



# ***ISRAEL UPDATE***

with Pastor Trey Graham



**October 25, 2023**



This is our 6<sup>th</sup> update on the terrorist attacks perpetrated by Hamas on Israel. To listen to the previous teachings, please visit

**[firstmelissa.com/sermons](https://firstmelissa.com/sermons)**



# How Many Casualties in the Terrorist Attacks?

- Population of Israel in 2023 is 9.1 million
- At least 1,400 Israelis killed (soldiers and civilians)
- At least 5,400 wounded
- Estimated 222 hostages held captive in Gaza
  
- Population of the United States in 2023 is 340 million
- Equal proportion... 52,300 killed
- Equal proportion... 201,700 wounded

# Four more bodies recovered in Be'eri, two weeks after Hamas massacre

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF

OCTOBER 25, 2023 18:39 **Updated:** OCTOBER 25, 2023 18:40

**Oct. 25, 2023**  
**Day 19!**



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00:00

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Four more bodies of murdered Israelis were discovered in the vicinity of the ravaged kibbutz Be'eri, Israel's National Rescue Unit 360 announced on Wednesday evening.

These join the 130 previously recovered bodies of civilians murdered by Hamas in the kibbutz during the October 7 massacre.

**Hamas terrorists: We were told 'whoever brings a hostage gets \$10,000'**

By MAYA ZANGER-NADIS    OCTOBER 23, 2023 20:00



The destruction caused by Hamas Militants in Kibbutz Be'eri, near the Israeli-Gaza border, in southern Israel, October 14, 2023. (photo credit:ERIK MARMOR/FLASH90)

**The footage showed selected clips from six separate interrogations • all said that "Islam does not permit the killing of women and children."**

The footage from the interrogation was released on Monday and showed selected clips from six separate interrogations.

Each terrorist had a slightly different experience, but Israeli intelligence forces noted a number of common themes. All the Hamas agents were given explicit instructions to **kill and kidnap civilians** including the elderly along with women and children. While they did this, their commanders stayed behind in Gaza.

**The reward for terrorism**

One of the terrorists told Israeli forces that "whoever brings a hostage back [to Gaza] gets \$10,000 and an apartment."

They said that the plan had been to take over the towns they attacked and hold positions there once they had finished killing and kidnapping the residents.

The video released by the Shin Bet and the police shows the various Hamas operatives going into extreme detail about their activities on the morning of October 7. "The instructions were to kidnap women and children," said one. Another described an encounter with a dead body, saying: "Her body was lying on the floor. I shot her, and my commander yelled at me for wasting bullets on a dead body."

They made it clear that when it came to murder, they were not to distinguish between civilians and soldiers,

"When we finished," another Hamas operative said, "we burned two houses."

One described entering a house after his comrades had already shot a man living there. "Two [terrorists] went into the house ... we heard voices inside. Another two came in. There was one lying on the floor next to the door. I don't know if he was dead, but there was blood next to him. Inside there was one wounded man... I think a whole family. In their pajamas. The wounded man was in his underwear. A woman came out wearing a dress... then another with a dress. [Then] a boy and a girl."

He continued: "We went to the next house. From there, they took out a woman. An old woman."

He was then asked if these family members were used as human shields, and answered "Yes."

Another terrorist, who was **at Be'eri**, told interrogators: "When I entered the town, I saw two [terrorists] on a motorbike. They took a woman about 60-65 years old [with them] on the motorbike."

"To Gaza."

The footage cuts to a later part of the same terrorist's account. "After Suleiman and Karem killed that woman from the town... they took someone, a man about 40-45 years old... and took him."

"Took him where?"

"To Gaza."

The terrorists also describe a variety of other horrific activities including using smoke to force civilians out of their shelter and shooting several pets. Although the footage is heavily cut, many of their stories feature dead bodies lying on the ground and people crying and trying to run away.

At the end of the video, each of the Hamas agents was asked if what they did was permissible in Islam. They all answered the same way: "No. Islam does not permit the killing of women and children."





StopAntisemitism

@StopAntisemites



Alaa El Massri is a 4th year medical school student at Milano Bicocca University. (in Milan, Italy)

On October 7th, as Hamas terrorists were raping young woman lying on top of already murdered corpses, Alaa posted an IG story of Jews were running for their lives and stated "Run Zionists Runnnnn" with a laughing emoji.

How can someone so cruel ever be trusted with human life? @unimib



11:08 AM · Oct 25, 2023 · 377.1K Views

# PA to give Hamas terrorists' families close to \$3 million in 'pay-for-slay'

The PMW claims that the \$2.8 million payments is a low estimate because there will be more "martyrs" and prisoners from the Hamas terrorist organization.

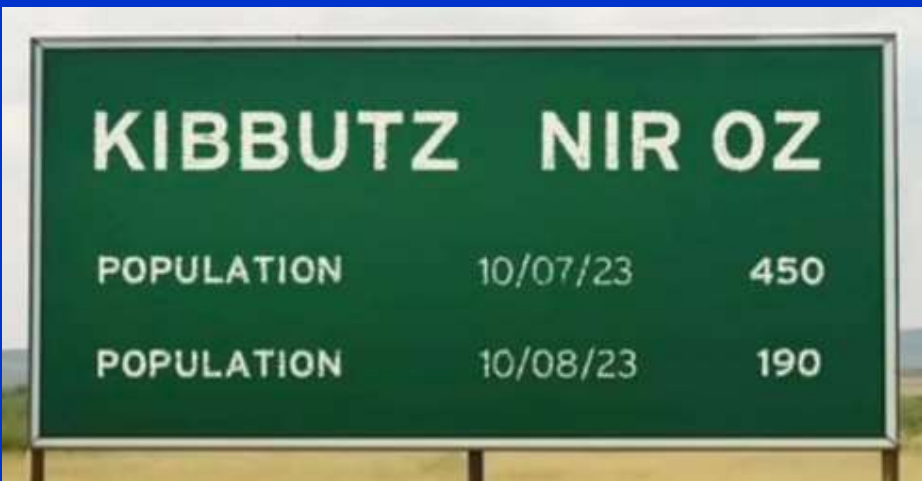
<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-768735>

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF

OCTOBER 17, 2023 06:35 **Updated:** OCTOBER 17, 2023 07:57



The Palestinian Authority will pay families of dead Hamas terrorists a combined total of around \$2.8 million, according to a report by the Palestinian Media Watch, a media watchdog group. In the current "pay-for-slay" system, called the "Martyrs' Fund" by the PA, terrorists receive monetary payments as a reward for acts of terror. The more damage an attack causes, the higher the terrorist or the terrorist's family is paid. The PMW reported that a terrorist's family would be rewarded NIS 6,000 (around \$1,500) and an NIS 1,400 (\$353) allowance monthly for life. Both come up to about NIS 7,400. The families that the terrorists married into will receive an even higher amount, the report claims. The authority will also pay \$17,590 to approximately 50 new Hamas prisoners this month, the report said. The \$2.8 million in question equals more than NIS 11 million. The PMW claims that the \$2.8 million payments is a low estimate because there will be more "martyrs" and prisoners from the Hamas terrorist organization.



