

Please Note:

THERE WILL BE NO NEWS TOMORROW OR FRIDAY this week. I am having a Cardiac Catheterization this Thursday March 19. Prayers appreciated. RDB

Ramat Gan couple in their 70s killed by Iranian cluster missile

Yaron and Ilana Moshe die while trying to reach their apartment's safe room; Iran fires four barrages overnight, claims revenge for killing of Larijani

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Diana Bletter](#)

and [Agencies Today](#), 10:57 am Updated at 12:03 pm



Israeli security and rescue forces inspect the damage at the scene where a missile fired from Iran at Israel killed two people and caused damage in Ramat Gan, central Israel, March 18, 2026. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)



Israeli security and rescue forces inspect the damage at the scene where a missile fired from Iran at Israel killed two people and caused damage in Ramat Gan, central Israel, March 18, 2026. (Avshalom Sassoni/Flash90)



Israeli authorities hang Israeli and US flags at the site struck by an Iranian missile that killed two people, in Ramat Gan, Wednesday, March 18, 2026. (AP Photo/Oded Balilty)



Damage is seen on a road in central Israel from an Iranian cluster missile, early March 18, 2026. (Magen David Adom)

An elderly couple, identified as Yaron and Ilana Moshe, were killed early Wednesday morning in Ramat Gan by a cluster missile as Iran continued to fire salvos at Israel through the night and into the morning.

From midnight to 8 a.m., there were four rounds of missile fire that caused injuries and damage to property.

Iran has been firing cluster warheads at Israel since the start of the war, raining down munitions on residential areas throughout the country.

Authorities reported that falling munitions hit multiple sites in central Israel in a barrage that began shortly after midnight, with two salvos fired close together.

Police spokesman Dean Elsdunne said that, according to an initial assessment of the deadly impact, a residential building was hit by a cluster munition in Ramat Gan, a city just outside Tel Aviv.

The Magen David Adom emergency medical service said the two victims found dead at the scene.

Police said they were headed to the bomb shelter, but the missile hit before they could get there. Tel Aviv District police commander Haim Sargaroff said that “apparently they didn’t manage to get to the safe room, they were just meters from it.”

The Moshes were found with a walker alongside them, the Walla news site reported.

Chen Amir, a neighbor of the couple, said that after sirens went off, he and his wife entered their own safe room.



“I heard the boom,” he told Channel 12 news. “I opened the door, and there was smoke everywhere. I saw damage; there were cracks in all the walls, and the cupboards were blown down.”

He said he opened his front door to look at his neighbors’ apartment and saw that their door was destroyed.

“It was dark in their apartment. I saw a hole in the middle of their ceiling. I went to the window and saw that their balcony was destroyed.”

The scene of an impact at a Ramat Gan apartment after a deadly Iranian missile attack, early on March 18, 2026 (Fire and Rescue Service)

Paramedics treated two other people who were lightly wounded by shrapnel in the attack, while others were injured while running to shelter or received treatment for acute anxiety.

The Home Front Command said its search and rescue teams were “operating at several sites in central Israel where reports of impacts have been received.”

The scene of an impact in Ramat Gan from an Iranian missile attack, early on March 18, 2026 (Magen David Adom)

Images shared by MDA showed destruction in multiple locations, including cars on fire, destroyed vehicles, and rubble.

Police said bomb disposal experts were “operating at several impact sites involving munition debris within the (Tel Aviv) district.”

The national railway company said in a statement posted online that shrapnel caused damage to platforms at Tel Aviv’s Savidor station, and that trains were “temporarily suspended across the country.”



Security and rescue personnel at Tel Aviv’s Savidor Central Train Station after impact from an Iranian missile attack early on March 18, 2026. (IDF)

The military shared footage of Home Front Command teams at the station, showing shattered glass at a platform and some damage to train windows.

In the morning, most train services resumed, the company said in an update.

Firefighters also extinguished several blazes in the central cities of Petah Tikvah and Kafr Qasim.

Iran acknowledged launching cluster missiles at Israel, the latest use of a weapon designed to spread maximum damage

and evade Israel’s multiple layers of air defenses.

A statement from the paramilitary Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps carried by Iranian state television said the force launched both Khorramshahr-4 and Qadr missiles in the attack on the Tel Aviv area.

The IRGC described the attack as revenge for [Israel’s killing](#) of top security official Ali Larjani.

