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Two killed from projectiles fired at Golan Heights

The Fire and Rescue Authority stated that it had rescued two individuals who had been stuck in a vehicle that had sustained a direct hit.

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) JULY 9, 2024 19:39 **Updated:** JULY 9, 2024 21:19



First responders arrive at the scene of a rocket attack which hit a car in Israel's North. July 9, 2024 (photo credit: ISRAEL FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY)

A man and a woman were killed after projectiles were fired from Lebanon to the Golan Heights, the police said on Tuesday.

Earlier on Tuesday, [the Fire and Rescue Authority](#) stated that it had rescued two individuals who had been in a vehicle that had sustained a direct hit.

The two individuals sustained critical wounds, [Magen David Adom \(MDA\)](#) said.

MDA paramedics Aviv Attar and Tarek Heyb recounted what they saw upon arrival at the scene. **"Immediately after the alerts, we received a report of two casualties and went to the scene. We arrived at the area, and the scene was difficult; we saw a vehicle that had received a direct hit, and in the front part of it, an unconscious man and woman who were critically wounded."**

Some 40 projectiles cross into Israeli territory

The IDF said some 40 projectiles had crossed from Lebanon into the center of the Golan Heights, with falls being detected.

An interception of rockets fired from Lebanon near the Israeli border with Lebanon, on July 9, 2024. (credit: MICHAEL GILADI/FLASH90)

Fires erupted in eight different locations in the area following the fall of the projectiles.

Earlier on Tuesday, Yasser Nimr Qarbash, former bodyguard to Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an alleged Israeli strike on the Damascus-Beirut highway.



<https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-809643>

Defense minister says IDF will start drafting ultra-Orthodox men next month

Move comes after last month's landmark High Court of Justice ruling that there exists no legal basis to not conscript Haredi men

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 8:21 pm



Ultra-Orthodox Jewish men near a sign reading 'army recruitment office' during a protest against the drafting of Haredim to the military, in Jerusalem, May 1, 2024. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Defense Minister Yoav Gallant announced Tuesday that the military will begin the process of drafting ultra-Orthodox men starting next month, a move that is in accordance with a recent landmark High Court of Justice ruling.

Gallant held an assessment on the matter with military Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi and other officials Tuesday morning, his office said in a statement.

Following the meeting, Gallant “approved the IDF’s recommendation to issue [draft] orders” to members of the ultra-Orthodox community next month, “in accordance with the [IDF’s] absorption and screening capabilities, and after a significant process of refining the existing data regarding potential recruits is carried out,” the statement said.

The statement added that Gallant and Halevi said in the meeting that drafting ultra-Orthodox men to the army is an “operational necessity and a complex social issue” that requires allowing soldiers to “maintain their lifestyle.”

Also participating in the meeting were Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Amir Baram and other top officials, including Maj. Gen. (res.) Eliezer Shkedi, who at the request of Gallant, wrote a lengthy report laying out how the country could effectively recruit and integrate members of the ultra-Orthodox community into the IDF.

The ministry said that an “information campaign for the ultra-Orthodox population” would also be launched next month, showing the various “service paths adapted to the ultra-Orthodox in the IDF, per the recommendations of the Shkedi Committee.”



Defense Minister Yoav Gallant tours the Mount Hermon region on the northern border, July 7, 2024. (Ariel Hermoni/Defense Ministry)

Last month, the High Court ruled that there was no longer any legal framework allowing the state to refrain from drafting Haredi yeshiva students into military service, and the attorney general [ordered](#) the government to immediately begin the process of conscription for 3,000 such men — the number the military has said it is able to process at this preliminary stage.

The army faces a problem, however, of how to choose which men should be drafted from the pool of 63,000 ultra-Orthodox yeshiva

students. To expedite the process, the military requested on Thursday information from the National Insurance Institute regarding the employment history of the aforementioned pool, as the IDF likely prefers to conscript Haredi men who work instead of attending yeshivas.

It is illegal for yeshiva students with military service exemptions to work, but the various state institutions and government ministries dealing with military service and employment appear not to be coordinated in terms of monitoring and enforcing the law.

The Haredi religious and political leadership fiercely resists and protests any effort to draft mainstream yeshiva students who are actually involved in religious study.

The military currently requires some 10,000 new soldiers, Gallant said in the Knesset on Monday, but can only accommodate the enlistment of an additional 3,000 ultra-Orthodox this year due to their specific needs (which would be in addition to the 1,800 Haredi soldiers who are drafted annually).

The issue of ultra-Orthodox conscription is among the most contentious in Israeli public discourse. Many ultra-Orthodox Jews believe that military service is incompatible with their way of life and fear that those who enlist will be secularized. Many Israelis who do serve, however, say the decades-long arrangement of mass exemptions unfairly burdens them, a sentiment that has strengthened since the beginning of the war, which has seen over 300 soldiers killed on Israel’s various fronts as well as over 300,000 citizens called up to reserve duty. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/defense-minister-says-idf-will-start-drafting-ultra-orthodox-men-next-month/>

IDF demolishes 6 Gaza City tunnels, including Islamic Jihad’s ‘flagship’ passageway
At least two tunnels neared Israeli border, just across from Nahal Oz; military says 150 gunmen killed in Shejaiya, dozens more in other areas of Gaza City

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) Today, 3:24 pm



IDF troops operate in Gaza City's Shejaiya neighborhood, in a handout image published July 9, 2024 (Israel Defense Forces)

Israeli troops operating in Gaza City's eastern Shejaiya neighborhood have demolished six Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad tunnels amid the latest raid there, launched less than two weeks ago, the Israel Defense Forces said Tuesday.

At least three more tunnels have been located and were in the process of being mapped out and demolished, military sources said.

One of the destroyed tunnels is considered by

the IDF to be Islamic Jihad's "flagship" tunnel in Gaza City.

The recently discovered 2.5-kilometer (1.5-mile) tunnel was used by the terror group for command and control, according to military assessments.

Troops found laptops, weaponry, and intelligence material inside, indicating it was still being used by the terror group recently.

The operation carried out by the 98th Division in Shejaiya, launched on June 27, came after the IDF said it had identified Hamas operatives regrouping in the area, as well as new intelligence on the terror group's existing infrastructure.

The IDF first operated in Shejaiya during the initial months of the ground offensive against Hamas, announcing that it had dismantled the terror group's local battalion there in December. It last returned to the Gaza City neighborhood in April, as the military shifted its operations in the Strip to targeted raids against attempts by terror operatives to regroup.

Other tunnels found by the 98th Division in Shejaiya included a significant Hamas tunnel within the heart of the neighborhood and several attack tunnels that were dug toward Israel, at least two of which reached close to Israel's border barrier — just across from Nahal Oz — according to the IDF.