KIBBUTZ NIR OZ		
POPULATION	10/07/23	450
POPULATION	10/08/23	190

©CBS DETROIT

## Senior Israeli correspondent describes scenes at Kibbutz Nir Oz following Hamas attack

<https://www.cbsnews.com/detroit/news/senior-israeli-correspondent-describes-scenes-at-kibbutz-nir-oz-following-hamas-attack/>

Itai Anghel was smuggled into Kibbutz Nir Oz by residents who wanted him to document the horrors that took place there despite a complete closure by the IDF on the area. He spent two days filming what was once a peaceful agricultural community. "You see hell. It's like you visit a nightmare. You see houses completely burned. You see bodies completely burned, mutilated. I can express myself pretty good, but I cannot express the smell; it's something that sticks and stays with you. This is horrible. You see the handle of the safe room in every house. It's twisted. It's a sign of the people inside who tried to give a fight in order to not let the Hamas terrorists enter." He said the only thing that pulled him through was his camera and the job he came there to do. I thank God that I have the camera with me, you know, to hold it, to occupy myself with filming, to aim at something, because if I hadn't had anything, I would collapse, I would have a heart attack." Anghel ran from rockets that continue to be fired at communities in Israel. "When I was there, you had two alarms of rockets, and you have between 10 and 15 seconds to hide. You know, people still want to annihilate you even if you managed somehow to survive."





## Associated Press won't let reporters call Hamas a terrorist organization

News organization says journalists should refer to its former officemates as 'militants'.

• World Israel News • 08:00 • 37 minutes ago

The *Associated Press* instructs reporters and organizations that rely on its style guide to avoid referring to Hamas as a terrorist organization, a *Washington Free Beacon* review of the organization's standards found.

The news outlet states in its "Israel-Hamas Topical Guide" that because "terrorism and terrorist have become politicized, and often are applied inconsistently ... the AP is not using the terms for specific actions or groups, other than in direct quotations." The guidance will affect how dozens of regional newspapers and national outlets like *Politico* report on the ongoing war in Gaza.

Hamas, an Islamist militant group dedicated to the annihilation of Israel and Jews around the world, is classified as a terrorist organization by dozens of countries, including the United States and the European Union. Hamas has undertaken hundreds of terrorist attacks against civilians since 1993, according to the Jewish Virtual Library.

**Instead of referring to Hamas—which earlier this month killed hundreds of innocent civilians, including children in an unprompted attack on Israel—as a terrorist group, the outlet says journalists should call its members "militants."**

**"Terms such as Hamas fighters, attackers or combatants are also acceptable depending on the context,"** the *Associated Press* style guide states.

The *Associated Press* did not respond to a request for comment.

Bucking the "terrorist" label is one in a series of strange decisions by the *Associated Press*, which include once sharing office space in Gaza with Hamas. That office, which the AP used for 15 years, was destroyed by Israeli airstrikes in May 2021. The Israeli Defense Force stated the building contained Hamas operatives and weapons, as well as an office for Islamic Jihad, another terrorist organization based in Gaza.

"We are shocked and horrified that the Israeli military would target and destroy the building housing AP's bureau and other news organizations in Gaza," AP president and CEO Gary Pruitt said in a statement at the time.

But an Israeli Defense Force source said at the time that *Associated Press* reporters were aware who their neighbors were. And *The Atlantic* reported in 2014 that *Associated Press* staffers in the Gaza office could see terrorists stationed next to their building launch rockets into Israel. Despite their proximity, the *Associated Press* never reported the rocket launches, which endangered the group's staff and nearby civilians.

"Hamas fighters would burst into the AP's Gaza bureau and threaten the staff—and the AP wouldn't report it," according to *The Atlantic*. "Cameramen waiting outside Shifa Hospital in Gaza City would film the arrival of civilian casualties and then, at a signal from an official, turn off their cameras when wounded and dead fighters came in, helping Hamas maintain the illusion that only civilians were dying."

**The *Associated Press* has long attempted to influence the coverage of outlets by policing language.** Shortly after President Joe Biden took office, the outlet released new guidance related to immigration.

Going forward, the *Associated Press* declared in March 2021, journalists should refrain from using the word "surge" to describe large amounts of illegal aliens entering the southern border. That decision, a pro-immigration activist revealed in a *Washington Post* op-ed, was the result of a pressure campaign from the left.

Following the looting and destruction in the wake of George Floyd's death during the summer of 2020, the *Associated Press* suggested outlets opt for "milder terms" like "unrest" when describing riots.

Source - *Washington Free Beacon* -  
Image - Nasser Ishtayeh/Flash90



Israel halts UN staff visas as officials pan Guterres's 'truly insane' Hamas remarks

After UN chief says terrorist massacres 'didn't happen in vacuum,' Foreign Ministry says words 'tarnish both him and organization he heads', Edelstein says they fan antisemitism

By MICHAEL BACHNER and TOI STAFF  
Today, 1:13 pm | 002



UN Ambassador Gilad Erdan, left, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, center, and Yad Vashem Chairman Dani Dayan browse the Yad Vashem Book of Names of Holocaust Victims Exhibit at United Nations headquarters, January 26, 2023. (AP Photo/John Manchillo)

Israel stopped issuing visas to UN officials Wednesday, a day after UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appeared to say Hamas's murderous October 7 assault on southern Israel was brought on by Israeli occupation.

The development came as Israeli officials continued to rail against the UN chief and demand his apology or resignation, with a senior lawmaker branding his words "truly insane" and adding that they were fanning the flames of antisemitism. The chairman of Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust museum accused Guterres of having "failed the test" of the refrain "Never again."

An Israeli official confirmed the new visa policy to The Times of Israel on condition of anonymity, after Israel's ambassador to the United Nations Gilad Erdan gave additional details in an interview with Army Radio.

"Due to his remarks we will refuse to issue visas to UN representatives," Erdan said. "We have already refused a visa for Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Martin Griffiths. The time has come to teach them a lesson."

During a UN Security Council meeting Tuesday on the Israel-Hamas war, Guterres said, "It is important to also recognize the attacks by Hamas did not happen in a vacuum.

"The Palestinian people have been subjected to 56 years of suffocating occupation. They have seen their land steadily devoured by settlements and plagued by violence; their economy stifled; their people displaced and their homes demolished. Their hopes for a political solution to their plight have been vanishing," Guterres said.

He later added that "the grievances of the Palestinian people cannot justify the appalling attacks by Hamas. And those appalling attacks cannot justify the collective punishment of the Palestinian people."

Israel's war with Hamas in Gaza began after the terror group sent thousands of gunmen over the border to ravage Israeli border communities. Terrorists killed some 1,400 people, the vast majority of them civilians, massacring them at their homes and at a music festival. They also kidnapped at least 224 people and took them into the Strip.

Israel evacuated all settlements and military forces from the Gaza Strip under the 2005 Disengagement. Since then it has faced years of rocket attacks from Hamas, which rules the Strip, and from other terror groups there, as well as multiple rounds of intense combat.