Footage filmed by The Associated Press showed the release of the cluster munition from at least one missile over Israel.

Other footage showed that one submunition from the missile caused damage to a road.



A fourth missile attack from Iran was detected by the IDF just after 8 a.m.

The small salvo, which set off sirens in central Israel and the West Bank, was intercepted, according to initial military assessments.

192 injured in past 24 hours

The Health Ministry reported Wednesday morning that in the preceding 24 hours, 192 injured people were taken to hospitals as a result of the conflict with Iran.

Among those treated in hospitals, four are in moderate condition, and 177 are in good condition. One person was treated for anxiety.

The ministry did not give a breakdown of the causes of injuries, and some were likely sustained by people trying to reach shelter rather than as a direct result of missile fire from Iran or rocket fire from Lebanon, where the Iran-backed terror group Hezbollah has launched missiles at Israel to support its sponsor.

The ministry also said that since the beginning of the war with Iran on February 28, 3,727 people have been admitted to hospitals, 74 of whom are currently hospitalized. Among those hospitalized, seven people are in serious condition, 12 people are in moderate condition, and 54 are in good condition.

The war began with joint Israeli-US strikes on Iran, which has responded by firing drones and missiles at Israel and at countries in the region that host US bases. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/ramat-gan-couple-in-their-70s-killed-by-iranian-cluster-missile/>

Iranian cluster-style missile kills migrant worker in central Israel

First responders find man in Adanim with severe shrapnel wounds and no signs of life, pronounce him dead on scene; separate impacts damage Jaljulia home and Tel Aviv apartment building

ynet|Updated:16:44

A migrant worker was killed by shrapnel in central Israel late Wednesday when an Iranian cluster-style missile struck the town of Adanim in the Sharon region.

The Magen David Adom emergency service said medics and paramedics found the man, about 30, with severe shrapnel wounds and no signs of life, and pronounced him dead at the scene.

An Iranian cluster-style missile over central Israel [Go to website for video rdb](#)
(Video: Shelly Yerushalmian)

First responders at the scene in Adanim [Go to website for video rdb](#)

(Photo: Magen David Adom)

(Photo: Magen David Adom)

A home in the town of Jaljulia, also in the Sharon region, was struck by an Iranian cluster munition, causing damage to the building but no casualties.

Missile debris also struck an eight-story residential building in Tel Aviv. Searches at the scene found one person with minor smoke inhalation injuries.

Jaljulia home damaged by Iranian cluster munition

Miriam, who lives in the building, told ynet that residents went down to the shelter after receiving an alert. "There was a warning. We went down to the shelter, and while we were still on the stairs the siren sounded," she said.

"Just as we had more or less closed the shelter door, there was a huge boom. We thought it wasn't our building, that it was nearby. Then, after a few minutes, some neighbors went outside to check the building, and we saw everything outside covered with shattered glass and fallen shutters, cars that were damaged and a hole on the seventh floor. Other than that, everyone is OK. There was no panic."

Tel Aviv home struck by Iranian cluster munition (Photo: Dana Kopel) [Go to website for video rdb](#)

Earlier in the day, sirens sounded near communities along the Gaza border and across [northern and central Israel](#) following launches from Lebanon.

Alerts were activated in the Upper Galilee, including Metula, Manara, Kfar Yuval and Dovev, as well as in Kiryat Shmona and surrounding areas. Additional sirens were heard in the Sharon region and parts of the Shephelah.

Earlier still, sirens were triggered in Kiryat Shmona over what was described as a drone infiltration from Lebanon.

Interceptions were reported in the Sharon and Galilee regions, while some projectiles fell in open areas. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

Interceptions over central Israel

(Video: Kobi Koankes) [Go to website for video rdb](#)

Separately, the IDF said it killed Hassan Ali Marwan in Beirut overnight, identifying him as the commander of Hezbollah's Imam Hussein Division. The military said Marwan had assumed the role six days earlier after his predecessor was killed.

According to the military, Marwan previously served as the division's operations chief and was responsible for coordination with senior Hezbollah figures and Iran's Quds Force. It said he also oversaw the launch of missiles, drones and rockets toward Israel and Israeli forces operating in southern Lebanon.