Those tunnels did not cross into Israel and were not believed to have been used by terrorists during the October 7 onslaught.

In all, at least six kilometers' worth of tunnels have so far been demolished in the latest operation in Shejaiya.

Military sources said the latest operation in Shejaiya has so far been highly effective, highlighted by the fact that troops managed to locate around nine significant tunnels in just 12 days.



IDF troops operate in Gaza City's Shejaiya neighborhood, in a handout image published July 9, 2024 (Israel Defense Forces)

The operation in Shejaiya began with a raid against a school complex that according to the IDF had been used by Hamas.

Around 100 gunmen were hiding at the school, among around 1,000 civilians. The terror operatives mostly fled the area as the IDF reached the school, leaving behind weapons and valuable intelligence material, according to the military.

Intelligence obtained by troops in Shejaiya has provided the IDF with insights on Hamas's attempts

to regroup, as well as its infrastructure in the area, the IDF sources said.

More than 150 gunmen have been killed by troops in Shejaiya since the start of the latest raid, according to the military.

Four IDF soldiers have been killed in the operation in Shejaiya.

On Tuesday the IDF said that dozens of gunmen had been killed by Israeli troops so far in a new operation launched a day earlier in Gaza City.

Amid the raid, carried out by the 99th Division, the military said forces also located weaponry.



The IDF said on Monday that it launched the operation in southern and western neighborhoods of Gaza City after identifying Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad infrastructure and operatives in the area.

Palestinians flee following a warning by the Israeli military to evacuate an area of Gaza City on July 7, 2024 (Omar AL-QATTAA / AFP)

In tandem, the army extended its evacuation warning to cover most of Gaza City, eliciting a protest from the United Nations on Tuesday.

Israel has issued three evacuation orders for Gaza City and one for the south of the Palestinian territory since June 27 in a new stepping-up of its military operations. The UN says tens of thousands of civilians have fled.

Gaza City residents have now been told to move to the central district of Deir al-Balah, which the UN Human Rights Office said “is already seriously overcrowded with Palestinians displaced from other areas of the Gaza Strip.”



A boy drives a donkey-drawn cart transporting family members and belongings as they try to return to their home in the Tuffah district, east of Gaza City, July 8, 2024. (Omar Al-Qattaa / AFP)

The UN department said it was “appalled” at new orders to civilians, “many of whom have been forcibly displaced multiple times, to evacuate to areas where IDF military operations are ongoing and where civilians continue to be killed and injured.”

The Palestinian Red Crescent also said Tuesday that due to the evacuation orders, all of its medical clinics were out of service in Gaza City, including the Al-Ahli Arab Anglican Hospital.

The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East protested the closure of Al-Ahli. A statement issued in the name of the Diocese of Jerusalem said the hospital has been “compelled to close by the Israeli army.”

Contacted by Reuters, the IDF said in a statement that it had called on civilians in specific areas of Gaza City to move out, to minimize the risk to them, but that it had told Palestinian health officials and the international community that there was no need to evacuate hospitals in the area.

Fadel Naeem, the director of the Al-Ahli Hospital, said patients fled the facility even though there was no evacuation order for the surrounding area. He said those in critical condition had been evacuated to other hospitals in northern Gaza.



IDF vehicles transport a group of soldiers and journalists inside the southern Gaza Strip, July 3, 2024. (AP Photo/ Ohad Zwigenberg, Pool)

Separately, in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip, dozens more gunmen were killed over the past day, in close-quarters combat and in airstrikes, the military said.

Across Gaza, the Israeli Air Force struck numerous targets over the past day, including buildings used by terror groups, tunnel shafts, and other infrastructure, according to the IDF.

Gaza’s Hamas-run health ministry said Israeli airstrikes on Tuesday killed six people in a house in Gaza City, nine in two houses in central Gaza’s Al-Nuseirat and Deir Al-Balah, and three in Rafah.

An Israeli strike against a group of Palestinians in Al-Bureij camp in central Gaza killed at least seven people, including children, medics told The Associated Press.



An amputee makes his way along a road, past buildings destroyed during Israeli bombardment, at al-Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip on June 24, 2024. (Eyad Baba / AFP)

The war in Gaza broke out on October 7 with Hamas's unprecedented attack on southern Israel, in which thousands of terrorists killed some 1,200 people and took 251 hostages.

In response, Israel launched a ground invasion in Gaza with the declared objectives of dismantling Hamas and getting the hostages back.

The Hamas-run Gaza health ministry says more than 38,000 people in the Strip have been killed or are

presumed dead in the fighting so far, though the toll cannot be verified and does not differentiate between civilians and terrorists. Israel says it has killed more than 15,000 combatants in battle and some 1,000 terrorists inside Israel during the October 7 attack.

Israel's toll in the ground offensive against Hamas in Gaza and in military operations along the border with the Strip stands at 326. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-demolishes-6-gaza-city-tunnels-including-islamic-jihads-flagship-passageway/>

Silent boycott: European countries limiting 'simple' munitions sales to Israel

Israel requires raw materials that can be converted to ammunition to sustain the war effort, but European countries, normally the source for those materials, are restricting supplies to Israel since October 7; Serbia is lending a hand, but it isn't enough, and the IDF is scrambling for alternatives

Yuval Sade|05:20

"If we have to stand alone, we will stand alone. If necessary, we will fight tooth and nail," declared Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu two months ago in a video filmed against the backdrop of escalating disagreements between the Israeli government and the U.S. administration under President Joe Biden. A month later, Netanyahu upped the ante and made what had been said behind closed doors public.

"It is unacceptable that the U.S. is delaying arms shipments to Israel," he proclaimed in English in a video posted on social media.



IDF soldiers operate in Rafah(Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

While the complex relations with the Americans regarding aid to Israel are capturing most of the public's attention, the Defense Ministry and the IDF are currently more concerned about a different developing reality: the possibility of a munitions shortage after several countries around the world have informally ceased trading with Israel.

Calcalist has learned that weapons suppliers from European countries have simply stopped responding to their Israeli counterparts, and a foreign power that is not the U.S., which previously

traded with Israel, has refused to supply Israel with raw materials for ammunition production since October 7.

According to a report by The New York Times, the IDF is facing a shortage of 120mm shells for tanks to the extent that some tanks stationed in Gaza are now on partial alert and carrying fewer shells to reserve them for potential escalation on the northern front. Calcalist has learned from senior IDF officials that a "munitions economy" is indeed being managed. The New York Times reported that the military is also dealing with shortages of spare parts for tanks, D9 bulldozers, armored vehicles and additional light ground ammunition.