It has maintained a tight blockade of the territory since Hamas took control in 2007, as has Egypt, with Jerusalem saying it must do so to limit the terror group's ability to arm itself for attacks. In the West Bank, settlements have expanded under consecutive governments with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu repeatedly arguing the internationally recognized Palestinian Authority is not a partner for peace, having rejected several offers in the past.

Guterres's comments drew outrage in Israel. On Tuesday evening, Erdan called them "shocking" and demanded that the secretary general resign, Foreign Minister Eli Cohen canceled a meeting with Guterres, and Minister Benny Gantz labeled the UN chief a "terror apologist."

The Foreign Ministry tweeted that Guterres's remarks "provoke anger and astonishment and tarnish both him and the organization he heads," reflecting "a biased and distorted attitude towards Israel on the part of the UN and especially on the part of the Secretary-General himself."

"The UN Secretary-General must retract his words, engage in deep personal soul-searching and apologize for his statement, which distressed millions of Israelis who are still experiencing the consequences of the murderous terrorist attack of October 7," the ministry added.

Israel Foreign Ministry

@IsraelMFA · Follow

The severe assertions of the UN Secretary-General in his speech at the Security Council provoke anger and astonishment and tarnish both him and the organization he heads.

The Secretary-General's assertions reflect a biased and distorted attitude towards Israel on the part of the... [Show more](#)

2:31 AM · Oct 26, 2023

853

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Likud MK Yuli Edelstein, the chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affair and Defense Committee, sent an English-language public letter addressed to Guterres expressing "a profound sense of shock" and saying it would have been "best had you said nothing at all."

"Mr. Secretary-General, you opened by saying that 'nothing can justify the deliberate killing, injuring and kidnapping of civilians.' However, you then [made] an about-face and added that the 'attacks by Hamas did not happen in a vacuum.' Statements of this kind legitimize murderers, rapists, and terrorists around the world — rendering your condemnations null and void," Edelstein charged.

Edelstein tweeted a photo of the letter, adding in a Hebrew-language post that Guterres's remarks had been "truly insane" and that "against the backdrop of surging antisemitism around the world, his grave remarks are fueling a giant fire [of hate]."

Yuli Edelstein

@YuliEdelstein · Follow

בעקבות דבריו המטורפים ממש, שצדתי הבוקר מכתב גנאי חזק למזכ"ל האו"ם.

על רקע האנטישמיות הנאה בעולם, דבריו החמורים הם בגדר שמן למדורה הבוערת בלחבות ענק.

Israeli leaders and US President Joe Biden have noted that the October 7 atrocities were the single worst attack on Jews since the Holocaust.

Yad Vashem chairman Dani Dayan, who met with Guterres earlier this year at a Holocaust-related exhibit at the UN headquarters in New York, said the UN chief had "failed the test" regarding ensuring atrocities against Jews don't repeat.

"The slaughter of Jews by Hamas on October 7th was genocidal in its intents and immeasurably brutal in its form. Part of why it differs from the Holocaust is because Jews have today a state and an army. We are not defenseless and at the mercy of others," a statement from Dayan said.

"However, it puts to test the sincerity of world leaders, intellectuals and influencers that come to Yad Vashem and pledge 'Never Again,'" he continued. "Those who seek to 'understand,' look for a justifying context, do not condemn the perpetrators, and do not call for the unconditional and immediate release of the abducted — fail the test.

"UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres failed the test."

In a shock assault on October 7, Hamas bombarded Israel with thousands of rockets while over 2,500 gunmen breached the border with the Gaza Strip. The terrorists rampaged murderously through southern areas, slaughtering those they found, butchering entire families in some communities and also killing 260 at an outdoor music festival. Some victims were mutilated, raped and tortured. Dozens of babies were killed. Over 220 people of all ages were abducted and dragged to Gaza as captives. Four have since been released.

Israel has responded to the Hamas assault by vowing to destroy the terror group and launching intensive strikes in Gaza, saying it is hitting terror targets while trying to avoid civilian casualties. It has told over one million Gaza residents to evacuate the northern part of the Strip ahead of an expected ground incursion.

The Hamas-controlled Health Ministry says the strikes have killed over 6,000 Palestinians so far. Those numbers cannot be independently verified and are believed to include Hamas's own members, as well as civilians killed by hundreds of misfired Palestinian rockets.

Agencies contributed to this report.

https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-halts-un-staff-visas-as-officials-pan-guterress-truly-insane-hamas-remarks/#:~:text=Israel%20stopped%20issuing%20visas%20to,brought%20on%20by%20Israeli%20occupation.

Middle East

## Released by Hamas, American mother, daughter reunited with family

By Nidal Al-Mughrabi and Eric Cox

October 21, 2023 9:03 AM CDT · Updated 4 days ago



GAZA/EVANSTON, Illinois, Oct 20 (Reuters) - Two newly freed American hostages, a Chicago-area woman and her teenage daughter, were reunited with family inside Israel on Friday as relatives celebrated back home in Illinois, nearly two weeks after Hamas gunmen abducted them and dozens of others near Gaza.

Judith Tai Raanan, 59, and her daughter Natalie, 17, were handed over to Israeli forces at the Gaza Strip border on Friday, becoming the first captives whose release by Hamas has been confirmed by both sides since the latest round of Arab-Israeli bloodshed erupted.



ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

# Hamas releases two more hostages

The military wing of Hamas said it freed Nurit Cooper and Yocheved Lifshitz for “compelling humanitarian” reasons.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/hamas-gaza-releases-hostages-israel-nurit-yitzhak-yocheved-lifshitz-rcna121680>

JERUSALEM – Hamas released two more hostages Monday, likely bringing relief to families who were desperate for their return but leaving hundreds of people in agony over the fate of the more than 200 people who remain captive.

The two hostages were identified as Nurit Cooper, 79, and Yocheved Lifshitz, 85. In a statement on Telegram, the military wing of Hamas said it had decided to release the two women for “compelling humanitarian” reasons.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said it had “facilitated” the release of the two captives and transported them out of Gaza on Monday night local time.



# Trey's attempted explanation of Israel's major problem with world opinion

Sentiments being expressed by governments and media:

- Those horrific terrorist attacks on Israeli civilians did not really occur
- If they occurred, they were not as bad as Israel claims
- If they occurred and they really were as bad as Israel claims, Israel deserved it
- If they occurred and they really were as bad as Israel claims, Israel should forget them and focus on other things (hostages, peace negotiations, etc.)
- If they occurred and they really were as bad as Israel claims, Israel should minimize its response to show compassion for “innocent civilians” in Gaza
- If they occurred and they really were as bad as Israel claims, it has already been three weeks and it is time for Israel to move on

# Netanyahu: 'Israel is in a fight for our existence,' ground op coming to destroy Hamas

PM vows to do everything to get hostages back, says he'll face probe on Oct 7. debacle after war \* Israel praises Qatari efforts \* UN chief hits back \* Erdogan: Hamas not terrorists

**THE TIMES OF ISRAEL**

ISRAEL AT WAR - DAY 19



Israel defense minister Gallant:  
This is a campaign of three stages.