<https://www.ynetnews.com/article/bj11wlddqzg#autoplay>

Israel says Iran's intelligence minister Esmail Khatib killed in Tehran strike Defense minister reveals IDF has free hand to 'eliminate' any senior Iranian security figures; Wall Street Journal reports Iranian security officials being hunted with drones

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 3:26 pm



Iran's Minister of Intelligence Esmail Khatib in Iran's parliament in the capital Tehran, on August 17, 2024 (ATTA KENARE / AFP)

The Israel Defense Forces killed Iran's intelligence minister, Esmail Khatib, in an overnight airstrike on Tehran, Israel's Defense Minister Israel Katz said on Wednesday, adding that "significant surprises" were expected later in the day.

Khatib was the third senior Iranian official slain within 24 hours.

"On this day, significant surprises are expected across all arenas that will escalate the war we are conducting against Iran and Hezbollah in Lebanon," Katz said during a security assessment, in remarks provided by his office.

"The intensity of the strikes in Iran is increasing. The Iranian intelligence minister Khatib was also eliminated overnight," he said.

Hours later, Israel attacked Iran's largest gas-processing facility, in the Bushehr Province.

Katz said that he and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had "authorized the IDF to [eliminate] any senior Iranian figure... without the need for additional approval."



A huge Iranian flag adorns a building as Iranians walk past damaged structures following an earlier military strike in the Iranian capital, Tehran, on March 15, 2026 (Atta KENARE / AFP) /

Khatib, who had served as intelligence minister since 2021, was targeted by Israeli Air Force fighter jets in the capital, Tehran.

The military said the Intelligence Ministry is "the Iranian terrorist regime's primary intelligence organization, which also played a key role in supporting the regime's repression and terrorist activities."

The ministry "possesses advanced intelligence capabilities, overseeing surveillance, espionage, and the execution of covert operations worldwide, particularly against the State of

Israel and Iranian citizens," the IDF said.

As intelligence minister, the IDF said, Khatib "played a significant role during the recent protests throughout Iran, both with regards to the arrests and killing of protesters, as well as shaping the regime's intelligence assessment," and during protests in 2022-2023 over the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman, in police custody.

The IDF said Khatib also led the ministry's "terror activities against Israeli and American targets around the world, as well as activities directed against targets within Israel" during the current war.

On Tuesday, Israel [announced it had killed](#) Ali Larijani, a top security official believed by some to be running Iran amid the war, and Gholamreza Soleimani, the commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps' volunteer Basij militia.



Left: Basij commander Gholamreza Soleimani in an undated photo (social media); Right: Iranian Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Ali Larijani in Beirut, Lebanon, August 13, 2025. (Lebanese Parliament / AFP)

Throughout the war, Israel has been using targeted airstrikes and loitering drones to hunt and kill officers of the Iranian regime's internal security forces, chasing them from headquarters to backup locations and even to tents and buses on the side of the road, [The Wall Street Journal](#) reported early Wednesday. Soleimani was killed in a tent in a wooded area of Tehran, where he'd withdrawn with his deputies after Israel bombed the Basij headquarters and other official gathering places. An ordinary Iranian

had tipped off Israeli intelligence about the commander's location, the report said.

According to the article, after the US-Israeli strikes on February 28 that killed supreme leader Ali Khamenei and dozens of other high-ranking Iranians, starting the war, the IDF followed intelligence that security forces planned to use sports arenas as mustering points. After watching the sites fill up, Israel struck the stadiums, killing hundreds of members of the security services and military.

That the stadiums — in particular Azadi Stadium, in Tehran — were struck was widely reported at the time, but their use as gathering points for security officers was not known. Regime officials condemned the strikes as attacks on civilian targets, without acknowledging their use.

Israeli intelligence officials have also been calling individual police commanders, warning them to stand down in the case of a civilian uprising. The Journal said it reviewed the contents of one call in which a Mossad agent warned a senior police commander, in Persian: "We know everything about you." The policeman reportedly said: "I'm a dead man already. Just please come help us."



An Iranian woman walks past damaged buildings following a military strike on the Iranian capital Tehran on March 15, 2026. (Atta KENARE / AFP) /

According to the report, Iranians have reported a sense of disorder taking hold, with police unable to carry out some of their regular duties, and advising shopkeepers to close up at night and leaving previous investigations on hold.

Some security officers, afraid for their safety, have started sleeping in mosques, vehicles, or tents. Some have pleaded with residents to let them sleep inside apartment buildings, or have set themselves up in stairwells, prompting the residents to evacuate for fear of an Israeli strike, the report said.

