

## Russia Deploying "Portable" Nuclear Shelters for Citizens

*Hal Turner World* November 19, 2024 Hits: 12446

**Russia has begun mass-production of, and full distribution of, nuclear blast and radiation shelters for the public. The top photo, taken this past summer, shows what the shelters look like.**

The "KUB-M" package **includes 2 modules** - a technical module and a module for people, where 54 people can hide.



The **mobile shelter provides protection from various threats, including natural disasters and man-made accidents. It can protect against light radiation from a nuclear explosion and radioactive contamination.**

Once **laid in place, the shelters are then surrounded by "Mafia Blocks" . . . cement blocks weighing approximately 3,000 pounds EACH, stacked one atop another and then over the roof.**



While **these appear to be shipping containers that one sees on an ocean-going ship, they are VERY MUCH meatier. Look at the thickness of the walls and door in the photo below**, taken before the paint is added:

The shear weight of each block helps keep them in-place, but the clearly visible steel racks also protect against movement. Each block measures at least two feet thick, so being in one of these shelters is like being in something with cement walls two feet thick. And it's all portable!

It was **developed by the All-Russian Research Institute for Civil Defense and Emergencies (VNIIGChS)**, and production is underway in the city of Dzerzhinsk, Nizhny Novgorod Region.

The launch of serial production is supported at the state level, VNIIGChS reports.

These portable **nuclear shelters are the final stage of Russia's preparation for conflict with NATO**. The fact that these shelters are now being deployed, is a very ominous sign.

On MARCH 26, of the year 2015, the following news story about then-ongoing war shelters, appeared in Russia newspapers:

*Russia Has Constructed Massive Underground Shelters In Anticipation Of Nuclear War - March 26, 2015*

Russian television has reported that 5,000 new emergency nuclear bomb shelters were scheduled to have been completed in the city of Moscow alone by the end of 2012.

Most Americans don't realize this, but the Russians have never stopped making preparations for nuclear war because they saw NATO expanding closer and closer to their country, after promising to "not move one inch eastward" at the time of re-unification of East and West Germany.

We promised Russia that if they allowed the re-unification of East and West Germany, and pulled their three-hundred-thousand troops out of East Germany, NATO "will not move one inch eastward." Turns out, we lied.

One year later, in the year 2016, the London "Daily Mail" newspaper, ran a story confirming new Bomb Shelters; enough to house the ENTIRE population of Moscow:

**"Bomb shelters in Moscow have been upgraded so that the city's entire population can be protected, according to Russian authorities" - 26 October 2016**

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3875092/Man-bunkers-Chilling-footage-shows-Russia-completed-nuclear-drill-40MILLION-people-Putin-builds-bomb-shelters-protect-Moscow-s-entire-population.html>

Meanwhile, the U.S. government has essentially done nothing to prepare our citizens for an attack. The assumption seems to be that a nuclear attack will probably never happen, and that if it does it will probably mean the end of our civilization anyway.

So if the present Russia-Ukraine conflict does go nuclear, as is now likely after Joe Biden gave permission for Ukraine to hit deep inside Russia with US missiles, then Russia survives and **we in the USA do not.**

**Take that cold, hard, reality into account when you realize that after Biden gave Ukraine permission at 1:00 PM this past Sunday afternoon, Ukraine did, in fact, use such missiles to strike Russia last night.** ([Story Here](#))

Since American-supplied, and AMERICAN satellite-guided missiles have now struck Russia, Russia has the right to strike us back Here. Inside the USA.

They have shelters; **we have none.**

They win. We lose.

<https://haltturnerradioshow.com/index.php/news-selections/world-news/russia-deploying-portable-nuclear-shelters-for-citizens>

## IDF reservist killed, senior officer wounded in clash with gunmen in northern Gaza

*Death of Sgt. First Class (res.) Roi Sasson, 21, of Kfir Brigade's Nahshon Battalion, brings toll for IDF on and since Oct. 7, 2023, to 800; Netanyahu visits Strip*

By [Emanuel Fabian](#) and [Agencies](#) Today, 11:47 am



*Sgt. First Class (res.) Roi Sasson, killed fighting in northern Gaza on November 19, 2024. (IDF)*

An Israel Defense Forces reserve soldier was killed and a senior officer was seriously wounded during fighting in the northern Gaza Strip on Tuesday, the military announced the following morning, bringing Israel's toll in the ground offensive against Hamas in Gaza and military operations along the border with the Strip to 379.

The slain soldier was named as Sgt. First Class (res.) Roi Sasson, 21, of the Kfir Brigade's Nahshon Battalion, from the Jerusalem suburb of Mevaseret.

The battalion's commander, Lt. Col. Yoel Glickman, was seriously wounded in the same incident. According to an initial IDF probe, the two were hit in an exchange of fire with gunmen in the Beit Lahiya area.



**Sasson's death brought the total number of soldiers, reservists and local security officers killed in fighting since the October 7, 2023, attack to 800.**

**The announcements came after the IDF said troops had killed over 1,300 terror operatives during an ongoing operation in the nearby Jabalia area of northern Gaza.**

The operation being carried out by the 162nd Division was launched over a month ago.

*IDF troops operate in the Gaza Strip, in a photo cleared for publication on November 16, 2024. (Israel Defense Forces)*

**More than 1,000 members of Hamas and other terror groups have also been detained,** according to the military's latest estimates released Tuesday, **which added that some 100-200 operatives remain in the area.**

The World Health Organization on Tuesday expressed grave concern for hospitals still partly operating in northern Gaza, with one hospital director describing the situation as an "extreme catastrophe."

"We are very, very concerned, and it's getting harder

and harder to get the aid in. It's getting harder and harder to get the specialist personnel in at a time when there is greater and greater need," WHO spokeswoman Margaret Harris told journalists in Geneva.

**She said the organization was "particularly concerned about Kamal Adwan Hospital" in Beit Lahiya, where Israeli forces launched an offensive against Hamas and other Palestinian terror groups last month.**

The director of the Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahiya, Hossam Abu Safiyeh, told AFP by phone: "The situation in northern Gaza is that of an extreme catastrophe.

"We're beginning to lose patients because we lack medical supplies and personnel," he said.



*A convoy led by a United Nations vehicle drives past displaced Palestinians fleeing Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip on the main Salah al-Din road on November 17, 2024. (Omar Al-Qattaa/AFP)*

**A statement from COGAT, the Defense Ministry body responsible for civil affairs in the West Bank and Gaza, said Tuesday: "COGAT-led humanitarian efforts in the medical field continue."**

In its latest update on the situation in northern Gaza, the UN humanitarian office OCHA said Tuesday that

**"access to the Kamal Adwan, Al Awda and Indonesian hospitals remains severely restricted**

**amid severe shortages of medical supplies, fuel and blood units."**

Israel has said it **seeks to minimize civilian fatalities and stresses that Hamas uses Gaza's civilians as human shields,** fighting from civilian areas including homes, hospitals, schools, and mosques.

Prime Minister Benjamin **Netanyahu visited an Israeli military position in Gaza on Tuesday,** vowing that Hamas would not rule in the Palestinian enclave after the war, seemingly rejecting efforts to reach a ceasefire with the terror group.

The **premier also reiterated an offer to lavishly pay Gazans who turn over Israeli hostages, upping the reward to \$5 million for each captive,** after previously suggesting Israel would pay "several million" for their recovery.

The **visit came amid dire warnings about the condition of the Israeli hostages who been held for some 13 months,** since thousands of Hamas-led terrorists burst across the border into Israel on October 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, seizing 251 hostages, and sparking the ongoing war in Gaza.

Later on Wednesday, the **UN Security Council is slated to vote on a resolution demanding "an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire" in Gaza along** with the "immediate and unconditional

release of all hostages.”

**It is believed that 97 of the 251 hostages abducted by Hamas on October 7 remain in Gaza, including the bodies of at least 34 confirmed dead by the IDF.**

In Gaza, the Hamas-run health ministry says more than 43,000 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 fighters. Israel says it has killed some 18,000 combatants in battle. <https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-reservist-killed-senior-officer-wounded-in-clash-with-gunmen-in-northern-gaza/>

## US vetoes UN Security Council cease-fire resolution on Gaza

**Washington rejects truce without release of hostages, including 7 Americans, emphasizing, 'Hamas, not Israel, obstructing deal'; Israeli envoy praises move, condemning resolution as enabling terrorism and reaffirming Israel's stance against cease-fire without hostage release**

[Itamar Eichner](#) | 10:01

**The United States on Wednesday vetoed a UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza without conditions, including the release of hostages held by Hamas.**

The resolution was supported by 14 council members, leaving the U.S. as the sole opponent.

The U.S. representative cited the ongoing captivity of seven American citizens among the hostages held by Hamas. "Hamas, not Israel, is obstructing a deal that could include a temporary cease-fire," the envoy said.

Israeli **Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon praised the U.S. for its stance**, reiterating that no cease-fire would occur without the release of hostages. "Today, we prevented a disgraceful attempt by the UN to abandon our captives. Thanks to the U.S., we upheld the critical principle: the hostages must be freed. We will continue fighting until all of them are home," Danon said.