We are in the first stage, in which a military operation is taking place with fire and later in a maneuver whose purpose is to destroy activists and damage infrastructure in order to neutralize and destroy Hamas.'

"The second stage will be an intermediate stage of continuing the fighting at a lower intensity and eliminating pockets of resistance."

"The third step will be the creation of a new security regime in the Gaza Strip, the removal of Israel's responsibility for life in the Gaza Strip and the creation of a new security reality for the citizens of Israel and the residents of the surrounding area."

## Why the tunnels under Gaza pose a major problem for Israel's potential ground invasion

The extensive system is a "nightmare for an assaulting force," one expert said.

By [Meredith Deliso](#)

October 19, 2023, 7:35 AM



Warfare expert calls Hamas tunnels 'a major threat to civilians on both sides'

ABC News' Linsey Davis spoke with warfare expert and Reichman University Assistant Professor Daphn... [Read More](#)

As [Israel](#) warns of an [imminent ground assault](#) in Gaza, one challenge that awaits a potential ground invasion involves a widespread underground tunnel system designed to conceal and cover Hamas militants and execute surprise attacks, experts say.

Hamas has previously [claimed](#) to have built 500 kilometers -- more than 300 miles -- of tunnels under Gaza. The tunnel system is so extensive and well-known it's referred to by some -- including the Israel Defense Forces -- as the "metro."



A fighter from Izz al-Din al-Qassam, the military wing of Hamas in the Maghazi camp, stands in front of a tunnel in the central Gaza Strip, July 19, 2023.

Yousef Masoud/SOPA Images via Getty Images

Israel has become adept at detecting so-called terror tunnels that have crossed its border -- though the extensive tunnel system in Gaza "will present serious challenges for the Israel Defense Forces," Bradley Bowman, the senior director of the Center on Military and Political Power at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, told ABC News.

"The tunnels permit some Hamas fighters to survive bombardment, move around Gaza under cover and concealment, resupply its forces, hide hostages and conduct surprise attacks," Bowman said.

"Imagine going into an environment and then you're progressing across the field or into the outskirts of the city, then all of a sudden, some enemy forces pop up behind you and there were none there before," he said. "That's kind of a nightmare for an assaulting force."

Most of the tunnels are reinforced with concrete and some are quite deep, allowing them to protect Hamas militants against airstrikes, Bowman said. In 2020, Israel found one tunnel that went as deep as 230 feet below the surface, according to the Modern War Institute at West Point.

Some parts of the tunnel system are wired for electricity and communication, and many of the passages are wide enough to easily move significant quantities of equipment, ammunition and forces through, Bowman said. The average tunnel is about 6.5-feet high and a little more than a foot wide, according to a [2016 article](#) in the journal Geopolitics.



A tunnel that Israel says was dug by the Islamic Jihad group leading from the Gaza Strip into Israel, near southern Israeli kibbutz of Kissufim, Jan. 18, 2018.

Jack Guez/AFP via Getty Images

The tunnels will be a key part of Hamas' "guerrilla warfare strategy," according to John Spencer, the chair of urban warfare studies at the Modern War Institute at West Point.

"Its fighters will form small hunter-killer teams that move underground, pop up, strike, and pop quickly back into a tunnel," Spencer wrote in a [piece](#) published Tuesday.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/gaza-tunnel-system-israel-ground-invasion/story?id=104057232>



"Its fighters will form small hunter-killer teams that move underground, pop up, strike, and pop quickly back into a tunnel," Spencer wrote in a [piece](#) published Tuesday.

Hamas also uses the tunnels to hide and move rockets and rig "tunnel bombs under main roads and buildings that the IDF might be lured into," Spencer wrote.

The IDF has acknowledged the challenges posed by the tunnel system.

"It is not an easy endeavor because Hamas has embedded itself inside and underneath the Gaza Strip," Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus told ABC News in the wake of Hamas' attack.

Conricus said the tunnels strategically run below civilian infrastructure throughout the Gaza Strip.

"That is how Hamas has been able to stop our weapons and hide countless rockets in all of these clashes that we've had," he said. "That is where they're hiding now as we're bombing, that is where their weapons are, and that is what they rely on, that's the military infrastructure that they rely on in order to keep on fighting."

The IDF has several units that specialize in combating the tunnels, including the Yahalom -- "one of the largest units in the world that trains, mans, equips, experiments, and develops new ways to deal with underground warfare," according to Spencer. In the wake of Hamas' surprise Oct. 7 attack, the IDF has claimed to have struck targets belonging to Hamas, including "a number of underground tunnels."

Economy Minister Nir Barakat told ABC News on Thursday, "The tunnels will be the world's biggest cemetery. We shall do all efforts to bring our hostages alive," but the "first and last priority" is destroying Hamas.

Israel will have technical advantages in a ground incursion, including drones, though that advantage will be reduced to some degree as it enters enemy territory, Bowman said.

"Once you're talking about block-to-block, building-to-building, room-to-room, in some cases, hand-to-hand fighting, it really gets pretty brutal pretty fast," Bowman said.

Mick Mulroy, a former deputy assistant secretary of defense for the Middle East and an ABC News contributor, said that for Israel to "clear buildings, basements and the extensive network of tunnels, they will have to dismount their infantry and essentially fight soldier-on-soldier and block-by-block."

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MORE: 'Extremely difficult': What would be Israel's objectives in an offensive into Gaza? →

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Hamas -- which has "home-court advantage" -- has also likely prepared for a major Israeli ground incursion "long before Oct. 7," Bowman said.

"That's going to make any Israeli ground incursion more difficult because Hamas is probably prepared for this scenario," he said.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/gaza-tunnel-system-israel-ground-invasion/story?id=104057232>



# Gaza tunnels, terrorist infrastructure uncovered by Israeli geologist

The tunnels in Gaza initially had some basic characteristics in common with other excavation sites in Israel and elsewhere in the world, such as burial caves, mines, and hiding systems.

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

OCTOBER 25, 2023 17:16



Palestinian fighters from the Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of the Hamas movement, stand inside an underground tunnel in Gaza August 18, 2014.

(photo credit: REUTERS/MOHAMMED SALEM)



<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/article-770123>



— An Israeli soldier exits a tunnel built underground by Hamas militants leading from the Gaza Strip into southern Israel near the Israeli Gaza border in 2014. Ilia Yefimovich / Getty Images file.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/israeli-soldiers-will-face-labyrinth-hamas-tunnels-rcna121459>





— A member of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group walks in a tunnel in the Gaza Strip last year.

Mahmud Hams / AFP via Getty Images file



# The Long History Of The Gaza Tunnels

July 26, 2014 • 4:15 PM ET

By Emily Harris



An Israeli army officer on Friday shows journalists a Palestinian tunnel that runs from the Gaza Strip into Israel. Israel says its current military campaign is aimed at destroying the tunnels.