According to the newspaper, Israel aims not only to disrupt the command and control of the agencies and degrade their enforcement abilities, but also to show Iranian civilians that agents of the regime are under attack.

Drones hovering in Tehran, taking out checkpoints

Over the past week, the Israeli Air Force has been striking members of Iran's oppressive Basij paramilitary force and its checkpoints across Tehran and elsewhere. The Journal reported that the IAF had sent "fleets of loitering drones" to carry out the strikes.

On Thursday alone, the IDF said it struck Basij soldiers at more than 10 checkpoints and positions in Tehran. The military said one target was an "emergency position" of the Basij and Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, "which had previously served as a football club."

A source in Tehran told the Journal that police moved another checkpoint in the city's Vanak neighborhood under a highway bridge to avoid being struck. The report said that much of the intelligence about roadside targets has come via tips from ordinary Iranians.

The IDF said the strikes were "inflicting deep and ongoing blows to the capabilities of the Basij unit."

Last week, the IDF also said it had struck [members](#) of the Basij force at checkpoints in Tehran.

Though the US and Israel have said that only Iranians themselves can topple the Islamic Republic, both countries have spoken of creating the conditions for a popular uprising.



Iranians gather in front of destroyed buildings following a military strike on the Iranian capital Tehran on March 15, 2026. (Atta KENARE / AFP)

On Tuesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged Iranians to challenge the Islamic Republic during the holiday of Nowruz, saying Israel was “[watching from above.](#)” The remark came despite another report that Israeli officials had warned last week that, as things stood, Iranians would be “slaughtered” if they took to the streets.

The US and Israel launched a bombing campaign on Iran on February 28 after a massive US military buildup in the region and repeated threats by US President Donald Trump to strike Iran, first

over its crackdown on anti-regime protesters in January and then over its nuclear program. Iran has responded to the bombing with missile and drone strikes across the region.

It’s unclear how many people were killed in Iran’s brutal crackdown, with estimates from human rights and opposition groups running at between 7,000 and 36,000 people killed, mostly protesters.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-says-irans-intelligence-minister-esmaeil-khatib-killed-in-tehran-strike/>

Israel strikes major Iranian gas field; Tehran vows to hit Gulf energy sites in kind

Impact expected to be far-reaching, with Brent crude soaring to over \$108 a barrel; Qatar, UAE condemn ‘irresponsible’ escalation as Iran warns it will take ‘an eye for an eye’

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Nava Freiberger](#), [Lazar Berman](#), [Jacob Magid](#),
[Tol Staff](#) and [Agencies](#) Today, 8:41 pm



A natural gas refinery at the South Pars gas field on the northern coast of the Persian Gulf, in Asaluyeh, Iran, on March 16, 2019. (Vahid Salemi/AP)

The Israeli Air Force struck Iranian gas infrastructure in the country’s south on Wednesday, in a coordinated effort with the United States that experts warned would send ripples through the global economy and further expand the regional conflagration.

The strikes, launched on the 18th day of the US-Israeli offensive against the Iranian regime, targeted Iran’s massive offshore South Pars natural gas field, located in

the Bushehr Province. Iranian state media reported additional strikes targeting oil facilities in Asaluyeh.

The Israeli military did not immediately comment on the strikes on the gas facility, but an Israeli official confirmed the strike was carried out by the IAF.

It marked the first time that Israel attacked natural gas facilities in Iran during the ongoing campaign, after the US struck the Islamic Republic’s oil export hub on Kharg Island over the weekend, although it said it hit only military sites on the island.

A US defense official confirmed to the Axios news site that the South Pars strike was coordinated with and approved by Washington. However, Gulf nations, which were likely to bear the brunt of any Iranian retaliation, slammed the move as “dangerous and irresponsible.”

Iran’s Fars news agency reported that gas tanks and parts of a refinery had been hit, workers had been evacuated to a safe location and emergency crews were trying to put out a fire. State media later said the fire was under control.

Iran warned that it would retaliate by targeting energy installations across Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar, whose own North Field gas field is connected to South Pars.

It specifically threatened Saudi Arabia’s Samref Refinery and its Jubail Petrochemical Complex. It also threatened the UAE’s Al Hasan Gas Field and the petrochemical plants and a refinery in Qatar.