The **main solution that the defense establishment is promoting concerning the ammunition shortage is the advancement of the local industry and reducing reliance on imported shells and ammunition from foreign countries. This move is expected to positively impact the Israeli defense industry but will also have negative economic consequences: ammunition produced in Israel is considered tens of percents more expensive than what can be imported from abroad**, and establishing and maintaining "simple" munitions factories that produce, for example, artillery and tank shells is particularly costly. There are also other implications: among other things, this need is expected to delay the evacuation of the Israel Aerospace Industry site in Ramat Hasharon to allow Elbit to continue producing ammunition there, as reported a month and a half ago in Calcalist.

Despite the understandable effort to strengthen local industry and thereby reduce dependence on the external factors, those who believe that Israel can produce all the ammunition in-house it needs are likely to be disillusioned. First of all, even in the case of a massive increase in Israeli production capacity, a significant portion of the ammunition will still have to come from foreign countries in any scenario due to limited production potential. Even the U.S. is currently struggling to supply itself and its allies, including Israel and Ukraine, with all the shells they need. Secondly, for Israeli defense industries to produce large quantities of weapons materials, a large amount of raw materials is required, which cannot be mined in Israel, so shipments from abroad are not optional, they're mandatory.

Besides the unofficial embargo imposed by some suppliers on the sale of ammunition to Israel, Calcalist has learned that key suppliers of raw materials for bomb production have also stopped selling to Israel since the outbreak of the war. The defense establishment's solution to this embargo is diversifying suppliers, purchasing stocks of raw materials in advance for future bomb production, and creating large reserves of raw materials in Israel. The fact that the IDF and the Defense Ministry are directly involved in this issue is unusual, since in the past, defense industries took care of supplying themselves with raw materials without direct intervention from the military and political echelons.

Since the outbreak of the war, there have been increasing reports of countries and companies wanting to reduce or restrict defense trade with Israel. There also have been reports of problems with the supply of F-35 spare parts from Dutch suppliers; the governments of Italy, Canada and Belgium announced a halt to defense exports to Israel (despite reports of shipments continuing and deals still being signed); and the Spanish government even prevented a ship carrying a weapons shipment from India to Israel from docking at its ports.



IDF fighter in Khan Younis(Photo: IDF Spokesperson's Unit)

The shipment, which was prevented from stopping at the Spanish port of Cartagena, contained 27 tons of explosives from India, according to foreign media reports. This case illustrates Israel's strategy of diversifying sources: India, which is the number one importer of Israeli defense exports, has now also become a supplier of defense raw materials and even weapons systems to Israel.

On a more positive note, Calcalist has learned that another country has begun selling raw materials used by the Israeli defense industry and, according to other

media reports, it is none other than Serbia that has provided an airlift of military supplies to Israel since the outbreak of the war.

Aside from the political context that complicates the defense establishment's efforts regarding defense imports, there is also a global economic context. The increased use of ammunition in the wars in Gaza and Ukraine has led to an unusual global shortage of ammunition of all types, resulting in rising prices and increased competition among countries for ammunition and raw materials.

As early as January, Calcalist reported that the IDF had to manage the pace of bombings due to the global shortage and the intensive use of ammunition at the beginning of the operation. In late November, less than two months after the war began, the IDF announced that the Artillery Corps had used more

than 100,000 shells. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/sk5p5o9dc> Blatant national ignorance and anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism is amazing. In a world that purports to have 2.4 billion “Christians” it is obvious that they don’t have much in the way of understanding of the Sacred Texts. Gen 12:3 is rather specific *“I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”* Joel 3:2 tells them what will happen to those that disparage Israel *“I will also gather all nations, And bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of My people, My heritage Israel, Whom they have scattered among the nations; They have also divided up My land.”* As we watch the events that are portents for the end of days perhaps people would do well to pay attention to the Word of God. – rdb]

For second time, Hezbollah publishes drone footage of military sites in northern Israel Propaganda clip claims to show intelligence hubs, artillery outposts; former Nasrallah bodyguard purportedly killed in Israeli strike in Syria near Lebanon border

By [Emanuel Fabian](#), [Tol Staff](#) and [Agencies](#) Today, 7:12 pm



A snapshot of northern Israel published by Hezbollah as part of a propaganda video purporting to show drone footage of military sites in Israel, released on July 9, 2024. (Screenshot)

Hezbollah on Tuesday published a new propaganda video featuring drone footage of Israeli military bases and locations in the Golan Heights, as reports alleged that a former bodyguard of terror group chief Hassan Nasrallah had been killed in an Israeli strike on the Lebanon-Syria border.

The video published by the Iran-backed organization was close to 10 minutes in length and followed a similar compilation of footage released last month.

The footage opened with an aerial shot of northern Israel, in which areas including Nahariya, Safed, and Haifa were highlighted, as well as Mount Dov, close to the Lebanon border.

The video featured snapshots of various military outposts in northern Israel, which Hezbollah claimed are used for a variety of purposes, from artillery and air defense batteries to command headquarters. The terror group also highlighted a base that it purported is used by the Israel Defense Forces Military Intelligence’s Unit 8200.

The footage released by the Lebanese terror group was believed by the military to have been captured around four or five months ago. This estimate was made based on the fact that patches of snow were visible in some parts of the footage.

Hezbollah claimed that the footage was captured by an unmanned aerial vehicle that entered Israeli airspace, captured the footage, and returned to Lebanon undetected. Israel has not commented on the claim.

In addition to military outposts, the footage also included an image of what Hezbollah claimed were buses used to transport IDF soldiers to their bases.

The Hezbollah terror group has published a new propaganda video showing drone footage of Israeli military bases in the Golan Heights.

The end of the video also shows an Israeli city, which Hezbollah says will be featured in an upcoming clip.

The publication of the footage comes... pic.twitter.com/mi07SymTT3

— Emanuel (Mannie) Fabian (@manniefabian) [July 9, 2024](#)

The video ended with what Hezbollah said was a preview of the “next episode” in its series of propaganda footage. That brief clip featured close-up shots of the northern cities of Safed and Tiberias.

Following the video’s release, Hezbollah media relations officer Muhammad Afif said that it sent “a clear message to the enemy and its army.”

“The importance stems from demonstrating our technical and technological capabilities in the field of surveillance and obtaining necessary information we need in times of war,” he added.

In a drone video released last month, the terror group focused on both military and civilian locations,

including the Haifa port and a residential neighborhood in nearby Kiryat Yam.

Hezbollah has launched hundreds of drones at Israel amid the ongoing fighting, many of them laden with explosives, but some also used for surveillance purposes.