*Jack Guez/AFP/Getty Images*

<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2014/07/26/335332220/the-long-history-of-the-gaza-tunnels>



<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2014/07/26/335332220/the-long-history-of-the-gaza-tunnels>





An illustration shows Hamas' use of residential areas in Gaza to support its terrorist activity. (Credit: IDF SPOKESMAN'S UNIT)

# Hamas's 'Gaza Metro' tunnel system in 2021

Israeli map showing tunnels allegedly destroyed in air strikes



Source: Israel Defense Forces

BBC



NEWSRAEL

25, OCT 2023 | TLV 24°C

This tunnel network is the way Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists travel through Gaza unseen, and smuggle, transport, and store weapons underground. These tunnels serve as fully functional headquarters for terrorist activities: gathering intelligence, planning attacks, and even orchestrating attacks remotely. Some of the tunnels span under the border into Israel, which terrorists have used over the years to infiltrate into Israel and carry out attacks on Israelis.

A large portion of annual humanitarian aid meant for civilians in Gaza is seized by Hamas and used instead for warfare: building and maintaining this hidden terrorist city.



# George Washington U students project anti-Israel messages on campus building

BY ANDREW LAPIN    OCTOBER 25, 2023    5:23 PM



Messages reading "Glory To Our Martyrs" and "Divestment From Zionist Genocide Now," along with others, are projected onto the side of a building on George Washington University's campus in Washington, D.C., Oct. 24, 2023. (StopAntisemitism via X)

Students, administrators and the Hillel director at George Washington University say they are concerned after anti-Israel messages were projected onto the exterior of a campus building on Tuesday night. The messages — including “Glory To Our Martyrs,” “Divestment From Zionist Genocide Now,” and “Free Palestine From The River To The Sea” — appeared on the side of a library building for two hours, drawing a crowd of counter-protesters to an adjacent plaza where some sang the Hebrew song “Oseh Shalom.”

# By a majority of 412 to 10: US House of Representatives approves pro-Israel resolution

**ISRAEL NATIONAL NEWS**  
ARUTZ SHEVA

Oct 26, 2023, 1:17 AM (GMT+3)

The resolution was the first one passed by the House after the election of Mike Johnson as its next Speaker.

Nine of the ten “no” votes were by Democrats: Reps. Cori Bush, Jamaal Bowman, Andre Carson, Al Green, Summer Lee, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Delia Ramirez and Rashida Tlaib. The lone Republican no vote was from Rep. Thomas Massie. The resolution states that the House of Representatives “stands with Israel as it defends itself against the barbaric war launched by Hamas and other terrorists, reaffirms Israel’s right to self-defense and condemns Hamas’ brutal war against Israel.” The resolution also calls on all countries to unequivocally condemn Hamas’ brutal war against Israel, and “calls on Hamas to immediately cease these violent attacks and safely release all living hostages and return the bodies of deceased hostages.”

<https://www.israelnationalnews.com/news/379173>





WSJ

● LIVE COVERAGE

# Israel-Hamas War Updates: Israel Agrees to Delay Gaza Invasion So U.S. Can Rush Missile Defenses to Region

Biden talks with Saudi crown prince about conflict, while U.N. chief presses for protection of civilians



Last Updated: Oct. 25, 2023 at 11:05 AM EDT

# Israel agrees to delay Gaza invasion, US deploying forces - report

American officials advised the IDF against a counter-invasion, with the fear it could "endanger hostages, civilians, and further inflame tensions in the region."

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF, REUTERS

OCTOBER 25, 2023 18:17 **Updated:** OCTOBER 25, 2023 20:06



Smoke billows following an Israeli strike, in Gaza City, October 25, 2023  
(photo credit: REUTERS/YASSER QUDIH)

Israel has agreed to delay the invasion of Gaza for now, so the US can rush missile defenses to the region, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday, citing US and Israeli officials. US military officials were trying to convince Israel against carrying out a ground invasion of the Gaza Strip in response to Hamas's October 7 massacre, CNN reported on Wednesday citing "several sources familiar with the matter." As per the report, American officials advised the IDF against a counter-invasion, with the fear it could "endanger hostages, civilians, and further inflame tensions in the region." Instead, the IDF was urged to deploy a "combination of precision airstrikes and targeted special operations raids" across the Strip. The United States has sent a significant amount of naval power to the Middle East in recent weeks, including two aircraft carriers, their support ships and about 2,000 Marines. Washington is on heightened alert for activity by Iran-backed groups as regional tensions soar during the Israel-Hamas war.





<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/25/middleeast/israel-hamas-gaza-war-wednesday-intl-hnk/index.html>

The main United Nations agency in Gaza says it will have to halt aid operations within a day if fuel is not delivered, in what the organization says would mark the end of a “lifeline” for civilians. While some aid has reached Gaza through Egypt, those deliveries included food, water and medicine – but not fuel. Israel has refused to allow fuel to enter Gaza since Hamas’ brutal October 7 attack, saying it would only be used by the militant group to fuel its fight against Israel. Asked how long the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) could last without fuel, spokesperson Tamara Alrifai told CNN: “We’re probably talking a day. We have already warned that if fuel runs out by tonight or tomorrow, we as UNWRA, the largest UN agency in Gaza, will no longer be able to work.” The organization initially said it would have to halt operations Wednesday evening. UN officials warned the current supplies were “a drop in the ocean” for the needs of 2 million Palestinians living in Gaza and will be of little use without the fuel needed to collect and distribute the aid. “Without fuel, aid cannot be delivered, hospitals will not have power, and drinking water cannot be purified or even pumped,” UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told the UN Security Council Tuesday. Doctors in overwhelmed hospitals on the brink of shutting down have repeatedly warned that waves of new patients injured in the daily bombings and babies relying on oxygen supplies will die if fuel is not brought in.



## UN warns Gaza aid operation will soon stop if fuel not let in

The Guardian

Crisis worsening by the hour, says UN agency, with Israel blocking supplies on grounds Hamas would use them

Israel and Hamas at war - live updates



Palstinians fleeing Israeli attacks on Gaza seek refuge in UNRWA schools. Photograph: Anadolu Agency/Anadolu/Getty Images

Relief efforts in **Gaza** will be forced to stop unless fuel supplies reach the besieged territory, the main UN agency working in the strip has warned.

Hospitals, bakeries and water pumps may also cease to function, compounding a humanitarian crisis that is worsening by the hour, the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said. "We need to find a solution to the fuel - otherwise our aid operation will come to a stop."

Oxfam accused Israel of **using starvation** as a weapon of war against Gaza civilians, saying the enclave was receiving just 2% of its usual supply of food. "The situation is nothing short of horrific - where is humanity?" said Sally Abi Khalil, Oxfam's Regional Middle East director.

Nearly 600,000 people displaced from their homes by Israeli bombardments are sheltering in 150 UNRWA facilities that are four times over their capacity, leaving people to sleep on the streets. Winding down relief would eliminate a "lifeline" for civilians, Juliette Touma, the agency's director of communications, told CNN.

## Gaza hospitals in crisis as Israel-Hamas conflict rages on

*Gaza Strip (Palestinian Territories) (AFP)* - Gaza's hospitals were facing "complete collapse", Palestinian medics warned Wednesday as the UN said supplies were running critically low and the Hamas-run health ministry reported 700 deaths in Israeli strikes in 24 hours.