**Danon also criticized the 14 council members who supported the resolution, accusing them of enabling terrorism. "You have reached a new low. You failed to uphold justice and peace, abandoning your basic responsibility to those who need you most. This resolution supported Hamas' terror,"** he said.



*Israeli Ambassador to the UN Danny Danon*

The **vote came a day after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Israel Katz visited the Netzarim Corridor in Gaza. Netanyahu vowed that "Hamas will no longer rule Gaza" and urged Gaza residents to help locate hostages, offering a \$5 million reward** for information leading to their recovery.

A senior **U.S. official, who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity ahead of the vote, said the U.S. would only support a resolution that explicitly calls for the immediate release of**

**hostages as part of a cease-fire.**

"As we stated many times before, we just can't support an unconditional cease-fire that does not call for the immediate release of hostages," the official said. <https://www.ynetnews.com/article/b1nunfif1x>

## US envoy heading to Israel to discuss Lebanon truce after 'additional progress' in Beirut



**As Amos Hochstein goes over 'technical details' of potential deal with terror group, Hezbollah fires 3 drones at northern Israel; impacts reported in Acre, Western Galilee**

By [Lazar Berman](#), [Emanuel Fabian](#) and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 4:45 pm

**Amos Hochstein, center, a senior adviser to US President Joe Biden, arrives ahead of a meeting with Lebanese parliament speaker Nabih Berri, in Beirut, Lebanon, November 20, 2024. (AP Photo/Bilal Hussein)**

**US Mideast envoy Amos Hochstein said Wednesday he would travel to Israel to try to bring talks to secure a ceasefire with Hezbollah to a close after making "additional progress" in a second meeting with Lebanese parliament speaker Nabih Berri in Beirut, amid ongoing cross-border attacks on northern communities.**

An Israeli official told The Times of Israel that **Hochstein's schedule had not yet been finalized,**



though the Axios news site reported that the veteran envoy was set to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Thursday morning.

**Speaking after his second meeting with Berri, Hochstein said he saw a “real opportunity” to end the conflict after the Lebanese government and Hezbollah largely agreed to a US ceasefire proposal, although with some outstanding issues.**

**“The meeting today built on the meeting yesterday, and made additional progress,”** Hochstein said. “So I will travel from here in a couple of hours to Israel to try to bring this to a close if we can.”

Hochstein **added that he would work with the incoming administration of US President-elect Donald Trump on truce efforts to end more than a year of fighting between Hezbollah and Israel,** noting that he has kept the transition team in the loop.

**Hochstein was initially expected in Israel on Wednesday, after meeting with Lebanon’s leadership on Tuesday in talks that he described as “very productive.”**

Instead, he remained in Lebanon to discuss the “technical details” of a ceasefire proposal with Berri, according to Lebanese media.

The **efforts came as the Syrian state news agency reported that an unspecified number of people had been wounded in an Israeli attack on residential buildings** and the industrial zone in central Syria’s Palmyra.

There was no immediate comment on the strike from the IDF.

**Israel is believed to have carried out hundreds of strikes since the beginning of the Syrian civil war** in 2011, mainly targeting army positions and Iran-backed fighters, including from Hezbollah.

Since Hamas’s October 7 massacre last year, which saw some 1,200 people killed and 251 kidnapped, Israel has escalated its strikes on Iranian-backed terror targets in Syria and has also struck Syrian army air defenses and some Syrian forces.

**Hochstein’s trip to the region came as fighting showed little sign of easing, with at least 70 rockets fired into northern Israel on Tuesday,** an Israeli reservist killed in a Hezbollah drone attack in southern Lebanon and a key Hezbollah commander killed in an Israeli airstrike.



*A photo taken from the southern Lebanese city of Tyre shows smoke rising from the site of an Israeli airstrike on the village of Qlaileh on November 19, 2024. (KAWNAT HAJU / AFP)*

**Wednesday saw an apartment building in the largely evacuated northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shmona suffer a direct strike from a rocket fired from Lebanon.** Photos and videos from the scene showed a hole blasted through the top story of a building.

There were **no reports of casualties** in the attack.

*Israeli security forces and emergency personnel at an apartment building hit by rockets fired from Lebanon, in the northern city of Kiryat Shmona on November 20, 2024. (Jalaa MAREY / AFP)*

**Earlier Wednesday morning, Hezbollah launched three drones from Lebanon at northern Israel,** triggering sirens for 20 minutes in communities stretching from the Lebanon border down Israel’s coast to areas southeast of Haifa.

The **IDF did not give details as to whether interception attempts** were successful and how many of the drones crashed in northern Israel, though Hebrew media reported at least two impact sites.

Channel **12 news reported that parts of a drone were found in the Western Galilee town of Betzet,** a few kilometers from the Lebanese border, while a second impact site was identified near Acre.



Hezbollah **claimed responsibility for the attack**, saying it fired suicide drone squadrons at military sites near Nahariya and Acre.

**No injuries** were reported in the incident.

A video online purported to show one of the drones flying unmolested in plain view near Haifa.

A drone launched by [#Hezbollah](#) from Lebanon has been flying around for a while through the north & making its way towards [#Haifa](#).

The Israeli occupation army failed to intercept two drones that infiltrated from Lebanon & fell near [#Acre.#Lebanon #Resistance pic.twitter.com/GpHORlcbpq](#)

— ⚡???? World News ???? ⚡ (@ferozwala) [November 20, 2024](#)

Across the border, meanwhile, the Lebanese army said Israeli fire killed a soldier, a day after it said three other personnel died in a strike on their position in south Lebanon.

**A soldier “died of his wounds sustained due to the Israel army targeting of an army vehicle” near Qlayaa in south Lebanon, the Lebanese military said in a statement.**

**Lebanon’s official National News Agency reported that IDF troops were “attempting to advance from the Kfarshuba hills... to open up a new front** under the cover of fire and artillery shells and air strikes.”

**“Violent clashes are taking place” between Hezbollah and Israeli forces**, the Lebanese report added.

The IDF said on **Tuesday that it had expanded its deployment in southern Lebanon**, sending troops toward areas where attacks have been launched against Kiryat Shmona.



*A Lebanese army inspection team check destruction at the site of an Israeli airstrike that hit a military position in the southern Lebanese coastal town of Sarafand on November 20, 2024. (MAHMOUD ZAYYAT / AFP)*

**French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot said that US-led efforts for a truce between Israel and Hezbollah had created the chance for a lasting ceasefire**, calling on both sides to accept a deal on the table.

“There is a window of opportunity that’s opening for a lasting ceasefire in Lebanon that would allow the return of those displaced, ensure the sovereignty of Lebanon and the security of Israel,” he told Europe 1 Radio. “I call on all

sides with whom we are in close contact to seize this window.”

**Speaking to the Hezbollah-affiliated al-Manar TV channel, an official with the terror group said he was neither overly optimistic nor overly pessimistic** about the prospects of a truce.

**Mahmoud Qmati said that any deal must end fighting swiftly and preserve Lebanon’s sovereignty**, an apparent reference to Israel’s stance that it must be able to resume strikes should the terror group threaten it again.

Some 60,000 residents were evacuated from northern Israeli towns on the Lebanon border shortly after Hamas’s October 7 onslaught, amid fears Hezbollah would carry out a similar attack, and increasing rocket fire by the terror group.

The attacks on northern Israel since October 2023 have resulted in the deaths of 44 civilians. In addition, 71 IDF soldiers and reservists have died in cross-border skirmishes and in the ensuing ground operation launched in southern Lebanon in late September.

Two soldiers have been killed in a drone attack from Iraq, and there have also been several attacks from Syria, without any injuries.

The IDF estimates that some 3,000 Hezbollah operatives have been killed in the conflict. Around 100 members of other terror groups, along with hundreds of civilians, have also been reported killed in Lebanon.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-envoy-heading-to-israel-to-discuss-lebanon-truce-after-additional-progress-in-beirut/>

## **Hezbollah chief says group received US ceasefire proposal**



**Hezbollah's deputy chief maintained that the group would continue fighting while negotiations proceeded.**

By [SHIR PERETS](#) NOVEMBER 20, 2024 16:18 **Updated:** NOVEMBER 20, 2024 17:22



**Sheikh Naim Qassem accepts condolences for the death of Hezbollah senior commander Fuad Shukur, who was killed on Tuesday in an Israeli strike, in Beirut's southern suburbs, Lebanon August 2, 2024. (photo credit: REUTERS/MOHAMED AZAKIR/FILE PHOTO)**

**Hezbollah Chief Naim Qassem said in a televised speech that a halt to hostilities was now in Israel's hands after he and his group had reviewed and given feedback on a US-drafted ceasefire proposal to end fighting in a televised address on Wednesday.**

**Qassem said he is letting ceasefire talks continue to see if they will produce results or not, saying a halt to fighting relies on Israeli response and [Netanyahu's](#) 'seriousness.'**

"If you attack Beirut, we will be attacking Tel Aviv," he said.

"We will not stand by while our capital is attacked."

According to him, "The attacks on us were painful, but our organization managed to recover from the price it suffered. We have strong and determined fighters."