A source familiar with the matter later told Reuters that Qatar’s Ras Laffan LNG installations were being evacuated as a precaution.

Knock-on effect felt abroad

The impact of the strikes was felt immediately, both in the region and beyond, as gas imports to neighboring Iraq were halted, and the price of Brent crude oil jumped to just shy of \$110 a barrel, around a six percent increase in price.

The price of crude oil had already skyrocketed since February 28, as Tehran shuttered the Strait of Hormuz, where 20% of oil and liquefied natural gas is normally shipped past its coast, but consuming nations have hoped the disruption will be short-lived as long as production infrastructure is spared.

Iran's offshore South Pars gas field makes up around a third of the world's largest reservoir of natural gas, and the country's gas production totalled 276 billion cubic meters in 2024, with 94% consumed in Iran, according to data by the Gas Exporting Countries Forum.



In this photo from March 16, 2019, an Iranian worker carries Iranian flags prior to an inauguration ceremony of a natural gas refinery at the South Pars gas field on the northern coast of the Persian Gulf, in Asaluyeh, Iran. (AP/Vahid Salemi)

Sanctions and technical constraints have meant that most of the gas Tehran produces from South Pars is for domestic use, although a portion is also exported across the border to Iraq, which is highly dependent on it. Around 30% to 40% of Iraq's gas and power needs are supplied by Tehran.

Following the attack, however, Iran diverted its gas domestically, halting the flow to Iraq. Iraqi authorities said they were expecting a knock-on effect on power supplies there.

"Depending on the damage to the South Pars, it will likely affect Iran's ability to send gas to power electricity plants domestically and domestic energy supplies for gas processing," explained Karen Young, senior research scholar at Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy, to The Times of Israel.

"Iran has promised to retaliate mostly on petrochemical facilities and refineries in UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia," she said, in what would be "one step further to disruption of global energy markets," this time focused "less on crude transit and more on refined products."

"Iran does not export LNG [liquefied natural gas], rather it exports gas through pipelines to neighboring countries," she explained. "So, if there is a disruption to domestic supply, it could shift to stop exports to Turkey and Iraq."

Turkey, unlike Iraq, did not immediately acknowledge any changes to its gas imports from Iran.

Iraq's state news agency said later on Wednesday that the country's state oil company SOMO had signed contracts with international carriers and buyers to export crude oil via Turkey, Jordan and Syria.

The regional response to the Israeli strikes was not a warm one, as the Gulf states found themselves once again in the line of fire as Iran warned it would retaliate by striking their own gas facilities.

Dangerous and irresponsible

Qatar, in a statement published by foreign ministry spokesman Majed al-Ansari on X, panned Israel for the "dangerous and irresponsible" action.

As a close US ally and host to the largest US airbase in the region, Qatar blamed the attack on Israel without mentioning any US role.

"The Israeli targeting of facilities linked to Iran's South Pars field, an extension of Qatar's North Field, is a dangerous & irresponsible step amid the current military escalation in the region," he wrote.

"Targeting energy infrastructure constitutes a threat to global energy security, as well as to the peoples of the region & its environment," he continued, calling on all sides not to target "vital facilities."



This photo shows QatarEnergy's operating facilities in Ras Laffan Industrial City on March 2, 2026, after Qatar suspended liquefied natural gas production as Iranian strikes hit Gulf energy facilities. (AFP)

The UAE, like Doha, noted that Iran's South Pars field is connected to Qatar's North Field, and warned that the strikes "represented a dangerous escalation."

The targeting of energy facilities, it said, "entails serious environmental repercussions and directly endangers civilians."

While neither Israel nor the US commented directly on the strike or took responsibility for it, a US official and a second

source familiar with the matter told The Times of Israel that Jerusalem coordinated its strikes on the South Pars natural gas field with the US.

The source familiar with the matter said the US was aware of the attack ahead of time, but did not take part in it. Channel 12 cited an unnamed official who said the goal of the attack was to communicate to Tehran that the longer it blocked the Strait of Hormuz, the worse it would be for Iran's energy infrastructure.

"It was a signal to the Iranians about what might come next," the official said.

Another official told Ynet that the strike was intended to increase domestic pressure on the regime by ramping up the anger against it.

"There will be power and gas outages," the unnamed official predicted. "The regime will probably reduce the supply of gas to consumers, and from there, the pressure will increase."