Issued on: 25/10/2023 - 11:51 Modified: 25/10/2023 - 18:10 5 min



Gazans are struggling to reach people crushed under buildings hit by Israeli air strikes, with many using their bare hands to try and dig them out © MAHMUD HAMS / AFP

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20231025-un-warns-gaza-fuel-shortage-will-stop-aid-work-by-end-of-day>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/oct/25/un-gaza-aid-israel-blocking-fuel>

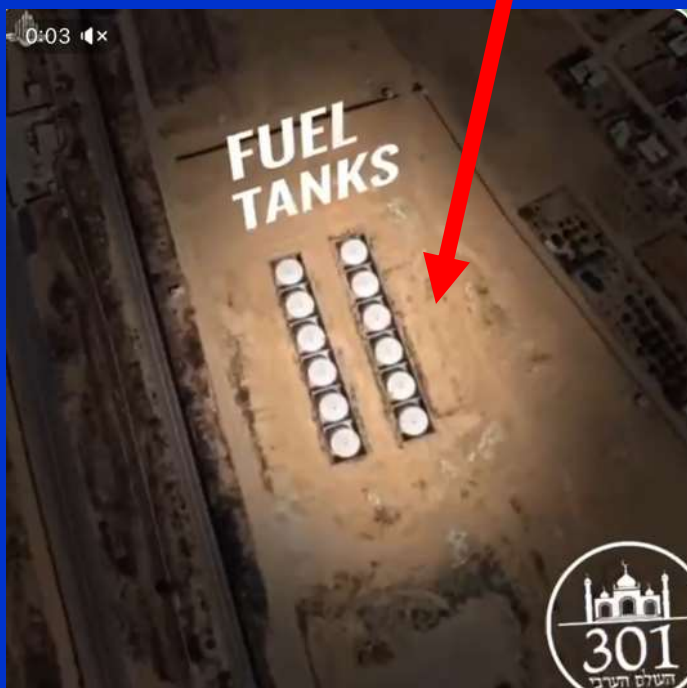


Safari

NEWSRAEL

24, OCT 2023 | TLV 86°F

**WATCH: Hamas owns fuel tanks, containing hundreds of thousands of liters of fuel**



**Israel Defense Forces** @IDF · 3h

These fuel tanks are inside Gaza.

They contain more than 500,000 liters of fuel.

Ask Hamas if you can have some.



**UNRWA** @UNRWA · 5h

● @UNRWA warning: If we do not get fuel urgently, we will be forced to halt our operations in the 📍 #GazaStrip as of tomorrow night.

...

# Hamas fires long-range rockets at Eilat, Haifa, as IDF strikes on Gaza continue

Israel accuses Iran of directly aiding terror group; Hamas claims 80 killed overnight; rockets target Ashkelon, Gaza border towns; IDF strikes terror cell in West Bank's Jenin

By EMANUEL FABIAN and TOI STAFF

Today, 12:19 pm | Updated at 5:36 pm | 8



A fireball erupts during overnight Israeli bombardment in the Gaza Strip on October 24, 2023. (SAID KHATIB / AFP)

Israeli fighter jets continued to pound the Gaza Strip in the early hours of Wednesday, targeting Hamas command centers and other assets and killing a senior commander in the Palestinian terror group, as the terror group fired long-range rockets toward both Haifa and Eilat later in the day.

Hamas boasted that it launched a long-range rocket from the Gaza Strip at Israel's southernmost city of Eilat. The rocket did not set off sirens in Eilat or any other towns in the south, and the IDF later said that the projectile landed in an open area, causing no injuries or damage.

Earlier the terror group also claimed to fire a long-range R160 missile toward the Haifa area, setting off sirens in the northern towns of Daliyat al-Karmel and Kerem Maharal. The IDF said the projectile exploded in mid-air.

**Oct. 25, 2023**  
**Day 19!**



<https://www.timesofisrael.com/idf-kills-top-hamas-general-as-gaza-strikes-continue-says-iran-aiding-terror-group/>

Why is Hamas so stressed about the lack of fuel in the Gaza Strip? This diabolic Nazi terror group created a whole city underground with 1300 tunnels located 70 meters (229 feet) below the surface with a total length of 500KM (310 miles). Each tunnel is two meters high and two meters wide (6.5' x 6.5'). All are made of concrete that the western world donated for schools, hospitals, kindergartens, and more. These tunnels are protecting the top commanders and leaders as well as 30K of their "soldiers". Air for the tunnels comes via a ventilation system that uses engines operated by gasoline. This is their only source of oxygen underground. No fuel means no air. No air means they must come out of the tunnels to breathe. Coming out means being killed by the IDF. - Amir Tsarfati





## AOC blames Christian fundamentalists for fueling Palestinian-Israeli conflict

**Since the Hamas terrorist attacks on Oct. 7, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) has called for a ceasefire and de-escalation.**

• JNS - Jewish News Syndicate • 21:00

(October 23, 2023 / JNS) While many have focused on radical, Islamic fundamentalism following Hamas's terrorist attacks on Israel on Oct. 7, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) has decided to point fingers elsewhere: at Christian extremists.

"The country that is Israel today is not the Israel of the Bible," the politician, known as AOC, told the New York radio program "Hot 97/WQHT" last week.

"It's not just Islamic. It's not just Jewish. It is also Christian," the congresswoman said on Oct. 12 of the conflict. "In the United States of America, Christian fundamentalism and nationalism—which has also been extremely antisemitic—has also aligned itself with some of the most right-wing and authoritarian and inflammatory powers in the region."

A spokesman for Ocasio-Cortez told JNS that her schedule was "slammed" and declined to comment.

On Oct. 20, Ocasio-Cortez wrote: "Release the hostages. Protect the innocent. De-escalate. Ceasefire now." Similar words were used the day before as part of a protest in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol building, which led to the arrests of 300 far-left activists.

"What angers me about the GOP's attempts to turn the United States into a far-right Christian theocracy is how dishonest they are about it," she wrote in 2019. "At least be forthright about your desire to subvert and dismantle our democracy into a creepy theological order led by a mad king."

**How are Israelis responding?**





Camille, from the Philippines, is the live-in caregiver of 95-year-old Nitza. When Hamas attacked Kibbutz Nirim on Oct 7, Camille found herself face-to-face with Hamas terrorists in their home.

Camille had saved 1,500 shekels (\$370 USD) to give her family ahead of a planned trip to the Philippines. Without a second thought, she handed the money to the terrorists and said, "Take everything, just don't take the flight ticket. She's an old woman and doesn't understand what's happening. Take the money and go."

Miraculously, the terrorists took the money and left. Camille climbed into Nitza's bed and hugged her until they were finally rescued. Camille later canceled her trip because as she said, "I feel that I cannot leave her, I feel that she is my best friend."