"We have two choices," he said, "either the basket, or humiliation, and humiliation is out of our reach."

**Negotiating while fighting**

**He maintained that Hezbollah would negotiate and fight at the same time.**

**Qassem claimed the terror organization would contribute effectively to a presidential election after the ceasefire.**

**The Taif Agreement**

**He additionally stated that any political steps taken and state affairs would be under the Taif Agreement.**

According to *Arab Studies Quarterly*, **the Taif Agreement called for "a disbanding and disarming of all militias and the building of a nonsectarian national army and police."**

**The agreement also demanded "the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops and the departure of Syrian peacekeepers within two years."** <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-830000>

## **IDF kills Hezbollah anti-tank missile commanders, says group's firepower 'dramatically reduced'**

**The IAF also struck over 100 terror targets in Lebanon, including launchers, weapons storage facilities, command centers, and military structures over the past day.**

By [JERUSALEM POST STAFF](#) NOVEMBER 20, 2024 13:12 **Updated:** NOVEMBER 20, 2024 13:15

**The Israel Air Force (IAF) eliminated the commanders of Hezbollah's anti-tank missile and operations unit in the coastal sector, the military announced on Wednesday.**



**The commanders were responsible for terror attacks against Israeli citizens, including missile attacks on civilian communities in the Western Galilee and Israel's coastal area.**

**Additionally, while operating in southern Lebanon, IDF soldiers located weapons storage facilities and struck terrorist command centers both on the ground and in the air.**

**The IAF also struck over 100 terror targets in Lebanon, including launchers, weapons storage facilities, command centers, and military structures over the past day.**

**This announcement came after Northern Command chief, Major-General Ori Gordin, conducted a situational assessment in southern Lebanon.**

**During the assessment, commanders discussed IDF actions on the ground and creating the necessary conditions for the safe return of northern residents to their homes.** They expressed appreciation for the efforts of both reservists and soldiers in active service for continued operations, the military said.

He **was accompanied by the Commanding Officer of the Northern Corps and the Maneuvering Unit in the Ground Forces, Major-General Dan Goldfus, Commanding Officer of the 98th Division Brigadier-General Guy Levy, and Commanding Officer of the 7th Brigade, Colonel Elad Tzuri, the military said.**  
**Gordin says 'good achievements' have been made in southern Lebanon**

During **the assessment, Gordin stated, "We are in the middle of an offensive in this area. There have been very good achievements so far, and you have played a big role in them."**

Gordin said that the **IDF has dramatically reduced Hezbollah's firepower, saying, "It begins with our firepower targeting the organization's firepower capabilities, which have been dramatically reduced."**

He also addressed [soldiers and reservists](#) who served in Lebanon, remarking, "Every one of you has set aside something important — whether it be your wedding date, the birth of your children, an exam at school, or a major project at work. All these things are deeply meaningful to all of you, and you've put them aside."

"This is just one example of your dedication, your pursuit of values, and the essence of Israeli society, which is so vital. For this, once again, my deep appreciation. And we must continuously express our gratitude to everyone involved." <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-829965>

## **Ignoring threats, Western powers officially ask UN nuke watchdog to censure Iran** **Iranian FM warns his French counterpart move will 'complicate matters,' but Britain, France and German said driven by need to pressure Tehran to comply on nuke issues**

By [AFP](#) and [Tol Staff](#) Today, 11:32 am



*Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi speaks during a joint press conference in Tehran, on November 19, 2024. (AFP)*

**Western countries on Wednesday formally submitted a new resolution critical of Iran at the International Atomic Energy Agency ahead of its board meeting, diplomatic sources said,** pushing ahead despite Iran's warnings against the move.

**"The text was formally submitted" just before midnight on Tuesday,** a diplomatic source told AFP on condition of anonymity, with a second diplomatic source confirming the information.

**Britain, France, and Germany are seeking to censure Iran for what they say is poor cooperation with the UN nuclear watchdog** over its nuclear program.

**Earlier, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi warned the three allies against pursuing the resolution.**

**Araghchi, speaking with his French counterpart, Jean-Noel Barrot, "strongly condemned the decision of the three countries of Germany, France, and the United Kingdom" in moving to propose the draft,** warning it "will only complicate the matter further," according to a statement by the ministry on Wednesday.



*French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot speaks to media before a meeting of EU foreign ministers at the European Council building in Brussels on November 18, 2024. (Omar Havana/AP)*

Diplomats told AFP that Paris, Berlin, and London had planned to present the resolution with a view to a vote probably on Thursday.

**They said the planned censure is driven by a need to raise diplomatic pressure on Iran to return to compliance** with nuclear rules and address the IAEA's long-standing concerns.

**Araghchi also said in his phone conversation that the measure by the European powers is "in clear contradiction to the positive atmosphere created in the interactions between Iran and the agency."**



Rafael Grossi, the head of the United Nations nuclear watchdog, arrived in Tehran on November 13 for a two-day trip that included a visit to Iran's major enrichment sites in Fordo and Natanz. Iran viewed the trip as positive.

But Iranian nuclear chief Mohammad Eslami has warned against any "interventionist resolution" targeting its nuclear program and threatened "immediate countermeasures."

The agency has said that Iran has taken steps toward halting the expansion of its stockpile of highly enriched uranium, according to a [confidential report](#) by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) seen by AFP on Tuesday.

### Tensions

Tensions between Iran and the agency have repeatedly flared since a 2015 deal curbing Tehran's nuclear program in exchange for sanction relief.

The deal fell apart after then-US president Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew the United States in 2018 and reimposed heavy sanctions on Iran.

Tehran in response stepped back from its mandates under the deal, increasing its enrichment levels up to 60 percent, close to the 90% threshold required to develop a nuclear bomb.

Iran, however, has always denied seeking a nuclear weapon, saying the nuclear developments are for civil and peaceful purposes.

**According to the IAEA, Tehran is the only non-nuclear weapon state to enrich uranium to 60%.**

The agency said on Tuesday that Iran had increased its stockpile of enriched uranium in recent months, reaching more than 32 times the cap set in the 2015 nuclear deal.

The stockpile was estimated at 6,604.4 kilograms as of October 26, up 852.6 kilos from the last quarterly report in August.

On Thursday, Araghchi told the visiting IAEA chief Iran was "willing to negotiate" based on the "national interest" and "inalienable rights," but was not "ready to negotiate under pressure and intimidation."

He also said on Saturday that if a resolution against Tehran was passed, Iran would "take new measures in our nuclear program that they will certainly not like."

The veteran diplomat was Iran's chief negotiator in talks that led to the 2015 nuclear deal.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/ignoring-threats-western-powers-officially-ask-un-nuke-watchdog-to-censure-iran/>

## Iran's FM Abbas Araghchi moves to cement Russia, Qatar ties

*"Referring to the visit of the Russian high-ranking economic delegation to Tehran, he [Araghchi] expressed hope that this visit would help further develop bilateral relations," Iran state media said.*

By [SETH J. FRANTZMAN](#) NOVEMBER 20, 2024 15:36 **Updated:** NOVEMBER 20, 2024 18:59



*Iran Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi walks, on the sidelines of the 79th United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York, US, September 24, 2024. (photo credit: CAITLIN OCHS/REUTERS)*

**Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and his Qatari counterpart "met and exchanged views" on Wednesday, Iranian state media reported.**

**Their talks followed an important meeting between Araghchi and Mikhail Bogdanov, the Russian president's special representative for West Asia and Africa.**

**Taken together, the meetings illustrate how Iran is positioning itself by working with Qatar, which is an ally of the US, and Russia, while Moscow has hinted at a major escalation in Ukraine.**

**Doha has long enjoyed close ties to Iran, while Tehran backs Hamas, which is hosted by Qatar.** Iran backed Hamas's October 7 massacre and rallied its other proxies, Hezbollah and the Houthis, to attack Israel.

**The Iran-Qatar relationship is important for managing several regional files.**

**Doha has much influence over Hamas. According to recent reports, Hamas leaders may have relocated to Turkey** due to American pressure on the Qataris to stop hosting the terrorists.

**Iran would prefer to coordinate with Doha on key matters**, including Tehran's views about a possible ceasefire in Lebanon.

**A Turkish diplomatic source dismissed these reports on Monday**, saying Hamas leaders had only visited the country occasionally.

US special envoy Amos Hochstein was in Lebanon on Wednesday to negotiate a ceasefire, while Qatari

Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani and Araghchi met in Tehran to discuss bilateral and regional developments.

**Araghchi had met with Bogdanov and “emphasized the Islamic Republic of Iran’s determination to further strengthen cooperation in bilateral and multilateral fields** while referring to the very good relations between Tehran and Moscow,” Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), Iran’s official news agency, reported. “Bogdanov... traveled to Tehran for consultations with Iranian officials [and] on Tuesday evening met and held talks with Araghchi.”

#### **Growing closer**

**Iran and Russia have been growing closer in recent years, with the former supplying the latter with drones to attack Ukraine. This week, Washington gave its approval for Kyiv to use US-supplied missiles to attack inside Russia, and the White House also said it would authorize land mines** for Ukraine.

**Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky hinted that if Washington cuts funding or support for Kyiv, it could lose the war.** These are tense times, and Russia appears ready to escalate; already, the US and several European countries have temporarily closed their embassies in Kyiv due to a possible escalation by Moscow.

**In Iran, though, things are looking more pleasant. Araghchi stressed the importance of good relations with Russia, expressing “hope that this visit would help further** develop bilateral relations,” IRNA reported.

He “also **considered the situation of insecurity and instability in the West Asian region are the result of the aggressive actions of the Zionist regime** and warned against the expansion of the scope of conflicts to the entire region,” the report said.

**Iran also recently raised the issue of Western sanctions and what Iranian media call the “embargo on Iran’s airlines and shipping lines.”** Tehran is increasingly angry at the European Union, with Araghchi slamming the EU in the meetings with Moscow.

This is **how Iran is positioning itself to feed off Russia’s anger at the West and tie Iran economically to Russia and China.**

“The EU and the UK, without presenting any evidence, have accused Iran of supplying ballistic missiles to Russia and imposed sanctions on our airlines and shipping,” Araghchi said in a post on X.

IRNA reported that Iran would respond to the “unconstructive measures at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors’ session. Speaking in a phone call with IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi on Wednesday, Araghchi discussed the interactions between Iran’s FM moves to cement Russia and Qatar ties and the IAEA following Grossi’s trip to Tehran, as well as the developments related to the Board of Governors meeting.”  
<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/iran-news/article-829990>

## **Cigarettes for \$1,000: regulated aid in Gaza leads to rise in looters, smugglers**

***The blockade and tightly regulated aid have led to the resurgence of the smuggling industry.***

By YOAV SHUSTER NOVEMBER 20, 2024 02:59 **Updated:** NOVEMBER 20, 2024 03:00



*Trucks containing humanitarian aid from Jordan and international communities transfers into the northern Gaza Strip, October 22, 2024 (photo credit: IDF SPOKESMAN’S UNIT)*

**A report from The Washington Post highlights the growing strength of smuggling gangs in Gaza, which have capitalized on restrictions on the entry of goods. These groups now control the flow of multiple products, including tobacco. Cigarettes, in particular, have become a form of currency, reportedly selling for up to \$1,000 per pack.**

**Last week, the Kissufim border crossing reopened for the entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza, alleviating some of the immense strain on residents who had endured severe**

**shortages** during October, when minimal aid was allowed in. This reopening also averted an American threat to impose an arms embargo.

#### **Regulated aid**

However, **conditions in Gaza have drastically changed since the war began. The blockade and**



**tightly regulated aid have led to the resurgence of the smuggling industry.** Tobacco products, now more expensive than ever and in greater demand, have become a critical commodity.

**Control over these goods has given immense power to those handling them, allowing them to operate largely without interference from IDF in designated closed areas,** according to the Washington Post.

The United Nations **humanitarian coordinator for Gaza described cigarette smuggling as a "real cancer."**



*Transfer of humanitarian aid trucks into the Gaza strip through the "Kisufim" passage (credit: IDF SPOKESPERSON UNIT)*

**Georgios Petropoulos, head of the Gaza sub-office of the UN Co-ordinator for Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) stated, "Recently, we've found cigarettes hidden inside cans and other food products. This suggests the smuggling process starts during packaging, likely in Egypt."**

**UN reports from the end of the week revealed that aid trucks entering Gaza are frequently looted upon crossing the Kerem Shalom border from Israel. Of the 109 trucks that passed through last Saturday, 98 were hijacked.** Drivers were forcibly removed,

detained for hours, and in some cases severely beaten. Gangs of masked gunmen reportedly fired on the convoys and used grenades during these attacks.

According to reports, **these gangs are not affiliated with Hamas but are instead local smuggling groups that have grown significantly since the war began.** Their rise is attributed to the collapse of Hamas' civilian infrastructure, including its policing mechanisms.

UN data cited by The Washington Post indicates that **armed gangs operate with impunity even in areas under IDF control.** Some reports allege that these **groups have established "control headquarters" in zones cleared of civilians and declared closed military areas** by the IDF.

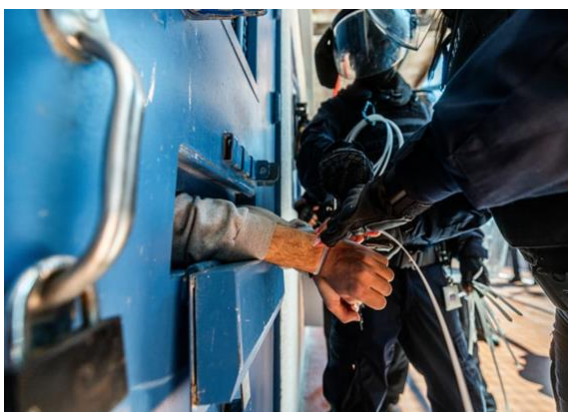
The **stealing of humanitarian aid has become widespread in Gaza. These gangs, often linked to local crime families, are stealing not just food but other essential goods arriving through Israeli crossings. Gaza residents stress that these armed looters are unaffiliated with Hamas.** Historically, these crime families were targets of Hamas police and intelligence efforts.

Israeli authorities have denied these allegations, stating that the IDF is implementing "targeted preventive measures against the looters and is consistently working to facilitate the transfer of aid to civilians." An anonymous Israeli official told The Washington Post that Israel is aware that "some looters have ties to Hamas, and some do not." <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-829922>

## **Hamas, Fatah officials warn: We will start wars in Israeli prisons**

**An imprisoned senior Hamas official told the Israeli Prison Service Commissioner: "You will end the war outside; we will start it in prison."**

By *JERUSALEM POST STAFF*, ALON HACHMON NOVEMBER 20, 2024 11:22 **Updated:** NOVEMBER 20, 2024 14:28



*Hamas Nukhba terrorists being held at the Ofer Prison, near Jerusalem, Israel, August 28, 2024 (photo credit: Chaim Goldberg/Flash90)*

**Israel Prison Services (IPS) Commissioner Kobi Yaakobi told the Knesset National Security Committee that a senior Hamas official in prison threatened a war inside Israeli prisons.**

**Yaakobi said that an imprisoned senior Hamas official told him, "You will end the war outside; we will start it in prison."**

**He also stated that a senior Fatah official told Yaakobi, "We will have our Independence Day inside the prison."**

**During the Knesset session, Yaakobi said, "These quotes reverberate with me, and I am preparing myself with**

**the means and preparing the team accordingly."**

[Yaakobi became the new Israel Prison Service chief](#) in May of 2024, and his appointment was approved by the government.



*Israel Prison Service chief Kobi Yaakobi attends a National Security committee meeting at the Knesset, the Israeli parliament on November 20, 2024. (credit: YONATAN SINDEL/FLASH90)*

**In an interview with Maariv on Wednesday, Yaakobi underscored the critical role of IPS in safeguarding public security**, referring to security prisons as “Israel’s eighth front.”

**“The prison service must have strong intelligence,”** Yaakobi stated. “We possess the potential to greatly enhance both security and crime prevention, directly impacting public safety beyond prison walls.”

**Prisons as 'Israel's eighth front'**

**Yaakobi expressed concerns over the infiltration of staff by criminal and terrorist organizations**, calling for rigorous preventive measures. **“Prominent crime organizations attempt to infiltrate our ranks,”** he said. **“That’s why polygraph tests are essential.”** He further disclosed the dismissal of several staff members involved in smuggling contraband.

Focusing on the threats posed by security prisoners, Yaakobi characterized the situation as akin to other major fronts Israel faces. “This is an active and existing front,” he explained. “We call it the ‘eighth front,’ alongside Lebanon, Iran, and Iraq. We’re adapting leadership and developing offensive tools to confront it.”

**Yaakobi also addressed intelligence coordination efforts. “We’re seizing hundreds of weapons and intercepting countless plots,”** he noted. **Intelligence, shared by IPS and Shin Bet, has revealed numerous plots to harm staff members.** “These threats remain very real,” Yaakobi warned, calling for adequate funding to bolster intelligence capabilities. <https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-829950>

## IAF strikes terror cell in Jenin

*As part of ongoing counterterrorism operations in Judea and Samaria, an aircraft struck a group of armed terrorists in Jenin.*

*Uzi Baruch* Nov 20, 2024, 4:58 PM (GMT+2)



**IDF, Border Police, and ISA forces have been operating over the past two days in Jenin as part of a series of counterterrorism operations in northern Samaria.**

**The IDF updated on Wednesday that the IAF struck armed terrorists a short while ago in the area of Jenin.**

**Before the strike, the IDF updated that the forces so far eliminated five terrorists and seized seven weapons. In addition, four explosives labs, a surveillance**

**operations room, and dozens of explosives were destroyed.**

**In the Samaria village of Urif, five weapons' lathes, as well as weapons' parts were confiscated,** and a wanted suspect was arrested. In addition, six suspects were arrested in the Etzion and Efraim Brigades' areas of operation.