Rockets fired from southern Lebanon are intercepted by Israel's Iron Dome air defense system over the Upper Galilee region in northern Israel, on July 8, 2024 (Jalaa Marey/AFP)

The skirmishes along the Israel-Lebanon border began on October 8, when Hezbollah-led forces began attacking Israeli communities and military posts in what the group said was a show of support for Gaza amid the war there.

So far, the near-daily clashes have resulted in 10 civilian deaths on the Israeli side, as well as the deaths of 16 IDF soldiers and reservists. There have also been several attacks from Syria, without any injuries.

Hezbollah has named 364 members who have been killed by Israel during the ongoing skirmishes, mostly

in Lebanon but some also in Syria. In Lebanon, another 65 operatives from other terror groups, a Lebanese soldier, and dozens of civilians have been killed.

On Tuesday afternoon, the terror group announced the death of Yasser Qarnabash, in what Lebanese media said was an Israeli strike on the Beirut-Damascus highway, in Syria.

The terror group did not publicize Qarnabash's role or rank, but multiple Arabic-language outlets suggested he was a former bodyguard of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah. According to Al Arabiya, the terror operative was responsible for "transporting personnel and weapons to Syria."



Hezbollah operative Yasser Qarnabash. (Courtesy)

The purported Israeli strike took place near the Syrian town of as-Saboura, according to the reports.

According to sources cited by Arabic media, two Hezbollah members were killed in the strike, and a Syrian driver was critically wounded.

Supporters of the terror group mourned his death in social media posts, referring to him as the "shield of the Sayyed" — in reference to his ostensible tenure as Nasrallah's bodyguard.

In a separate incident during the early hours of Tuesday morning, the Syrian state news agency claimed that Israel launched an aerial attack on a site in the vicinity of Baniyas, which resulted in some material losses. Local media alleged that the target was linked to Iran.

The **Syrian defense ministry later said there were no casualties** in the strike near the Mediterranean coastal city.

In **southern Lebanon, the IDF said fighter jets had struck a building in Rab al-Thalathine, where two operatives were spotted after launching rockets at Israel earlier in the day.**

Israeli fighter jets struck a building in southern Lebanon's Rab al-Thalathine where two operatives were spotted after launching rockets at Israel earlier today, the IDF says.

According to the IDF, several rockets were launched from Rab al-Thalathine at the Misgav Am area in... pic.twitter.com/TKkj2mN95y

— Emanuel (Mannie) Fabian (@manniefabian) [July 9, 2024](#)

Several rockets were said by the IDF to have been launched from the area at Misgav Am in northern Israel, but the majority of them were shot down by air defenses.

A short while after the rocket attack, two Hezbollah operatives were spotted entering a building in the town, the military said. A fighter jet then struck the site. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/for-second-time-hezbollah-publishes-drone-footage-of-military-sites-in-northern-israel/>

Coalition pulls all bills from Knesset agenda, blaming ‘irresponsible’ Otzma Yehudit

Coalition whip Ofir Katz takes step a day after far-right party’s leader torpedoes Shas-fronted bill on funding religious councils and accuses PM of ‘running a one-man government’

By [Sam Sokol](#) Today, 2:38 pm



National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir at a court hearing in Jerusalem on July 2, 2024. (Chaim Goldberg/Flash90)

Amid rising coalition tensions after the far-right Otzma Yehudit party tanked a Shas-backed amendment to the Religious Services Law on Monday, coalition whip Ofir Katz (Likud) announced the withdrawal of all legislation from the Knesset plenum’s agenda Tuesday.

According to Hebrew-language reports, Katz sent a message to Likud lawmakers stating that “due to the irresponsible behavior of Otzma Yehudit, no laws will be put on the agenda today.”

“I am not willing to rely on any party other than the coalition parties, and am not willing to manage [the coalition] based on the whims of its members. I hope that the situation in which the coalition is helping the opposition to hurt us will stop,” Katz wrote.

An Otzma Yehudit spokesman did not respond to a request for comment.

Katz’s announcement came after Otzma Yehudit chairman National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir entered into a bitter dispute with Aryeh Deri’s ultra-Orthodox Shas party on Monday evening, vowing not to vote with the coalition, as the escalating interparty bickering aggravated already strained relations between members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s hardline coalition.

Ben Gvir, who has been angling for months for a greater say in the ongoing war against Hamas in Gaza, threatened to pull his support from a Shas-fronted bill on funding religious councils if he was not given a spot on the now-disbanded war cabinet or was otherwise involved in high-level discussions on war matters.



Likud MK Ofir Katz leading a special Knesset committee to discuss a bill to revoke terrorist citizenship, February 14, 2023. (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Shas and Ben Gvir’s Otzma Yehudit party engaged in a war of words all through the evening, issuing dueling statements and personal attacks, casting blame on each other and threatening the future of the coalition.

Responding to Gvir’s threats not to support the bill, the government pulled the legislation from the docket, and a number of Shas MKs walked out of the Knesset in protest.

After the Shas walkout Monday evening, Ben Gvir directed his ire at Netanyahu, accusing him of ignoring his cabinet and making critical security decisions without consultation.

“We are in an absurd reality where we are treading water in Gaza, on the northern border, tying the hands of the IDF, conducting negotiations with irresponsible opening positions, heading toward a political agreement — all of it while surrendering to terror on every front, and the prime minister is running a one-man government,” Ben Gvir said in a statement.

“The prime minister needs to understand that that the ‘rule of the right’ is not a meaningless expression and the opinions of the coalition partners have weight. We did not join to be fans in the stands. We intend to exert an influence,” he added.

Following Monday evening’s quarrel, Shas Welfare Minister Ya’akov Margi tweeted that Ben Gvir’s “irresponsible conduct” will be remembered as having “caused the overthrow of the right-wing government during a war” while a party spokesman posted a status on WhatsApp asking “Who needs [anti-government protest group] Brothers in Arms when there’s Ben Gvir?”

The rapidly escalating fight and the bill’s removal exacerbated Shas’s lack of trust in the government in the wake of Netanyahu’s [failure to pass the so-called Rabbis Bill](#) last month, after which one Shas official complained to national broadcaster Kan that “there is no coalition [and] there is no discipline.”



Shas' Ya'akov Margi (L) with party leader Aryeh Deri in Jerusalem on January 1, 2023 (Yonatan Sindel/Flash90)

Tuesday's decision to withdraw all bills from the Knesset agenda was the latest manifestation of tension between members of Netanyahu's increasingly fractious coalition, which some lawmakers have indicated may not have long to live.