# Amid Israel-Hamas war, thousands of people sign up to pray and do mitzvot for Israeli soldiers

The support Just One Thing has received has been 'out of this world,' said creator Aki Stein

By **Christine Rousselle** · Fox News

Published October 12, 2023 4:19pm EDT



<https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/israel-hamas-war-thousands-of-people-sign-up-pray-do-mitzvot-israeli-soldiers>





Read the words of Tamar, the bride:

"Two days ago I stood under the canopy with my beloved, and it was far from any imagination I had about this day.

Plans of 10 months were replaced by plans of a few days and in the midst of a crazy reality, this magic happened.

All of this is mainly thanks to our dear families, our one-time friends, and many good and amazing people, too many to begin naming, who demonstrated an exciting and inspiring spectacle of true and honest giving, deep support from the heart and a true desire to do good without demanding anything in return. Thank you for being the wizards who waved the wand.

Without asking and certainly without preparing, we had the opportunity to be a part of something much bigger than ourselves. The significant moment of chuppah and consecration, of connecting souls, became much more powerful.

We had the privilege to make others happy in such dark moments, to sow hope in hearts that may have lost it a little, to put a smile on lips that may not have done so for many days, and to replace tears of pain with those of excitement and happiness.

The joy and light that was in the base that was severely damaged just 10 days before, is perhaps our story but also the proof of our strength. As people, as an army, as a nation.

So yes, over the nose and the anger of all those who seek our harm.

We will continue to build houses in Israel.

We will continue to live here, and precisely here.

We will continue to be happy, smile and spread light and love.

Now and forever!

For all the current soldiers and reservists who do holy work in the defense of the country, for the beloved warriors on the front, one of whom is my dear brother.

For my sisters in soul, the observers of the border, whom I admire even more today, one of whom is my real and stunning sister.

For all the fallen heroes and heroines, for our loved ones forever who were with us there - the late Yaron Shai, the late Yonatan (Yoni) Golan, the late Yishai and Noam Slotaki.

For the sanity of all of us. Because that's who we are. Otherwise we wouldn't survive.

And to you, my beloved Adir Tzbari, the man of my life, I will say that after all this, we also earned ourselves the most symbolic closing of the circle. One we couldn't dream of. To get married in the place where our eyes first met, in exactly the same "dress" - exactly at the point where it all started.

You are the biggest light in my life and amidst all the insecurities, you once again proved to me that there is nothing I am more sure of than you.

May we only know good and happiness and may we return to each other's arms in peace and quickly.

We still have a honeymoon to go to..."

## The Numbers

**360,000**

IDF reservists that the ID first called;

**450,000**

showed up!

**900**

red roses  
outside the Israeli  
embassy in Sweden  
for the 900 Israeli  
lives lost

**5** weddings  
**2** bar mitzvahs

**1** upsherin

took place  
on an  
army base

**95** years  
old

Oldest IDF reservist  
to show up

**7000** pairs  
of tzitzis donated  
by one jewelry  
store

**6,000**

families from the South were  
put up for Shabbat Bereishit in less  
than 45 minutes

**1** is Hashem,  
our Savior,  
אין עוד מלבדו

**7 million**  
brothers and  
sisters living  
in Israel

**160**

families put up at the Plaza  
Hotel in Jerusalem, where the  
lobby was filled with formula, diapers,  
food, clothing, and entertainment; paid by  
2 anonymous US donors

**Hundreds**  
of youth at  
Ben Gurion  
airport to greet  
soldiers  
returning to  
Israel

**\$500,000**

that a man spent in JFK to  
purchase 250 tickets for  
soldiers who received a  
call-up notice from the ID

**10,000**

Kabbalos taken within  
the first day of the  
launch of sharejustonething.com, where  
each person takes on a kabbalah and  
is matched with an Israeli soldier.

low totals over **50,000** kabbalos.

**100** lbs of  
breast milk  
delivered within  
3 hours

**Millions**  
of perakim of  
Tehillim said



# Reality

Q: Are there innocent civilians in Gaza who are suffering?

A: Yes.

The responsibility for that suffering lies with only one side of this conflict... Hamas and the other Muslim terrorist groups directed by Iran.

**HAMAS**



**ISRAEL**



In Gaza there is  
no water to bathe  
the children.

In Kibbutz Bari,  
there are no  
children left alive  
to bathe



## Last week's Torah portion...

- Now the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and the earth was filled with **violence** [חָמָס hamas].

Genesis 6:11

- Then God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with **violence** [חָמָס hamas] because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.” Genesis 6:13

The terrorist group's name " Hamas" is an Arabic Acronym of

Ḥarakat al-Muqāwamah al-Islāmiyyah

Arabic meaning of the name "hamas" is "enthusiastic bravery" حماس

English version of their name is "Islamic Resistance Movement"





Then God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me; for the earth is filled with **violence** [חַמָּס hamas] because of them; and behold, I am about to destroy them with the earth.” Genesis 6:13

Q: What type of evil written in Hebrew as חַמָּס (transliterated into English as “hamas”) deserved total, worldwide annihilation from God?

**Q: What type of evil written in Hebrew as חמס (transliterated into English as “hamas”) deserved total, worldwide annihilation from God?**

- Violence
- Wickedness
- Theft
- Robbery
- Rape
- Murder
- Kidnapping
- Hostage taking
- Stealing
- Slander
- Lying

**A: All of those things at once!**

– Tehila Gimpel



# Hebrew word חָמָס

## Genesis 6:11

HEB: ותמלא הארץ חָמָס:

NAS: was filled *with violence*.

## Genesis 6:13

HEB: מלאה הארץ חָמָס מפניהם והנני

NAS: is filled *with violence* because

## Genesis 16:5

HEB: אל־ אברם חָמָסִי עליך־ אנכי

NAS: to Abram, *May the wrong* done me be upon you. I gave

## Genesis 49:5

HEB: אחים כְּלִי חָמָס מְכַרְתִּיהֶם:

NAS: are implements *of violence*.

## Exodus 23:1

HEB: להיות עד חָמָס: ס

NAS: with a wicked man *to be a malicious* witness.

## Deuteronomy 19:16

HEB: יָקוּם עַד־ חָמָס בָּאִישׁ לַעֲנוֹת:

NAS: If *a malicious* witness rises

## Judges 9:24

HEB: לְבֹא חָמָס שְׁבָעִים בְּנֵי־

NAS: *so that the violence* done to the seventy

## 2 Samuel 22:3

HEB: וּמְנוּסִי מִשְׁעֵי מַחְמָס תִּשְׁעֶנִי:

NAS: My savior, You save *me from violence*.

## 2 Samuel 22:49

HEB: תִּרְוַמְמֵנִי מֵאִישׁ חָמָסִים תִּצִּילֵנִי:

NAS: up against me; You rescue *me from the violent* man.