In an operation in Judea, as part of the expanded operations ahead of the increased Jewish visits expected over the weekend in Hebron, four suspects were arrested, a weapon was seized, and dozens of suspects were questioned. No Israeli forces were hurt. <http://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/399507>

## Knesset votes on bill to reshape intelligence oversight under PMO

*A controversial Knesset bill aims to create a PMO intelligence czar separate from IDF, Mossad, and Shin Bet.*

*By YONAH JEREMY BOB* NOVEMBER 20, 2024 16:45



The **full Knesset plenum voted 56-36 in a preliminary reading to pass a bill that would create a new intelligence advisor and staff within the prime minister's office who answers directly to the premier and is separated from the three big intelligence services: IDF, Shin Bet, and Mossad.**

This is only the first of many steps toward eventually making such a bill law, but there is already significant controversy about whether the new post, as suggested, would solve gaps in intelligence which partially led to the **October 7 disaster**, or is being used as cover to further politicize the intelligence establishment.

There is a **consensus among most in Israel that the intelligence and political classes both failed to foresee or prevent Hamas's October 7, 2023 invasion of Israel.**

**No one agrees what to do about it.**

This latest idea being pushed by **MK Amit Halevi on behalf of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to create a new intelligence advisor and staff within PMO. On its face, it is simply following the recommendations of the post-Yom Kippur War Agranat Commission to establish such an independent intelligence body whose purpose it to second-guess the other agencies.**



*Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu (L) speaks with Cabinet secretary Tzachi Braverman during the weekly government conference at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem on June 17, 2018. (credit: MARC ISRAEL SELLEM/POOL)*

**The problem is downplaying threats**

**In English, such a body can be called a “red team,” or often an inspector general's office fulfills such a function to make sure that a country does not get a security surprise because they have too much group-think that underplays a certain threat.**

**In Hebrew, this is called the “Ipcha Mistabra,” and the IDF and Mossad often establish their own backup or opposition teams to counter whatever the accepted wisdom is on a certain security topic.**

The problem has been – and was certainly true **on October 7 with downplaying the threat from Hamas – that too often such internal opposition teams pull their punches in criticizing the conventional wisdom, lest they endanger future promotion options with their chief.**

**Alternatively, sometimes the opposition teams express significant disagreement with the intelligence chief in question, but that chief pays no attention to their views and only has them file their views so he can check the box that he entertained opposing views.**

From **this perspective, having a new intelligence czar who does not need to worry about promotions from any of the three big intelligence agencies would seem to be a good way to ensure that the prime minister hears opposing views in a full and strident manner.**

One **obvious objection could be that this role of giving the prime minister a counter view on intelligence and national security and where the advisers are not working for any of the big three agencies, is supposed to be fulfilled by the national security council chief and his staff.**

**Making a new intelligence adviser may just be adding more bureaucracy and fights over resources between the NSC chief and whoever the new advisor would be. Top defense officials have asked why would just creating a similar new body with a different name lead to a better result? The NSC did nothing to challenge the big three agencies's view of Hamas being deterred on October 7.**

Some **former intelligence officials told the Jerusalem Post that this new position would be different than the NSC.**

They said that the **NSC has too many responsibilities in foreign affairs, diplomacy, and security, where analyzing intelligence is just a small piece and can easily fall by the wayside.**

Moreover, they told the Post that **the NSC almost never looks at the raw intelligence at issue to be able to make its own fully informed potential separate judgment on the significance of gathered intelligence.**

Rather, **they said that the overworked NSC at most has time to look at the summary conclusions of the big three intelligence agencies of the raw intelligence, without really knowing whether there could have been a real dissenting view.**

In addition, they said to the **Post that most of the NSC staff are immediate and future members of**

**the big three agencies, on temporary “loan” to the NSC.**

This means that when they want to know about intelligence, they just call their old and likely future colleagues and bosses in the big three intelligence agencies to find out what the conventional view is and then simply pass that on to the prime minister.

If the **new intelligence czar and his staff are more separated by a period of a few years from having worked for the big three agencies** and are not expecting future work there, then they might be more ready to question the big three agencies.

Likewise, if their **sole responsibility is intelligence, which is far more narrow than the NSC, then they should have more time to go beyond the big three agencies’ summary conclusions** to view the original raw intelligence.

Still, even if some of the existing intelligence agents seem to support the change, some oppose it, and some do not seem ready to weigh in on it yet but have indicated concerns that this is a new politicization power play by Netanyahu.

**One part of the new role is that it would not need to be part of any public vetting process.**

This means that Netanyahu could pick an intelligence agent who he is sure will just support his policies, even if it is completely against the entire defense establishment and even if it is in a case where the prime minister’s motivations are entirely political or potentially corrupt.

For example, Netanyahu went against the entire defense establishment to push through purchasing additional nuclear submarines from Germany, part of what became known as Case 3000, the Submarine Affair.

While Netanyahu was never indicted for corruption, many of his former top aides were, and to date, any court and any commission probing the issue have been highly critical of his ignoring the defense establishment’s view of the purchase.

They have said that it is difficult to explain his decision as being in the interest of Israel’s national security and that the way he managed the process may have opened the door to corruption, even if he himself did not directly participate.

Some also suspect that a new intelligence czar be used to drop all responsibility for October 7 on the other three agencies in order to whitewash Netanyahu’s role in the failure.

Other objections are that a new intelligence czar will be sidelined by the existing agencies and the NSC.

The new czar would have no intelligence collection capability, and the existing intelligence czars could decide to blacklist him from certain information or to give certain data only after they directly already told the data to Netanyahu, which is what happened with the now defunct Intelligence Ministry.

A similar fate happened to the Homeland Security Ministry, which briefly had some power in the same era but was eventually beaten out by the Defense Ministry and the IDF and closed down.

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-830005>

## ‘Almost no chance of survival’ – ex-top Ukrainian general to troops

*Frontline conditions demand a kill-or-be-killed mentality, Valery Zaluzhny has told soldiers*

20 Nov, 2024 13:21



FILE PHOTO: Valery Zaluzhny in 2023. © Alexey Furman / Getty Images

**Ukrainian troops currently being trained in the UK to fight Russia must steel themselves to face death and kill without a second thought, Kiev’s ambassador in London, Valery Zaluzhny has told the soldiers. The four-star general previously served as commander-in-chief of Ukraine’s armed forces.**

The speech that Zaluzhny gave at a bootcamp in southern England was shared by The Sun on Tuesday, after the tabloid joined the official’s tour of the military facility. British Armed Forces Minister Luke Pollard accompanied the Ukrainian general-turned-diplomat.

“Remember that the war is becoming more cruel with every day. It leaves almost no chance for survival,” Zaluzhny warned the trainees. “Learn not to be afraid of death.”

He urged the troops to **develop military camaraderie, to become brothers on the battlefield**, and to



look after each other.

**"It's not enough to save yourself and your friend, your brother," he stated. "You still need to complete the task. To do this, you will need to kill. To kill without hesitation."**

**"Love each other and remember Ukraine. If you are gone, maybe someone else will take your place, but Ukraine will be preserved,"** Zaluzhny added.

In **February, Zaluzhny was removed from his military position and later from the armed forces altogether.** Vladimir Zelensky sacked him after the general publicly disputed the Ukrainian leader's vision on how the fight against Russia should proceed. Zaluzhny argued at the time that the conflict had reached a stalemate and Ukrainian forces should entrench. The balance has since swung in favour of Russia, whose troops have made significant progress in recent months.

The **UK is among the staunchest supporters of Kiev's bid to achieve a military victory** against Russia. Former prime minister Boris Johnson infamously told the Ukrainians to *"just fight,"* after Kiev and Moscow agreed a draft truce in 2022. The British military has trained over 50,000 Ukrainian soldiers so far, according to the UK Ministry of Defence.

**Zelensky dispatched Zaluzhny to the embassy in London in May.** Some people suggested the appointment was intended to remove the popular ex-military leader as a potential political rival.

<https://www.rt.com/russia/607935-zaluzhny-speech-troops-britain/>

## Ukraine has no more than 50 ATACMS missiles – media

**Kiev has used the long-range missiles to strike Bryansk Region, according to the Russian military**

20 Nov, 2024 09:27



**FILE PHOTO: An ATACMS firing a missile into the East Sea/Sea of Japan during a joint training exercise between the US and South Korea © Getty Images / South Korean Defense Ministry**

**The Ukrainian military is believed to have received only around 50 ATACMS missiles from the US so far, The Times reported on Tuesday, while noting that the Pentagon has not publicly released any figures on the controversial weapons shipment.**

**According to the British newspaper, Ukraine's military forces have "plenty" of HIMARS and MLRS systems that are able to fire the long-range missiles,** the first of which were sent to Kiev within months of the escalation of the conflict with Russia in 2022.

The newspaper **highlighted, however, that with a limited supply of ATACMS missiles, military commanders in Kiev will have to "choose carefully when they select targets inside Russia."**

On Tuesday, the Russian Defense Ministry reported that Ukraine had launched six long-range ATACMS missiles into the border region of Bryansk, and that five were intercepted by air defense systems, while another was damaged and hit the ground near a military base.