On Monday morning, senior United Torah Judaism MK Moshe Gafni hinted that the dissolution of the Knesset and an upcoming election was a possibility, telling a Yesh Atid MK, "That is where we are headed."

And over the weekend, Settlement and National Projects Minister Orit Strock [described](#) recent months as a "miracle period" of settlement expansion ushered in by the government, but like Gafni indicated that she was unsure how long it would last.

Waxing lyrical about "what we've accomplished just in the past several months," Strock said that "the hand is still outstretched" for land appropriation as long as the government, "with God's help," still stood.

But "it's unclear that it will stay standing, completely unclear," she added

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/coalition-pulls-all-bills-from-knesset-agenda-blaming-irresponsible-otzma-yehudit/>

Russia's UN ambassador responds to Ukraine hospital attack accusations

If a Russian missile actually struck the clinic, there would be nothing but rubble left, Vasily Nebenzia has told the UN Security Council

9 Jul, 2024 18:07



Emergency services work at the scene of a blast at the Ohmatdyt Children's Hospital in Kiev, Ukraine, July 8, 2024 © AFP / Maxim Marusenko

Russia's permanent representative to the UN, Vasily Nebenzia, has accused Ukrainian forces of hitting a children's hospital with an air defense missile, declaring that if a Russian missile had struck the building, "there would be nothing left."

In an address to the UN Security Council on Tuesday, Dr. Vladimir Zhovnr, the director of Kiev's Okhmatdyt children's hospital, accused Russia of deliberately striking the facility on Monday. Two people died and scores were injured in the blast, Zhovnr claimed, calling the incident "*not just a war crime, [but] far beyond the limit of humanity.*"

"Does Mr. Zhovnr understand that if it was a Russian missile, there would be nothing left of the building?" Nebenzia responded. "Children and adults would have died rather than been injured."

Nebenzia explained that Russian forces targeted the Artemov missile plant in Kiev on Monday, and that "*this target was hit.*"

"Since the plant is located approximately 2km from the children's hospital, there is every reason to believe that the Ukrainian air defense missile that hit it was intended for a Russian missile that hit the plant," he stated, adding that "*this tragedy could have been avoided if the Ukrainian Armed Forces had not deployed air defense in residential areas.*"

The Russian Defense Ministry has also explicitly denied striking the hospital. In an official statement on Monday, the ministry said that "photos and video footage from Kiev clearly confirm" that the building was hit by a falling "Ukrainian air defense missile launched from an anti-aircraft missile system within the city."

The **strike on the Artemov plant was part of a large-scale attack on Ukrainian military industry facilities and aviation bases conducted on Monday. The ministry said that the attack had been ordered in response to Ukraine's continued attempts to damage Russian energy and economic infrastructure.**

Pro-Kiev media outlets have claimed that the weapon that struck the hospital was a Russian air-launched Kh-101 **cruise missile. However, others have argued that the projectile, which can apparently be seen in a video filmed from a distance by a witness, was more likely an AIM120 fired by a NASAM missile system or a PAC-3 interceptor fired by the MIM-104 Patriot missile system.** Western donors have provided Ukraine with both of these weapons systems.

Ukraine's air defense missiles have malfunctioned on numerous occasions throughout the conflict with Russia. In November 2022, a Ukrainian S-300 anti-air missile veered off course and landed on Polish soil, killing two farmers. Despite a Polish investigation confirming that the missile was fired by Ukrainian forces, Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky and his officials insisted for several weeks that it was launched by the Russian military.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/600771-russia-un-kyiv-hospital-missile/>

Saudis 'threatened' G7 over Russian assets – Bloomberg

The US and UK had wanted to confiscate the frozen sovereign funds

9 Jul, 2024 20:43



File photo: Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman welcomes Russian President Vladimir Putin in Riyadh, December 06, 2023. © Royal Court of Saudi Arabia / Handout/Anadolu via Getty Images

The Group of Seven "likely" abandoned the US plan to expropriate Russia's frozen central bank assets due to a "veiled threat" from Saudi Arabia, Bloomberg has reported.

The US and UK had been pushing for outright seizure of around \$280 billion in Russian sovereign funds, which the West had frozen in 2022 citing the Ukraine conflict. The EU,

where most of the immobilized assets are held, was reluctant to see the euro endangered by the possible backlash.

Saudi Arabia "privately hinted" that it might sell some of its EU debt holdings if the G7 went **ahead with the confiscation plans**, Bloomberg reported on Tuesday citing "people familiar with the matter."

One of the outlet's anonymous sources described the Saudi Finance Ministry's message as "a veiled threat," while two others said Riyadh specifically mentioned French treasury debt.

This **"likely influenced" the G7 to stop short of seizing the frozen Russian funds** and opt to turn the interest they generated into loans to Kiev. Moscow has condemned the move as illegal, with former President Dmitry Medvedev [suggesting](#) it could be interpreted as a cause for war.

When reached for comment, however, the Saudi Finance Ministry told Bloomberg that "no such threats were made."

"Our relation with the G7 and others is of mutual respect and we continue to discuss all issues that promote global growth and enhance the resilience of the international financial system," the ministry said.

One Saudi official told the outlet that making such threats wasn't his government's "style" and that the ministry might have merely outlined the "eventual consequences" of seizures to the G7.

Saudi Arabia owns about \$135 billion of US Treasuries and an unspecified amount of euro bonds. EU officials were less concerned about the impact on French debt than about other countries following Riyadh's lead, Bloomberg's sources said.

Two of the sources questioned the credibility of Saudi Arabia's alleged threat, noting that there wasn't a run on G7 currencies when the Russian funds were first frozen. The same argument was brought up by Daleep Singh, the White House's deputy national security adviser, at a conference in May.

The February 2022 freezing of Russian sovereign assets was a move without precedent. A number of experts in the West have cautioned against attempting to confiscate the funds, noting that this could undermine the dollar, the euro, and the entire global financial system. <https://www.rt.com/business/600772-saudi-arabia-russian-assets-threat/>

Ukrainian forces depleted – NYT

US officials privately believe it will be impossible for Kiev to win back its lost territories, according to the outlet

9 Jul, 2024 16:07

Kiev's foreign backers believe that Ukraine will not be able to take back its lost territories as its forces are stretched too thin, the New York Times reported on Tuesday citing anonymous sources.

US officials who reportedly spoke to the outlet privately consider it **"all but impossible" for Ukraine to win back all the territories it has lost to Russia**. However, they are said to believe that if Kiev's battlefield performance improves, it could still *"emerge a victor"* in the conflict by moving towards closer integration with NATO and Europe.