The official predicted that Iran would likely try to target Israeli national infrastructure in retaliation, on top of the Gulf facilities it has already threatened.

Strategic significance

Beyond the material damage feared by the Gulf states, experts warned that the consequences of the Israeli strike could be far-reaching and impact global markets.

"This could have strategic significance — even [marking] a turning point in the war — not because of the importance of this specific facility for Iran, significant as it may be, but because this is the first time gas facilities in Iran have been meaningfully struck," explained Yoel Guzansky, a Gulf expert at Tel Aviv's Institute for National Security Studies.

"Iran is capable of, and may now choose to, target gas and oil facilities in the Gulf states," he said. "This could escalate the war to a new level, severely impacting international markets and the ability of Gulf states to export oil and gas."

This, in turn, he predicted, could "trigger a further response from the United States and Israel, potentially including strikes on even more significant Iranian oil infrastructure — chief among them Kharg Island."

Trump has already threatened to carry out additional strikes on Kharg Island "just for fun," after the US struck military targets on the oil export hub on Saturday.

"This could mark a very dangerous escalation [in] the war," Guzansky said.

Hinting at the potential for this scenario to play out, Iranian parliament speaker Mohammad-Bagher Qhalibaf warned on X on Wednesday evening that Tehran would be seeking "an eye for an eye."

"A new level of confrontation has begun," he added. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-strikes-major-iranian-gas-field-tehran-vows-to-hit-gulf-energy-sites-in-kind/>



IDF strikes Hezbollah financial, military sites; Lebanese authorities report 14 dead

Army says it will bomb Litani River crossings used by Hezbollah as it repeats warning for south Lebanon residents to flee northward following Hezbollah rocket barrage on north

By [Emanuel Fabian](#)

and [Agencies](#) Today, 6:05 pm

A fireball rises from the site of an Israeli airstrike that targeted a building in central Beirut early on March 18, 2026. (FADEL Itani / AFP)

Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon on Wednesday killed at least 14 people and wounded dozens, according to

Lebanon's health ministry, as the Israel Defense Forces said it struck Hezbollah targets in response to the Iran-backed terror group's rocket barrage on northern Israel overnight.

The military also renewed its call for residents of Hezbollah's southern Lebanon heartland to flee northward, and said it would bomb crossings used by Hezbollah to move troops and equipment south over the Litani River, which runs some 30 kilometers (18 miles) north of the Israeli border.

Israel has escalated airstrikes and pushed troops farther into Lebanon after Hezbollah earlier this month started launching attacks on Israel for the first time since the November 2024 Israel-Hezbollah ceasefire agreement, which ended over a year of conflict.

Hezbollah has said the strikes were in response to both Israel's continued presence and strikes in Lebanon since the agreement, and the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei at the start of the US-Israeli bombing campaign in Iran on February 28.

Israeli strikes on central Beirut's Basta and Zuqaq al-Blat neighborhoods on Wednesday morning killed at least 12 people and wounded 41, said Lebanon's health ministry, which does not distinguish between combatants and civilians.

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"It was at 4 a.m., we were asleep," said Sara Saleh, a 29-year-old woman displaced from Beirut's southern district, a densely populated Hezbollah stronghold.

"We fled in our pyjamas," she told AFP, after she and her family fled a school they were sheltering in nearby.



A man walks through rubble at the site of an Israeli airstrike in central Beirut on March 18, 2026. (Ibrahim Amro / AFP)

Among those killed were the director of political programming for Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV and his wife, while their children and grandchildren were wounded, the network said.

The IDF had issued an evacuation warning for one building in Beirut's Bachoura neighborhood, saying it would target facilities used by Hezbollah. In the morning, the military said the Air Force had struck facilities of Hezbollah's quasi-bank Al-Qard al-Hasan in Beirut.

Also in Beirut, the military said a strike carried out by the

Israeli Navy targeted a "key" Hezbollah operative. No further details were given.

The IDF said it also struck command centers "deliberately embedded within the civilian population" in the southern coastal city of Tyre, which it described as a Hezbollah "center of gravity." The Tyre area had already been partially evacuated of civilians, and the military issued a new warning ahead of the strikes.

Another airstrike in south Lebanon targeted a headquarters of the Imam Hossein Division, an Iranian militia that operates alongside Hezbollah, the military added.