The **White House had considered whether to authorize Kiev's use of US-supplied long-range missiles for strikes deep into Russia for more than two years. On Sunday, the New York Times reported, citing unnamed American officials, that outgoing US President Joe Biden had removed the restrictions** on use of the weapons.

The **news was later confirmed by the EU's outgoing foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell.** Ukraine's Vladimir Zelensky claimed that several other Western countries had followed suit, and given Kiev permission to use their long-range missiles against internationally recognized Russian territory.

**On Monday, US Deputy National Security Adviser Jonathan Finer evaded questions from reporters about Biden's authorization, saying he was not "confirming any decisions that have or have not been made about US assistance"** when it comes to operational issues.

Russian **President Vladimir Putin has warned that such a step would change the nature of the Ukraine conflict, making NATO a direct participant.** The head of state has also updated Russia's nuclear doctrine to allow a strategic response to a conventional attack by the proxy of a nuclear power.

<https://www.rt.com/news/607916-atacms-missiles-kiev-control-fifty/>

## Pentagon to give banned mines to Ukraine – media

*The anti-personnel weapons will help “blunt” Russian progress, US officials have claimed*

20 Nov, 2024 08:43

**Outgoing US President Joe Biden has decided to send anti-personnel landmines to Ukraine, multiple news outlets reported on Tuesday, citing unnamed American officials.**

The White House is said to believe that the weapons will help Kiev “blunt” the advancement of Russian forces. The move comes days after Biden reportedly authorized the use of long-range ATACMS missiles deep inside Russian territory, a policy shift that his administration has not officially confirmed.

According to the Washington Post, which was the first to report the latest development, the weapons will only be used within what the US considers Ukrainian territory and are of “nonpersistent” design, meaning they become inactive within weeks of deployment to mitigate long-term hazards.

The use of anti-personnel landmines is a matter of controversy. The Ottawa Treaty bans this type of weapon, though the US and Russia are not among the 164 nations which have ratified it. Ukraine did so in 2005, and has been accused by the UN of breaching its obligations.

The US previously supplied Ukraine with Claymore mines, which are also designed to injure or kill troops, but unlike landmines are placed above ground and can be triggered remotely. Washington has also provided cluster weapons, including rockets and artillery shells, which many US allies have banned due to the long-term threat to civilians that they pose.

In 2020, Biden lashed out at then-President Donald Trump for dropping an Obama-era policy which banned the transfer of anti-personnel mines to other nations, with the exception of South Korea. He called the change “reckless” and reinstated the restriction after coming to power, the Post noted.

American officials claim that Kiev ultimately decides how to conduct its conflict with Russia, and that Washington’s role is to provide the tools it needs. Moscow has called the Ukraine conflict a US-led proxy war against Russia, which the White House intends to wage “to the last Ukrainian.”

On Monday, US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan urged Kiev to send more troops to the front line, arguing that a shortage of personnel rather than weapons should be blamed for the failure to stop Russian advances. Kiev relies on brutally enforced mandatory conscription to replenish losses, as draft avoidance remains a major problem. <https://www.rt.com/news/607912-biden-landmines-transfer-ukraine/> **It should be blatantly obvious that bidumb and his crew of criminals is pushing very hard to start a huge war with Russia with their current antics. Putin has been very patient and reserved But at the rate things are going he will ultimately respond and when he does it will be dramatic. – rdb]**

## Western threats come at a cost – Russia’s spy chief

*Nations working on long-range strikes deep inside the country will not be left unpunished, Sergey Naryshkin has warned*

20 Nov, 2024 09:54



*FILE PHOTO: Director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) Sergey Naryshkin. © Sputnik / Ramil Sitdikov*

**Moscow will respond to Western threats of long-range strikes into Russia, the head of the Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR), Sergey Naryshkin, has warned.**

The Russian spy chief said changes to the country’s nuclear doctrine enacted by President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday have reduced the room to maneuver for Western powers in their confrontation with Moscow.

**“Attempts by some NATO members to participate in the facilitation of possible long-range strikes with Western weapons deep inside Russian territory will not be left unpunished,”** Naryshkin said in an interview with the Russian magazine National Defense, which was published on Wednesday.

The new nuclear deterrence guidelines provide that an attack on Russia by a non-nuclear nation backed by a nuclear one would be considered a joint operation, potentially triggering nuclear

retaliation. These changes “de facto exclude the possibility of beating the Russian Armed Forces on the battlefield,” Naryshkin said.

A ‘victory plan’ unveiled by Ukrainian leader Vladimir Zelensky last month called for a Western “conventional deterrence package” to guarantee his nation’s security. He reportedly asked the US to deploy Tomahawk cruise missiles on Ukrainian soil, which Washington has refused to do, according to the media.

Zelensky also asked the US and its allies for permission to conduct long-range strikes deep inside Russia using donated weapons. US President Joe Biden reportedly granted this permission last week, leading to an attack with ATACMS ballistic missiles on Russia’s border Bryansk Region on Tuesday morning. The Russian military claimed it had intercepted or damaged all the incoming projectiles, preventing any serious damage on the ground.

Putin has argued that Ukraine is incapable of launching sophisticated Western weapons without direct involvement by donor states. Any long-range strike on Russian territory using such arms would put the country at war with NATO, he warned.

Meanwhile, Naryshkin also said in the interview that the US was causing trouble as it clings to its withering global hegemony.

“Western attempts to sow chaos and discord in Eurasia only strengthen the resolve of Russia and its regional partners to create order,” he said. “Being smart and silver-tongued is no longer sufficient for the Anglo-Americans to conjure another reality. The liberal world order is losing its glamor.”

<https://www.rt.com/russia/607918-svr-chief-nuclear-deterrence/>

## Kremlin rules out ‘freezing’ Ukraine conflict

*Russia intends on achieving its goals, but nevertheless remains open to dialogue, spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said*

20 Nov, 2024 13:02

Any proposals involving the freezing of the Ukraine conflict are unacceptable to Russia, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists on Wednesday.

He was responding to an article published by Reuters, which discussed options for ending the hostilities between Russia and Ukraine. The outlet suggested that Russian President Vladimir Putin was open to negotiating a ceasefire with incoming US President Donald Trump, and that Moscow and Kiev could soon negotiate a freezing of the conflict, as well as the establishment of a demilitarized zone and some sort of exchange of territories, namely the Kursk and Kharkov Regions.

While Putin has repeatedly stated that Moscow was open to talks and negotiations, Peskov noted that he has also insisted that “any option of freezing this conflict will not work for us,” and said “it is important for us to achieve our goals, which are well known to everyone.”

**Moscow has stated that its main goals include the demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine, as well as ensuring that Kiev legally commits to neutrality and abandons its hopes of joining NATO.**

Earlier this week, the Kremlin spokesman recalled that Putin had also outlined conditions for ending the hostilities on numerous occasions, and that these steps are “what needs to be done to stop the fighting.”

In June, Putin set out a list of conditions for the immediate commencement of negotiations with Kiev, which included the complete removal of Ukrainian troops from all Russian territories, particularly the Donetsk and Lugansk People’s Republics, as well as Kherson and Zaporozhye Regions.

Last week, during his first direct phone call with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in two years, Putin also reiterated that Moscow remained open to finding a political and diplomatic resolution to the Ukraine conflict, and said it was Kiev that was refusing to negotiate.

According to the Kremlin, the Russian president also emphasized that the crisis was the “direct result of NATO’s long-standing aggressive policy aimed at creating an anti-Russian bridgehead on Ukrainian territory, while ignoring our country’s interests in the field of security and trampling on the rights of Russian-speaking residents.”

During the call, Putin emphasized that any potential settlement between Moscow and Kiev would inevitably



have to take into account Russia's security interests, recognize the new territorial realities, and "eliminate the root cause of the conflict." <https://www.rt.com/russia/607937-peskov-ukraine-no-freezing/>

## **Shocking real reason Biden OK'd Ukraine use of U.S. longer-range missiles against Russia**

*'The idea is really just to disrupt the future of Trump's presidency'*

By [J.M. Phelps](#) [November 19, 2024](#)

**The Biden administration's sudden lame-duck approval of Ukraine using U.S. longer-range missiles to attack deep inside Russia leaves many scratching their heads in disbelief, some even speculating that the outgoing president seems intent on starting World War III – all to disrupt the coming administration of Donald Trump.**

With only two months remaining in office, Biden has authorized Ukraine to use Lockheed Martin's Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) rockets, which have a range of up to 190 miles and are designed to strike deep into enemy territory.

And indeed, for the first time in the 33-months-long war, [Ukraine is firing the U.S.-supplied missiles deep into Russia.](#)

**In response, Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, has signed a new nuclear doctrine stipulating that any attack on Russia, if that attack is supported by a nation with nuclear weapons, could serve as grounds for a nuclear response from Russia.**

In other words, the use of nuclear weapons in the Russia-Ukraine war has suddenly become potentially much more imminent.

Putin's new nuclear policy came one day after Biden authorized Ukraine to attack Russia with American-made longer-range missiles.

This comes just 2 months after Putin said that if Ukraine used these missiles to strike Russia, it would mean the U.S. is at war.