American officials also reportedly think that starting peace talks at this point would be a "mistake," given that Ukraine is about to receive \$61 billion approved by the US Congress in May, which is set to go towards strengthening the country's defenses.

Washington also acknowledges that this may not be enough and that Russia could still make significant headway if there is a "big strategic shift." However, US officials believe that such a development is unlikely to happen any time soon.

"Ukrainian forces are stretched thin and face difficult months of fighting ahead, but a major Russian breakthrough is now unlikely," Michael Kofman, a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace told the outlet. His colleague and a former intelligence official, Eric Ciaramella, also suggested that neither Russia nor Ukraine currently *"possess the capabilities to significantly change the battle lines."*

The **NYT report comes as NATO members have gathered for a summit in Washington on Tuesday where the topic of continued support for Ukraine** will be at the top of the agenda.

It is **expected the bloc's leaders will reconfirm their willingness to back Kiev, but will likely stop short of inviting Ukraine to join the organization**. Moreover, according to an AFP report, NATO will signal to Ukraine's Zelensky that his country will be unable to become a full-fledged member for quite some time.

Ukraine's NATO ambitions have repeatedly been cited by Russia as one of the key reasons it launched its offensive against the country back in 2022. Moscow has stressed that the US-led military bloc's continued expansion towards its borders is a threat to Russia's national security. <https://www.rt.com/russia/600768-us-ukraine-forces-depleted/>

Dems launch dark scheme to subvert Supreme ruling on Trump immunity

Schumer claims Congress can simply declare president's actions 'unofficial'

By [Bob Unruh](#) Published July 9, 2024 at 4:56pm

U.S. Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., long known for his intolerance of U.S. Supreme Court decisions, now has announced a scheme to subvert its recent ruling on presidential immunity.

Schumer says he wants Congress simply to designate actions by President Donald Trump as "unofficial" so he could face whatever charges Democrat prosecutors would want to bring.

The **immunity fight was prompted by Democrats' lawfare against Trump**, their multiple civil and criminal legal cases that often are based on the flimsiest of grounds.

The **high court's ruling was fundamental. It said that for official acts that are part of his constitutional duties, the president has absolute immunity, for** some other acts he has presumed immunity, and for private actions, no immunity.

Not **good enough for Schumer, who once took a microphone during an abortion rally outside the Supreme Court and personally threatened several of the justices and recently** appeared the fool by posting online images of him grilling hamburgers, and putting a slice of cheese on uncooked meat.

Schumer's plan is to hold a vote and with that, reverse the court's decision.

Legal expert Jonathan Turley pointed out that plan is **"more politically than legally compelling."** And he noted, **"The decision is based on constitutional law and simply declaring whole areas 'unofficial' will not negate the ruling."**

Schumer, **from the Senate floor, attacked the Supreme Court, stating,** "They incorrectly declared that former President Trump enjoys broad immunity from criminal prosecution for actions he took while in office.

They incorrectly declared that all future presidents are entitled to a breathtaking level of immunity so long as their conduct is ostensibly carried out in their official capacity as president."

He claimed the court effectively "placed a crown on Donald Trump's head."

He said he would declare Trump's "election subversion acts" as unofficial so they would not involve any immunity.

He also said he'd continue to work to put limits on what courts can do.

<https://www.wnd.com/2024/07/dems-launch-dark-scheme-subvert-supreme-ruling-trump-immunity/>

Only Killing Democracy Can Save Democrats



Daniel Greenfield

"Democracy begins with each of us," Joe Biden, shadowed by two teleprompters and multiple off-stage handlers declared on the beaches of Normandy.

Biden wasn't celebrating winning WWII so much as the end of the Democrat primaries a day earlier which had handed him Guam and the Virgin Islands. The artfully rigged primaries which had boosted South Carolina while banishing New Hampshire had made Biden the nominee.

All he had to do was get through a debate and a convention. How hard could that be?

Biden and his people loved the idea of democracy much more than the actuality of it. The party had suppressed Rep. Dean Philips, Biden's one opponent, and No Labels, a group that had fought for ballot access to launch a bipartisan alternative ticket, while running on democracy.

"This MAGA threat is a threat to the brick and mortar of our democratic institutions," Biden had warned at a tribute to the late Sen. John McCain. At an earlier tribute to the late Sen. Harry Reid, he had preached that "protecting democracy requires vigilant stewardship."

But now Biden's own party is searching for ways to get rid of him. And the party's best odds lie with supplanting the two democratically chosen candidates, Biden and Kamala Harris, with Gov. Gavin Newsom or some other last minute usurper who wasn't chosen by anyone.

The Democrats have to kill democracy to save the Democratic Party.

Biden's people are arguing that it would be undemocratic to remove the democratic choice of the voters, but there was little democratic about how he was chosen. When you've rigged an election once, why not also twice and then maybe a third time in the general election?

The elemental unpopularity of Joe Biden makes any straightforward victory unlikely. And now that, despite winning the primaries, he's unprecedentedly struggling to retain even his party's support before the convention, what are the odds that he'll survive a national election?

But sometimes fortifying democracy means killing it once, twice and then three times.

Democrats define democracy as members of the Democrat Party winning elections. Joe Biden defined democracy as locking everyone else out of the Democrat Party's democratic process. Now he faces the prospect of having the Democrat Party define democracy as doing whatever it takes to rid their party of a candidate who they are afraid will keep them from winning elections.

But that's what happens when democracy is defined as a brand not a process.

Only Democrats can be trusted to safeguard democracy, they tell us, and so only Democrats can be allowed to win democratic elections lest democracy be lost. Protecting democracy requires setting it aside, like a cryogenically frozen head, for some future date. And sometimes democracy has to be protected from Democrat party voters and even party nominees.

Joe Biden, who spoke so often and so passionately about democracy, could become another of the victims of protecting democracy from those who might cost the Democrats an election.

Democracy as a brand sidelines the voters as a means, not an end. The Democrat voters did what they were told and chose Joe Biden as the party's nominee. But if it turns out that the California, D.C. and NYC insiders who really control the party decide that the thing they had told the voters to do was not optimal for their chances, the will of the voters will be set aside.

Democracy may mean trans rights, BLM, social justice, free college, ceasefire, ban racist highways and

being on the right side of whatever history it is this week, but the one thing it never means is that the voters are the ones in charge of the party or of the country.

There is no room for democracy in the Democrat Party. The ‘people power’ montages of women in hijabs, union members in hard hats and a few Unitarian old folks in Iowa no more reflect democracy than the film of cheering crowds in the Red Square made the USSR a democracy.

Power is not vested with the people but with the people in the small smoky room.