Lebanon's health ministry said two people, including a civil defense rescuer, were killed in an Israeli strike on a vehicle near the main seaside road in Sidon. There was no immediate comment from the military on that strike. Later on Wednesday morning, the military targeted gas stations in Lebanon that it said were owned by Hezbollah. Al-Amana, a fuel distribution company that is owned by Hezbollah, has been under US sanctions since February 2020. The IDF said the company "constitutes fundamental economic infrastructure that supports Hezbollah's military capabilities."

The strikes on Al-Amana were intended to cause a blow to both the terror group's income and mobility, according to the IDF.

"The targeted assets generate millions of dollars of profits for the terror organization. These funds are funneled through accounts owned by Hezbollah's Al-Qard Al-Hassan Association, and fund Hezbollah's terror activity," the military said.

The military also [repeated](#) its call, which was first issued on Thursday and renewed on Tuesday, for residents of southern Lebanon to flee north of the Zahrani River, which runs about 18 kilometers (11 miles) north of the Litani River, where the IDF said it would target crossings used by Hezbollah.

The IDF has assessed that just under 1,000 members of Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force crossed the Litani River into southern Lebanon to confront Israeli forces carrying out a ground operation.

So far, the IDF said it has killed at least 200 Radwan operatives, who the military says are deployed in small cells across nearly every village in southern Lebanon and are mostly retreating after encountering Israeli forces.

"Due to Hezbollah's activities and the movement of terror operatives to southern Lebanon under the cover of the civilian population, the IDF is forced to carry out extensive and precise strikes against Hezbollah's terror activities," said army spokesman Col. Avichay Adraee on Wednesday.

To "prevent the transfer of reinforcements and combat equipment, the IDF intends to attack crossings on the Litani River" in the afternoon, said Adraee. Addressing south Lebanon residents, he added: "For your safety, you must

continue moving to the area north of the Zahrani River and refrain from any movement southward that could endanger your lives.”

Last week, the military struck a bridge on the Litani River that it said was being used by Hezbollah as a “key crossing” to move from northern to southern Lebanon.

IDF says it thwarted over half of overnight rocket barrage

The IDF said Wednesday that it thwarted more than half of Hezbollah’s overnight rocket barrage on northern Israel, and assessed that the terror group plans to launch similarly large attacks every few days.

According to military estimates, Hezbollah intended to fire at least 100 rockets. In practice, it mustered around 40 short-range rockets, several missiles, and five drones.

Most of the rockets were intercepted, landed in open areas, or fell short in Lebanon. One, however, struck a home in the northern city of Karmiel, causing damage. All five of the drones were intercepted, according to the IDF.

The Israeli Air Force carried out strikes on Hezbollah rocket launchers, launch teams, and command centers both before and during the barrage, aiming to disrupt it. The military said several launchers were destroyed before they could be used, and at least 10 more were struck afterward.



Damage is seen at a home hit by a rocket from Lebanon in Karmiel on March 17, 2026. (Flash90)

In recent days, Hezbollah has been firing an average of about 150 rockets per day, according to the IDF, which assesses that the group is attempting to periodically escalate with larger barrages like the one planned last night.

Roughly two-thirds of the daily rocket fire has been directed at Israeli forces operating in southern Lebanon and along the border, with the remaining third aimed at Israel.

The IDF believes Hezbollah still possesses thousands of short-range rockets with ranges of up to 40 kilometers (24.8 miles), along with hundreds of longer-range projectiles.

However, most of the terror group’s remaining capabilities

are now based deeper in southern Lebanon, including north of the Litani River. As a result, short-range rockets are largely limited to targeting troops in southern Lebanon or Israeli communities in the Galilee, rather than cities deeper inside Israel.



Air defense batteries fire interceptors toward incoming rockets launched by Hezbollah from Lebanon, as seen in northern Israel, March 17, 2026. (Ayal Margolin/Flash90)

The military also assesses that Hezbollah has decentralized its rocket array, using launchers with fewer barrels spread across more locations. While this makes them harder to detect and destroy, it also reduces the number of rockets that can be fired at once.

Meanwhile, the IDF and the Shin Bet internal security service said Wednesday that a senior Hamas moneyman was killed in an Israeli strike on the offices of Hamas’s “fundraising apparatus” in Sidon on Sunday.

Wissam Mustafa Hussein Taha operated under Hamas

fundraising chief Essam Khashan and had worked “to raise hundreds of millions of dollars worldwide for Hamas,” the Shin Bet said, adding that the funds “are used to finance terrorism, military buildup, and salaries for operatives in the military wing.”