If Ukraine uses U.S. long-range missiles to strike Russia, the "United States is at war with Russia."

[pic.twitter.com/NfNcAdWqOy](https://pic.twitter.com/NfNcAdWqOy)

— WorldNetDaily (@worldnetdaily) [November 19, 2024](#)

**Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov argues that Ukraine's use of the American missiles will "continue adding fuel to the fire and provoking further escalation of tensions around this conflict."**

And, concedes the Associated Press, "Biden's [shift in policy](#) adds an uncertain new factor to the conflict on the eve of the 1,000-day milestone since Russia began its full-scale invasion in 2022."

**What is really going on? Some U.S. military members are outspoken regarding what they see as the real reasons for Biden's sudden escalation.** One of them, Army Lt. Col. Darin Gaub, a former UH-60 Blackhawk pilot and co-founder of [Restore Liberty](#), told WorldNetDaily: "This entirely has to do with trying to tie Trump's hands to a war, dampening his ability to achieve the agenda that the American people want him to achieve." According to Gaub, "This has been in the [Left's] plan for quite a while, in anticipation of the landslide victory that occurred earlier this month."

A "world on fire" for the Trump presidency is something Gaub predicted in an [Oct. 6 Substack article](#). The ongoing war between Russia and Ukraine is only one of the contributors to the chaos that lies ahead.

Gaub told WND it's not about Biden attempting to extend his stay in the White House as some have suggested, because "he would have to declare an emergency that precluded the country's ability to hold an election or hold a change of leadership." He also pointed out that "we've successfully changed out leadership in much bigger wars," including World War II.

For Gaub, "The idea is really just to disrupt the future of Trump's presidency." Rather than trying to stop the transition of power on Jan. 20, he said, "The powers-that-be are attempting to put Trump in a position where he has to deal with a mega conflict which could derail some of what he wants to accomplish at the start of his second term and beyond."

To that end, Gaub added, "The American people must remember that we're dealing with people [on the Left] for whom the rules are sometimes a mild inconvenience."

Interestingly, in July Trump said he could end the war between Russia and Ukraine in one day.

While Russia's United Nations ambassador is skeptical, Gaub suggests that, "based on his previous record, we should give him the chance even if it seems unrealistic for some."

**WATCH: WND LIVE covered this U.S.-Ukraine missile issue in depth on Monday, Nov. 18, 2024:**

Biden Wants More War <https://www.wnd.com/2024/11/shocking-real-reason-biden-okd-ukraine-use-of-u-s-longer-range-missiles-against-russia/>

## **EXCLUSIVE: 26 Medical Societies Have Issued Political Calls to Action on Topics Like Racism, Climate Change**

[Elizabeth Troutman Mitchell](#) | November 20, 2024

**FIRST ON THE DAILY SIGNAL**—The majority of American medical societies have released statements infusing political ideology into their missions, according to a new study by [medical watchdog Do No Harm](#).

Out of 28 medical specialty societies, 26 have adopted official positions relating to affirmative action or racism, climate change, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, immigration policy, or [conflict between Israel and Hamas](#), since 2010.

Almost every society included in the study had issued a statement on racism or affirmative action, many of which feature calls to political action which falls [outside the scope of health care](#).

**"The politicization of medical societies represents a betrayal of the public's trust in healthcare," Do No Harm's Chairman Dr. Stanley Goldfarb told The Daily Signal.** "Dues-paying members of the societies and the public they serve **should expect nothing less than institutional neutrality** from all specialist groups."

Do No Harm is a "national association of medical professionals combating the attack on our healthcare system from woke activists," according to its website.

The American College of Physicians "supports greater transparency, accountability, and adoption of best practices in law enforcement to address the sources of institutional racism and harm and ensure equal treatment under the law of all persons, without regard to race and other personal characteristics."

The American College of Surgeons released a statement in 2020 saying "police brutality against people of color" is "among the most important missions of the ACS."

**"Structural racism, manifested by deep inequities in housing, employment income, and education, contributes to a greater prevalence of underlying chronic conditions," the special society for surgeons wrote.**

The American Academy of Pediatrics expressed concern that the 2023 Supreme Court ruling against affirmative action would "exacerbate the existing underrepresentation of certain racial and ethnic groups in medicine."

The American Society for Clinical Pathology said racism is a "health issue."

"ASCP seeks to engage people of color and other underrepresented groups in designing, executing, and leading programs to serve all patients and all members of our profession," the 2020 statement reads, adding that "If we do not speak out against systemic racism and discrimination, we are complicit in perpetuating it."

On the one year anniversary of George Floyd's death, the American Psychiatric Association said it had to "examine how racism had entwined itself into our current operations, and how racism was impacting our patients on a daily basis."

"We began important conversations and took actions to reform our organization and to help our member psychiatrists better serve Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) patients," the 2021 statement says.

Since 2010, 93% of specialty societies published statements on affirmative action or racism, 57% on [climate change](#), 50% on immigration, 39% on Ukraine, and 18% on the ongoing war in the Middle East.

Climate change registers as the second-most popular issue among the five issues surveyed for this report, with 16 of 28 societies issuing an official statement.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists released guidance in 2022 on how to "reduce carbon footprint from inhaled anesthesia."

The American College of Physicians in a 2022 statement "affirms the need to achieve environmental justice so that everyone can live, work, learn, and play in a safe, healthy environment."

Only two societies reviewed in the report have not adopted an official position on the five political issues under consideration. Among the 26 societies that take stances, 23 do so on multiple issues.

The five societies that have taken stances on a single issue do so on racism. Four of those statements were published within weeks of Floyd's death.

Half of the organizations made a statement about immigration, with all of them issued as critiques of policies prioritized by then-President Donald Trump.

The Endocrine Society released a statement in January 2017 opposing Trump's executive order barring the people from seven countries—Iraq, Iran, Syria, Somalia, Sudan, Libya, and Yemen—from entering the U.S.

"The Society strongly opposes efforts that create barriers to the exchange of scientific information," the statement said. "We will continue to welcome and support scientists and clinicians from around the globe because science, like disease, has no borders."

Medical organizations should remain neutral on culture war issues, according to the Do No Harm report.

"Engaging in activism and breaching medicine's social contract comes at a cost to clinicians," senior researcher Ian Kingsbury wrote. "When one side violates their end of the bargain, they invite the other side to do the same."

Making political statements threatens trust in medical professionals, according to Kingsbury.

"Medical organizations risk forfeiting autonomy when they operate outside their expertise," Kingsbury continued. "Moreover, when organizations take official stances on issues, they tend to chill the speech of individual members who feel differently." <https://www.dailysignal.com/2024/11/20/exclusive-26-medical-societies-have-taken-stances-racism-climate-change/> **Medical societies were originally created to promote the quality of healthcare within the profession and specialty. They weren't created to become political action committees outside the healthcare arena. In the 1980's because of the problem with rampant litigation as a result of the growth of the legal groups the societies began advocating for malpractice reform. Watching the actions of the societies over the past 50 years they have really lost their focus and have no merit any longer. Most are terminally biased by the financial issues which are out of control. – rdb]**

## Huckabee is the first gentile ambassador to Israel in a decade, what does it mean?



**Rabbi Pesach Wolicki** November 20, 2024

*President-elect Donald Trump's appointment of Mike Huckabee as United States ambassador to Israel represents a break with recent tradition.*

**President-elect Donald Trump's appointment of Mike Huckabee as United States ambassador to Israel represents a break with recent tradition. The last gentile US ambassador to Israel was James Cunningham, appointed by President George W. Bush in 2008.**

Although there have been several non-Jewish ambassadors to the Jewish state, the appointment of Huckabee **sets a new precedent and signals what appears to be a new direction in the US-Israel relationship**. Huckabee is unabashed about both his unequivocal support for the Jewish people's national claim to the entire land of Israel as well as the reasons he holds this view, which stem from the biblical basis of his Christian faith.

In describing the realization that he came to upon visiting Israel for the first time in 1973, Huckabee recently said that **"God had set this land aside for His people 3,800 years ago when he gave Abraham the title deed to all of Israel and said: 'Those who bless Israel will be blessed, and those who curse Israel will be cursed'"** (Genesis 12:3).

For Evangelical Christians like Huckabee, supporting Israel is straightforward, even as it is often misunderstood. **The most repeated prophecy in the Bible is that the nation of Israel, scattered to the ends of the earth, will one day return to its land after a lengthy exile.**

In the words of **Deuteronomy 30, the first time in the Bible this prophecy appears, "Even if you are scattered to the ends of the heavens, from there the Lord your God will gather you and take you. He will bring you back to the land that your fathers possessed, and you shall possess it. He will make you more numerous and more prosperous than your forefathers."**

Christians who take the Bible seriously look at the modern State of Israel, with millions of Jews ingathered from all corners of the world living in a prosperous first-world economy, and they understand that God's promises



are real.