In all the arguments about whose party is it, does it belong to the Biden family whose allies control it, to the donors who paid for it or to the prominent columnists who have all rushed out some variation on the now classic “Joe Biden Must Step Down for the Good of the Nation” piece (by which they mean the good of the party and the nation can take a hike), no one thinks it belongs to the people. The people (Democrat edition) do what they’re told. Or else.

They recycle. They carpool. They give up their guns. They shower with confused members of the opposite sex. They cheer on the rioters burning down their cities. They vote for whoever they’re told and when they are told that was the wrong way to vote, they apologize and promise to do better next time. And they understand that they are not democracy’s lords, but its yeomen.

The revelation of Biden’s mental state at the debate matters less than the post-debate revelation that much of the party sees primaries as a party ritual, not a binding transfer of political power. Very little of the back and forth over whether Biden should stay or go revolves around the will of the party’s own voters, but which approach has the best odds of fooling the national voters.

A political party with so little regard for the will of its own voters cannot help but have even less regard for the will of the national voters. After years of outright lies about Biden’s condition, not a single White House or Democrat party official has apologized to the party’s voters, let alone the nation, which saw a confused elderly man agonizingly trying to mumble his memorized lines.

The lies had worked until now. The only debate within the party is over whether the lies have become unsustainable or can go on until Biden is back in office where it can all be sorted out.

Democracy to Democrats is lying to the people long enough to get them to do what they want.

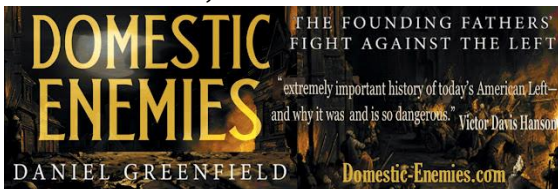
There are all sorts of urgent crises that justify the lies. The oceans are rising. Systemic racism is killing everyone on the racist highways. Nonbinary students of Shakespeare as a black lesbian can’t afford to pay off their college loans. Putin is invading New Jersey. There hasn’t been a good Marvel movie since 2019. But where the lies end is with a shambling man on stage.

In the immortal words of Joe Biden, “there’s a lot of young women who are being raped by their – by their in-laws, by their – by their spouses, brothers and sisters, by – just – it’s just – it’s just ridiculous.” At some point everyone has been lied to by everyone else. And out of that event horizon of lies, a president whom everyone declared was well, showed how unwell he was.

America traded monarchies where lunatics like King George III could remain in power for a system of elections in which the voters wouldn’t allow a madman to hold public office. But in the name of democracy, the Republic degenerated into a corrupt arrangement in which a man who couldn’t pass a DUI test has the legal authority to put his quavering finger on the nuclear button.

Now the only way for the Democrats to save themselves from democracy is to kill it again.

(Daniel Greenfield will be appearing at the AFA's Literary Cafe on July 14th, Bastille Day, at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel, to discuss the American and French revolutions and the origins of our struggle against the Left.)



Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's Front Page Magazine. <http://www.danielgreenfield.org/2024/07/only-killing-democracy-can-save.html>

Why Are Arabs Whitewashing Iran-Backed Terrorist Organizations?

by [Bassam Tawil](#) July 8, 2024 at 5:00 am

In a surprise and controversial move, the Arab League, which has 22 member states, announced last month that it no longer classifies the Iran-backed Hezbollah militia in Lebanon as a terrorist organization. The announcement was made by Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League, Hossam Zaki, who recently visited the Lebanese capital of Beirut.

Zaki [explained](#) that previous decisions of the Arab League to label Hezbollah a terrorist organization "led to cutting off communication with it."

The Arab League, he argued, does not have official terrorist lists and its efforts do not include classifying entities as terrorist organizations. "The [Arab] member states of the League agreed that the label of Hezbollah as a terrorist organization should no longer be employed," Zaki [said](#).

In 2016, the Arab League [declared](#) Hezbollah a terrorist organization – a week after a similar move by Arab Gulf states.

The latest decision by the Arab League to remove Hezbollah from its terrorist list came amid growing concern in Lebanon that the militia and its patrons in Iran are seeking to drag the country into a devastating war with Israel. The decision, in addition, came as Arabs in the Gulf continue to express fear about the role Iran and its proxies, including Hezbollah, are playing in instigating instability and insecurity in their countries, especially during the "window of opportunity" before the presidential election in the United States this November. US President Joe Biden has failed, over three years, to demonstrate strong deterrence; this failure may be interpreted as an invitation to try to destroy Israel while the short opening still presents itself.

By removing Hezbollah from its terror list, the Arab League has sent a message to Iran and its terror proxies that they have a green light to pursue their terrorist attackers not only against Israel, but also against some of the Arab countries, especially the Gulf states.

Since the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war in October 2023, Hezbollah terrorists and their Palestinian allies – Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad – have fired thousands of rockets, exploding drones and mortars towards Israel. The war in the Gaza Strip erupted after thousands of Hamas terrorists and ordinary Gazan "civilians" breached the border with Israel and murdered, raped, beheaded and burned alive hundreds of Israelis.

The Arab League's decision to remove Hezbollah from its terrorist list coincided with an online [campaign](#) by many Lebanese *against* the terrorist militia for using Lebanon as a springboard to attack Israel. They fear that the Arab League's decision will embolden Hezbollah and other Iran-backed terror groups, including Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad. The latter two groups have hundreds of terrorists in Lebanon.

"Lebanon does not want war [with Israel]" is one of several [hashtags](#) that have been trending on social media platforms for the past few weeks. Many Lebanese citizens and politicians are convinced that Hezbollah, together with the mullahs in Iran, are determined to destroy Lebanon by dragging it into war with Israel. They have also long been accusing Hezbollah of creating a state-within-a-state in Lebanon and undermining both the Lebanese army and state institutions.

"In Lebanon, we have an Iranian terrorist militia [Hezbollah] that has assaulted the sovereignty of the state," [complained](#) Mirna Abou Assaly, a Lebanese social media user.

The Lebanese army, which has long been backed by the US, has done virtually nothing to disarm Hezbollah or prevent it from using Lebanese territory -- or territory prohibited to it by [UN Resolution 1701](#), ten miles north of the Israeli border -- to attack Israel. That is why it is bizarre to read what the US State Department [published](#) in 2022:

"U.S. security assistance for the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) is a key component of U.S. Lebanon policy to strengthen Lebanon's sovereignty, secure its borders, counter internal threats, and disrupt terrorist facilitation. Key areas of cooperation include border security, maritime security, defense institution building, arms transfers, and counterterrorism."

