.

- On June 4, suspected explosives were [found](#) outside the offices of Elbit Systems, an Israel-based international military technology company and defense contractor, in Gothenburg, Sweden.
- On June 4, two vandals [smashed](#) the glass doors of the Chabad Jewish Student Center at the University of Southern California.

Since the War Began

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.

Casualties and Hostage Figures

- Over 1,200 people were [killed](#) in Israel, and 13,000 Israelis have been [injured](#) in the war.
 - » 646 Israeli soldiers have been [killed](#).
 - 294 IDF soldiers have been [killed](#) during ground combat in Gaza so far.
 - The IDF announced the deaths of Staff Sgt. (res.) [Refael Kauders](#), 39, from Tzur Hadassah, and Warrant Officer [Zeed Mazarib](#), 34, from Zarzir.
 - As of June 7, 1,902 IDF soldiers have been [injured](#) during ground combat in Gaza, including at least 371 who have been severely injured.
 - » Numerous foreign nationals have been killed in the war, including at least 34 [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 36,731 people have been [killed](#) in Gaza, and 83,530 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.”
 - » Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu [said](#) as of March 10 that Israel has killed approximately 13,000 Hamas operatives over the course of the war.
- According to the Palestinian Authority-run Palestinian Ministry of Health, at least 508 people have been [killed](#), and at least 5,150 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, [eight 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](#) 133 hostages and deceased hostage bodies.
 - » Israeli officials have confirmed the deaths of at least [41](#) of the hostages captured on October 7, as well as two additional hostages who were abducted prior to October 7.
 - » Many of the hostages are foreign or dual nationals, including up to 5 [American](#) nationals, 6 [German](#) nationals, 13 [Thai](#) nationals, 4 [Portuguese](#) nationals, 3 [British](#) nationals, 2 [Italian](#) nationals, 4 [Romanian](#) nationals, and 2 [Mexican](#) nationals.

Recent and Relevant JINSA Products About Israel at War

- LTC Geoffrey Corn, USA (ret.), “[Is Issuing an Arrest Warrant for Israeli Officials a Sound Decision?](#)” *The Cipher Brief*, June 5, 2024
- Webinar: [Report Rollout: Strategy, Tactics, and Law in the Gaza War](#), with Gen Charles “Chuck” Wald, USAF (ret.), LtGen David Beydler, USMC (ret.), Lt Gen Thomas “Tom” Trask, USAF (ret.), LTC Geoffrey Corn, USA (ret.), and Blaise Misztal, May 30, 2024
- Gaza Assessment Task Force, [The October 7 War: Observations, October 2023 – May 2024](#), May 30, 2024
- Gen Philip M. Breedlove, USAF (ret.) and [VADM John M. Bird, USN \(ret.\)](#), “[The Strategic Imperative of U.S.-Israel Cooperation](#),” *RealClearDefense*, May 30, 2024
- Michael Makovsky, “[Israel’s Strategic Failure](#),” *Tablet Magazine*, May 29, 2024
- Webinar: [Gaza War Update 5/29/24](#), with IDF MG (ret.) Yaakov Amidror, IDF MG (ret.) Yaacov Ayish, and Michael Makovsky, May 29, 2024
- Gen Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr., USMC (ret.), “[I Carried Out The Strike That Killed Soleimani. America Doesn’t Understand the Lesson of His Death](#),” *The Atlantic*, May 24, 2024