For many **American Christians, support for Israel is not about eschatology and fulfillment of the prophecies but rather a simple connection that is as historic** as it is spiritual. Vice president-elect JD Vance, a Catholic, explained US support for Israel as follows:

“A majority of citizens of this country think that **their savior – and I count myself a Christian – was born, died, and resurrected in that narrow little strip of territory off the Mediterranean**. The idea that there is ever going to be an American foreign policy that doesn’t care a lot about that slice of the world is preposterous.”

On another recent occasion, Vance described the US-Israel relationship as “an expression of deeper things, of cultural affinity, and shared heritage and values.”

JD Vance praying at the Western Wall in Jerusalem, Israel (2022). [pic.twitter.com/SwvOGFe3Kd](https://pic.twitter.com/SwvOGFe3Kd)  
— Arsen Ostrovsky (@Ostrov\_A) July 15, 2024

Or, to quote Huckabee again, “**There is no explanation for Israel, nor is there an explanation for the United States, apart from the intervention of God. I don’t see how anyone with a semblance of intelligence can see the miracle of Israel or, for that matter, the miracle of the United States, and come to any other conclusion [than] that this is not just man’s doing, this is God’s doing.**”

### **Spiritual rather than political**

**FRAMING THE US-Israel relationship in spiritual rather than geopolitical terms is a welcome development.** The Abraham Accords have a deeper significance than just a series of normalization agreements. Despite the realpolitik that informs the thinking of career diplomats in the State Department and, frankly, even most Jewish supporters of Israel, the real glue that binds most of America to Israel is the Bible. And this matters now more than ever.

The **enemies of Israel, both in the Middle East and in the West, reject Israel’s legitimacy and existence because they reject the Bible.** The connective tissue of the bizarre and unholy alliance between the progressive, atheist Left and jihadist Islam is a rejection of the truth of the Bible Jews and Christians revere and of the biblical underpinnings of Western civilization. To speak of the alliance between the US and Israel only in terms of geopolitics and national security is to miss what is happening right now globally.

**The cultural struggle happening in America and throughout the Western world can be summed up in one question: Is the Bible true?** Political conservatives from Hungary to Brazil, to the Netherlands, and the United States understand that they are fighting for the values and way of life bequeathed to them by their Bible-believing ancestors.

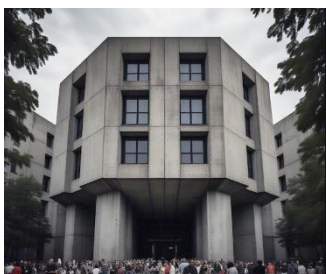
Christianity is the enemy of both the left-wing progressives and the Islamists who are now overwhelming Europe. It’s no wonder that those on the right in all these countries are also overwhelmingly pro-Israel. We have reached a point where the separation between politics and faith has disappeared.

Henry Kissinger famously said, “America has no permanent friends or enemies, only interests.” But Kissinger was not a man of faith. By appointing Mike Huckabee to represent the US in Jerusalem, president-elect Donald Trump has signaled that the US-Israel relationship is about something far more permanent than politics. <https://israel365news.com/397982/huckabee-is-the-first-gentile-ambassador-to-israel-in-a-decade-what-does-it-mean>

## **OP ED**

# **Socio-Feudalism’s War on the Individual**

*Tue, 19 Nov 2024 8:37 PM PST by Daniel Greenfield*



The transformation of the medieval world into the modern world came about with the idea that man could and should transform his lot in life. The liberal individualism of the Enlightenment however was soon countered by reactionary movements, feudal and socio-feudal, seeking to put the genie of individual autonomy back in the box through collectivist movements.

Among the most prominent of these was what would eventually be called socialism. While early socialist movements had been a radical Christian heresy emphasizing communal living, these experiments invariably failed on a local level leaving behind a trail of wrecked lives.

19th century radical theorists began laying out plans for the communal transformations of entire societies. Fourier's socialist 'Phalanxes' which would influence everything from Soviet communal farms to hippie communes in the U.S., were feudal mass communities with no private property and everyone assigned a role in life under the rule of a centralized 'omniarch'.

Socialists had to justify the elevation of the collective over the individual through fatalism about the role of man. All evidence to the contrary, man had no ability to change his lot in life. He was only an atom in the larger phalanxes of life. As Robert Owen, the Father of British Socialism, told Congress in an address in 1825, man "never did, nor is it possible he ever can form his own character" but is "universally plastic" and socialists could make him over into anything at all.

The Declaration of Independence asserted that man was born free, but to the socialists he was born a slave and the best that he could ever hope for was to be a slave to the right cause.

Ralph Waldo Emerson insightfully critiqued Fourier because he "treats man as a plastic thing, something that may be put up or down, ripened or retarded, moulded, polished, made into solid, or fluid, or gas, at the will of the leader... but skips the faculty of life, which spawns and scorns system and system-makers, which eludes all conditions, which makes or supplants a thousand phalanxes." Was man a "plastic thing" or the bearer of the mystery of the "faculty of life"?

Leftist revolutionary movements might begin by hailing the power of the individual but invariably ended up in a socio-feudalism system making malleable man over to fit the five-year plan.

Socialism postured as progressive when it was reactionary. Its leaders, most often hailing from the upper class and upper middle class, reverted newly liberated societies in Russia and China back to feudalism under the guise of liberating them. The Bolsheviks took Czarist feudalism and rebranded it as collective farming, forbidding the 'liberated' farmers from owning property or livestock, and even from leaving their farms to seek a better life in the big cities.

The empowerment of the individual had given way to the enslavement of man in the service of an ideal society. Individuals were once again worthless except as they fit into a larger plan.

The socialist argument against individualism was human fallibility. The muckrakers gathered every example of misery and described them as social ills that society had to collectively remedy. Outwardly private philanthropic organizations claimed to help the poor, but their embrace of eugenics, including mandatory sterilization, seizing children from parents, prohibition, and greater state intervention, including mandatory centralized state education, set a pattern that was innately socialist even when its proponents avoided the use of the word.

Every crisis, including WWI and the Great Depression, was seen as a reason for replacing smaller institutions with larger ones and further disempowering the individual. The National Socialists blamed Germany's loss in WWI on free enterprise. FDR and the Democrats blamed the Great Depression on free enterprise. Both built a state system for seizing control of it. The Bolsheviks not only blamed individual farmers for their famine, but used it to wipe them out.

The post-war economic rebound in America and Europe did not end socialism, but rebooted it with governments confiscating even more wealth for the benefit of society. The macro conflicts of WWII and the Cold War, the threat of atomic annihilation, were used to define the individual as too small to make a difference on his or her own except as part of a larger mass movement.

Class warfare gave way to identity politics. Individuals had to join groups to fight for a fairer society. What governmental institutions had failed to accomplish in fully transforming man, the new movements set out to accomplish in the psychedelic decade. The individual was told that liberation would come from losing his bourgeois background, worldview, inhibitions, morality and values to a new emerging humanistic blob shooting along the rainbow to the right side of history.

The eighties marked a reassertion of individual priorities over mass movements. The movements that had broken the country were distrusted. Socio-feudalism struck back with an environmental crisis taking place on such a scale that individuals were nothing when measured against it. Global authorities had to immediately seize total power to save the human race.

Environmentalism has brought socio-feudalists closest to realizing Fourier's vision of abolishing private property and packing everyone off to collective compounds with a defined role in life. Man has had his day, but individuals can't help selfishly wrecking the planet. Only subservience to larger systems can stop global warming, end human misery and transform the world.

A new wave of gender identity activism further eliminated the line between the individual and the state. The

personal was political at the most granular level. The pronouns you used, the products you bought, whether you left the light on or not, were political choices. Human existence became a series of political tests measuring allegiance to a state ideology.

When the personal is political, there is nothing personal left to the individual.

Socio-feudalism had contrived to reduce man to a state of total subservience.

Medieval England banned playing games especially “fute-ball” because it was seen as a distraction from the priorities of the state. Postmodern California passed two laws outlawing Indian mascots, along with plastic bags, gendered toys and a thousand other things.

Postmodern man occupies a world of illusory technologies and shrinking possibilities where children are discouraged from riding bikes, packed off to early schooling at toddlerhood and indoctrinated to believe that their playthings are the reason for the destruction of the world.

Socio-feudalism has the destruction of individual autonomy as its central goal and the pandemic lockdowns showed how easy that goal is to achieve in the face of a crisis. Government could and did assert control over what an individual could wear and whether he could leave the house. The public eventually responded to it not with a mass movement, as those mostly failed or were repressed, but by unilaterally discarding the prohibitions of the state.

Americans had ultimately fulfilled Emerson’s faith in “the faculty of life, which spawns and scorns system and system-makers, which eludes all conditions.” And that is why socio-feudalism will fail unless it can reduce mankind to a state of abject helplessness, ignorance and fear. That is what Communist and Islamist regimes strove for with varying degrees of success. And it is still the great aim of socio-feudalism today.

The ultimate struggle will be less about movements and more about individuals. The more the system fails, the more repressive it will become. And only millions of individuals can defeat it.

***Daniel Greenfield is a Shillman Journalism Fellow at the David Horowitz Freedom Center. This article previously appeared at the Center's Front Page Magazine.***

<https://bkdvk-zgpvh.campaign-view.com/ua/viewinbrowser>