Every child in Lebanon and the rest of the Middle East knows that the Lebanese army, along with UNIFIL forces, have failed to secure the border with Israel and combat terrorism. What has the Lebanese army done to stop Hezbollah, Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad from firing rockets and missiles at Israel? Does the Lebanese army dare to ask the terrorists to withdraw from the border with Israel? Did the Lebanese army stop Hezbollah from sending terrorists to fight against the Syrian opposition in Syria? Has the Lebanese army done anything to stop the entry of Iranian weapons into Lebanon? Sadly, no.

Walid Phares, a Lebanese-American foreign policy expert and academic, [said](#) that Iranian influencers in

Washington may have made the suggestion to remove Hezbollah as a terrorist organization to keep the status quo in Lebanon and prevent a looming war with Israel.

"Phares explained that capitalists linked to international gas companies may benefit economically from declaring Hezbollah as a terrorist organization, as they can sign energy deals with Lebanon to exploit offshore gas fields."

Phares [wrote](#) further on X:

"#IranDeal influence & the international gas companies scored a symbolic victory to "protect" a terror force versus making gains in the EastMed. Americans are not yet aware of the power of the "Deal" signed by the #ObamaBiden adm in 2015."

Phares [said](#) in an interview with the Iran International:

"... Americans don't know... that there was an agreement signed [for Lebanon's undersea gas fields] between international companies, including American companies, European companies, all this under the umbrella of the Iran Deal... All these capitalists and companies who want to make money... are pressuring everybody to respect a ceasefire but also a status quo [in Lebanon]. Now, who loses? The Israelis and the Lebanese. The Israelis, if you put pressure on them. [saying] don't do any action [against Hezbollah], Hezbollah will reinforce and reinforce and they will pull another October 7 from the north against Israel. And the Lebanese, once Hezbollah is protected from Israel... they'll go and finish off the... Christians, Druze, Sunnis who oppose Hezbollah."

Former Lebanese Prime Minister Fouad Siniora [criticized](#) the Arab League's decision to remove Hezbollah from its terror list as "wrong" and called on Arab states to stop giving "free gifts" to the terrorists. Siniora, like many of his fellow citizens, pointed out that Lebanon does not want another war with Israel. He noted that his country is already suffering from an economic crisis, as well as the loss of Arab backing.

Lebanese politician Fares Saeed [denounced](#) the Arab League's decision:

"I want to remind the Arab League that the Lebanese constitution does not allow an armed militia to operate in the country on orders from Iran... If Hezbollah wants to be part of the state, it should ask the parliament to amend the constitution. We know that Hezbollah controls all aspects of life in Lebanon and its members have been convicted of murdering a Lebanese prime minister [Rafik Hariri, who was assassinated in 2005]."

Some Gulf Arabs have also expressed [resentment](#) over the Arab League's decision, saying that their countries have suffered for many years from the terrorist agenda adopted by Hezbollah and its support and training of groups seeking to undermine security and stability.

Saudi political analyst Mohammed al-Sa'ed [wrote](#):

"While acknowledging the weakness of some of the Arab League's economic and cultural roles, it has never been a voice for organizations involved in terrorist acts, nor a platform through which those organizations deliver their terrorist instructions.

"Can we imagine that [Al-Qaeda leaders] Al-Zawahiri or Osama bin Laden sitting the League's meeting table, or that [ISIS leader] Al-Zarqawi represents Iraq, and [ISIS leader] Al-Baghdadi represents Syria, or perhaps we find [Hezbollah secretary-general] Hassan Nasrallah, whose hands are stained with the blood of the Syrians and the Lebanese, addressing the Arabs and the world from the seat of Lebanon at the Arab League? What a crime against Arab history and the history of the Arab League. It is shocking that there are those who want to whitewash these terrorist organizations that have shed innocent blood in most of the Arab world."

Bassam Tawil is a Muslim Arab based in the Middle East. The work of Bassam Tawil is made possible through the generous donation of a couple of donors who wished to remain anonymous. Gatestone is most grateful.

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/20768/arab-league-whitewashing-hezbollah>

B"SD

From: Lev U'Neshama - Tzfat Israel

To say No" to a mother when she requests what her children needs, is heart-wrenching for us. We want to be able to say, "Yes", so the children can have new sport shoes and/or eyeglasses.

Presently numerous requests for sport shoes and eyeglasses cannot be filled and parents are told that they are on a waiting list.

We are in a quandary concerning the lack of funds to provide necessities and, later, school supplies, therefore I'm writing you and I'm hoping you will say, "Yes".

The local optician who participates with Lev U'Neshama gives a free eye exam using advanced optical equipment. The child selects eyeglass frames from a special section in his display. **You** can sponsor a child for a pair of eyeglasses for \$60.

A local shoe store owner in Tzfat gives a generous discount for the children's shoes to stretch our funds. He often gives as his gift, two pairs of socks to each of the young "customers". **You** can sponsor a child for a pair of sport shoes for \$40. Shoes within a price category are available for the children to make a personal selection.

For many years Lev U'Neshama has provided school supply shopping coupons to each of our Lev U'Neshama families. It is redeemed at our one-and-only office supply store in Tzfat. The family-owned store staff is delighted to participate with us every year and they offer a generous discount. Our families tend to have many children so they come as a group to do the much-anticipated school supply shopping. Often the store owner gives a pack of pencils to each family as his gift. It's a happy time for everyone. **Sponsoring a family for a shopping coupon is \$60.**

Our Education Fund has about ½ the amount needed for school supplies, notwithstanding what is needed for sport shoes and eyeglasses.

Schools are beginning to close for the summer and, G-d willing, the political situation will allow our children to attend school the end of August/beginning of September. We are starting now to reach out for funds so we will be in a position to send out the school supply coupons middle of August as well as get the children ready for the new school year with sport shoes and eyeglass replacement, if necessary.

I am therefore sending this letter to everyone in my email address book in the hopes of garnering funds for this project. (You might receive a duplicate letter.)

(If you are already a supporter of Lev U'Neshama, please know that we appreciate what you are already sending us.)

Donations in any amount would be gratefully accepted, by check or Zelle bank method.

Checks must be made payable to our US volunteer representative, Simcha Smolensky, (my son) and sent to:

Rabbi Simcha Smolensky
6933 N Kedzie Ave Unit 116
Chicago IL 60645

If you choose the Zelle payment method, US to US bank, contact me at: mortsmo@aol.com and I will provide the information for you to complete the transfer. You can go to the Zelle website or through an app on your cellphone if your bank doesn't offer the service. You may use a credit card, as well.

Your help is critically needed and the children and I am eager for your "Yes."

Shalom,

Yaffa Smolensky, Volunteer Program Manager Email: mortsmo@aol.com