The IDF on Wednesday also published footage showing the identification of Hezbollah operatives transporting weapons in southern Lebanon, before being targeted in an airstrike.

The operatives were identified by troops of the 91st “Galilee” Regional Division moving RPGs and other weapons out of a car. A short while later, an Air Force drone struck and killed the Hezbollah members, the IDF said.

In another incident, troops of the 401st Armored Brigade identified two Hezbollah operatives who had launched rockets at Israeli forces, and a short while later, they were struck and killed, the military said.

Elsewhere in southern Lebanon, troops of the 300th “Baram” Regional Brigade recently demolished over 80 Hezbollah sites, the IDF said, adding that the brigade killed two Hezbollah operatives who emerged from one of the sites.

Strikes in Lebanon killing or wounding a classroom of kids every day, says UN official

IDF strikes in Lebanon have killed over 900 people and displaced more than a million since Hezbollah renewed its attacks on Israel, according to Lebanese authorities.

At least 111 children have been killed and 334 wounded in Israel’s strikes on Lebanon, according to Lebanese health ministry figures.

“That’s a classroom of children every day since the beginning of the war that’s either killed or injured in Lebanon,” UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Ted Chaiban told Reuters in Beirut on Wednesday.

Israel says it does not deliberately target civilians and that it takes multiple steps, including early evacuation warnings, to mitigate harm to civilians before strikes on terror targets take place.

Children across the region have “paid a terrible price” as the war has expanded across the Middle East, with Iran launching missiles and drones throughout the region in response to the continued US-Israeli bombing campaign, said Chaiban.

“The first thing we’re calling for is a de-escalation, a political way forward to this war,” he said.



Displaced children from southern Lebanon walk in the courtyard of a school turned into a shelter in the southern coastal city of Sidon on March 18, 2026. (MAHMOUD ZAYYAT / AFP)

On Wednesday, France’s special envoy for Lebanon, Jean-Yves Le Drian, said Hezbollah “bears full responsibility for the resumption of fighting in Lebanon” but “Israel’s response has been disproportionate and counterproductive, as it unites various actors against Israel.”

Speaking to the France Info radio station, Le Drian accused Israel of spurning offers by the Lebanese government to enter into negotiations, and of driving the mass displacement in Lebanon with the IDF’s evacuation warnings.

Israel and the US have criticized the Lebanese state for failing to disarm Hezbollah in accordance with the November 2024 ceasefire agreement. Le Drian said the state had taken steps toward disarmament.

“Israel occupied Lebanon for many years and did not succeed in eliminating Hezbollah’s military capabilities,” Le Drian said. “It cannot now demand that the Lebanese government achieve this in three days under bombardment.”

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-strikes-hezbollah-financial-military-sites-lebanese-authorities-report-14-dead/>



BS”D

STEP BY STEP

STEP BY STEP: Good news is that many friends and supporters of Lev U’Neshama (Heart and Soul) donated towards the Education Fund project to provide basic school supplies for actually 350 children within our Lev U’Neshama families.

We are grateful that the school supply part of our effort has been successful.

According to the Israel Population and Statistics office, Tzfat’s population is about 40,000, and one third live at the poverty level. We do what we can so at least the children within our struggling LUN families can get the things they need.

Every week we are providing new sport shoes and eye exams/eyeglasses to the children on our request list. However, previous donations are rapidly dwindling. I am reaching out now before the fund has been emptied and we will have to say “no” to additional requests.

We work with two local shoe merchants who give Lev U’Neshama a discount but they advised us the cost of the shoes has increased. Also, we work with an accredited optician in town who also gives us a discount but his cost is stable.

Lev U’Neshama is an Israeli registered non-profit charity organization, volunteer run, no business expenses whatsoever and every \$ goes into our programs.

Shoes: \$45 per pair regular and \$60 for First Steps, baby shoes.

Eye Exam/Eyeglasses: \$60 per child.

Your support is urgently requested.

Or use the Zelle US to US bank transfer system (contact me at mortsmo@aol.com for bank information).

US Donors may also send checks made payable to

Simcha Smolensky, my son, who is also a volunteer. Send to:

Rabbi Simcha Smolensky, 6739 N Mozart St Chicago IL 60645

Your support will be appreciated.

Yaffa Smolensky