## 1 Chronicles 12:18

HEB: לְצֹרִי בְּלֹא חָמָס בְּכַפִּי יֵרָא:

INT: adversary not *cruel* branch advise self

## Job 16:17

HEB: עַל לֹא־ חָמָס בְּכַפִּי וְתַפְלִיתִי:

NAS: there is no *violence* in my hands,

## Job 19:7

HEB: הֵן אֶצְעֵק חָמָס וְלֹא אֶעֱנֶה:

NAS: I cry, '*Violence!*' but I get

## Psalms 7:16

HEB: וְעַל קֶדְקֶדּוֹ חָמָסוֹ יֵרֵד:

NAS: upon his own head, *And his violence* will descend

## Psalms 11:5

HEB: וְרָשָׁע וְאֹהֵב חָמָס שִׁנְאָה נַפְשׁוֹ:

NAS: And the one who loves *violence* His soul

## Psalms 18:48

HEB: תִּרְוַמְמֵנִי מֵאִישׁ חָמָס תִּצִּילֵנִי:

NAS: up against me; You rescue *me from the violent* man.

## Psalms 25:19

HEB: רַבּוּ וְשִׁנְאָת חָמָס שִׁנְאוּנִי:

NAS: And they hate *me with violent* hatred.

## Psalms 27:12

HEB: אֶשְׁקֶר וַיִּפֹּחַ חָמָס:

NAS: against me, And such as breathe *out violence*.

## Psalms 35:11

HEB: יִקוּמוּן עִדֵי חָמָס אֲשֶׁר לֹא־

NAS: *Malicious* witnesses rise

## Psalms 55:9

HEB: כִּי־ רָאִיתִי חָמָס וָרִיב בְּעִירִי:

NAS: For I have seen *violence* and strife

## Psalms 58:2

HEB: תִּפְעֲלוּן בְּאַרְצְ חָמָס יָדֵיכֶם תִּפְלֹסוּן:

NAS: you weigh *out the violence* of your hands.

## Psalms 72:14

HEB: מִתּוֹךְ וּמַחְמָס יִגָּאֵל נַפְשָׁם:

NAS: from oppression *and violence*, And their blood

## Psalms 73:6

HEB: יַעֲטֹף־ לְשִׁית חָמָס לְמוֹ:

NAS: The garment *of violence* covers

## Psalms 74:20

HEB: אֲרָץ נְאֻת חָמָס:

NAS: of the habitations *of violence*.

## Psalms 140:1

HEB: רַע מֵאִישׁ חָמָסִים תִּנָּצְרֵנִי:

NAS: men; Preserve *me from violent* men

## Psalms 140:4

HEB: רָשָׁע מֵאִישׁ חָמָסִים תִּנָּצְרֵנִי אֲשֶׁר:

NAS: Preserve *me from violent* men

# 60 Occurrences

# Psalm 140



Rescue me, O Lord, from evil men;  
preserve me from **violent** [חָמָס hamas]  
men who devise evil things in their  
hearts; they continually stir up wars.

Psalms 140:1-2



## Inside Hamas' hostage handbook: 'They were expecting to kill people'

Smerconish



Hamas' 'hostage-taking handbook' recovered by the Israeli army detailed plans for the 10/7 attack, according to Atlantic Staff Writer Graeme Wood, who has read it. Wood told CNN's Michael Smerconish, "There are times when...terrorists in the field are more violent than they expected to be. But this manual says it in black and white...they were expecting to kill people."

06:22 - Source: CNN

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2023/10/21/smr-inside-hamas-hostage-handbook.cnn#:~:text=Hamas%20'hostage%2Dtaking%20handbook,Wood%2C%20who%20has%20read%20it>

## Israel releases 'hostage manual' found on bodies of Hamas fighters which instructs the gunmen to 'kill the problematic' to create chaos as well as 'violence and terrorism'

- Israel says 203 innocent people have been kidnapped and taken back to Gaza

By SAM GREENHILL, CHIEF REPORTER IN ASHKELON

PUBLISHED: 13:10 EDT, 20 October 2023 | UPDATED: 13:23 EDT, 20 October 2023

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With instructions such as 'kill the problematic ones', a hostage-taking manual found on **Hamas** gunmen makes for bone-chilling reading.

It is a detailed eight-page 'how to' guide for snatch squads who stormed **Israeli** settlements to kill and abduct the residents.

Urging the terrorists to 'create chaos', the directions are spread over eight chapters which have titles such as 'Isolation and control' and 'Camouflage and hiding'.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12654541/Israel-releases-hostage-manual-Hamas-fighters-instructs-gunmen.html>

Rescue me, O Lord, from **evil** [רַע ra] men;  
preserve me from **violent** [חָמָס hamas]  
men who devise **evil** [רַע ra] things in their  
hearts; they continually stir up wars.

Psalms 140:1-2

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I fear no evil [רַע ra], for You are with me... Psalm 23:4



They sharpen their  
tongues as a  
serpent; poison of  
a viper is under  
their lips. Selah.  
Psalm 140:3

## Iran's Khamenei: US is an accomplice of 'Zionist crimes' in Gaza

By JERUSALEM POST STAFF   OCTOBER 25, 2023 17:01

The United States is a "definite accomplice of Zionist criminals," Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei claimed on Wednesday.

American hands are "stained with the blood of children, women and other martyrs of Gaza, and in fact, Americans are managing these crimes," Khamenei was quoted by Iranian state media as saying.

Keep me, O Lord, from the hands of the  
wicked [רָשָׁע rasha] ; preserve me from  
**violent** men [חָמָס hamas] who have  
purposed to trip up my feet. Psalm 140:4

Videos show Israeli citizens  
captured by Hamas



The proud have hidden a trap for me, and  
cords; they have spread a net by the wayside;  
they have set snares for me. Selah. Psalm 140:5



At least 250 bodies were recovered at the site of the  
festival as of Sunday, according to The Associated Press.  
<https://consequence.net/2023/10/hamas-israel-music-festival-attack/>



I said to the Lord, “You are my God; give ear, O Lord, to the voice of my supplications.”

Psalms 140:6

‘I want him back’:  
Families of Israeli  
hostages demand  
government save them

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/25/i-want-him-back-families-of-israeli-hostages-demand-government-save-them>



# I said to the Lord, “O God the Lord, the strength of my salvation, You have covered my head in the day of battle.” Psalm 140:7

## With tzitzit in high demand for IDF soldiers, volunteers take on the challenge

Jerusalem community prepares 60,000 pairs of the four-cornered, fringed ritual garments requested by religious and secular soldiers alike

By SHIRA SILKOFF | 23 October 2023, 10:19 am | 0



Volunteers in Jerusalem prepare tzitzit for IDF soldiers on the front lines, October 19, 2023. (Shira Silkoff)

In an inconspicuous school hall in the heart of Jerusalem, dozens of people from all walks of life sit together at long tables preparing tzitzit — knotted fringes worn by religious Jews — to be sent out to IDF soldiers on the front lines of war. As a result of the mass mobilization, many reservists found themselves without the necessary equipment — both tactical and spiritual. One item in particular has been in high demand, with religious and secular Jews alike putting in requests for it: tzitzit. Faced with a request for 60,000 of the four-cornered fringed garments, the Military Rabbinate turned to Yeshivat Eretz Hemdah, which in turn mobilized its community to come together and prepare the tzitzit.

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/with-tzitzit-in-high-demand-for-idf-soldiers-volunteers-take-on-the-challenge/>

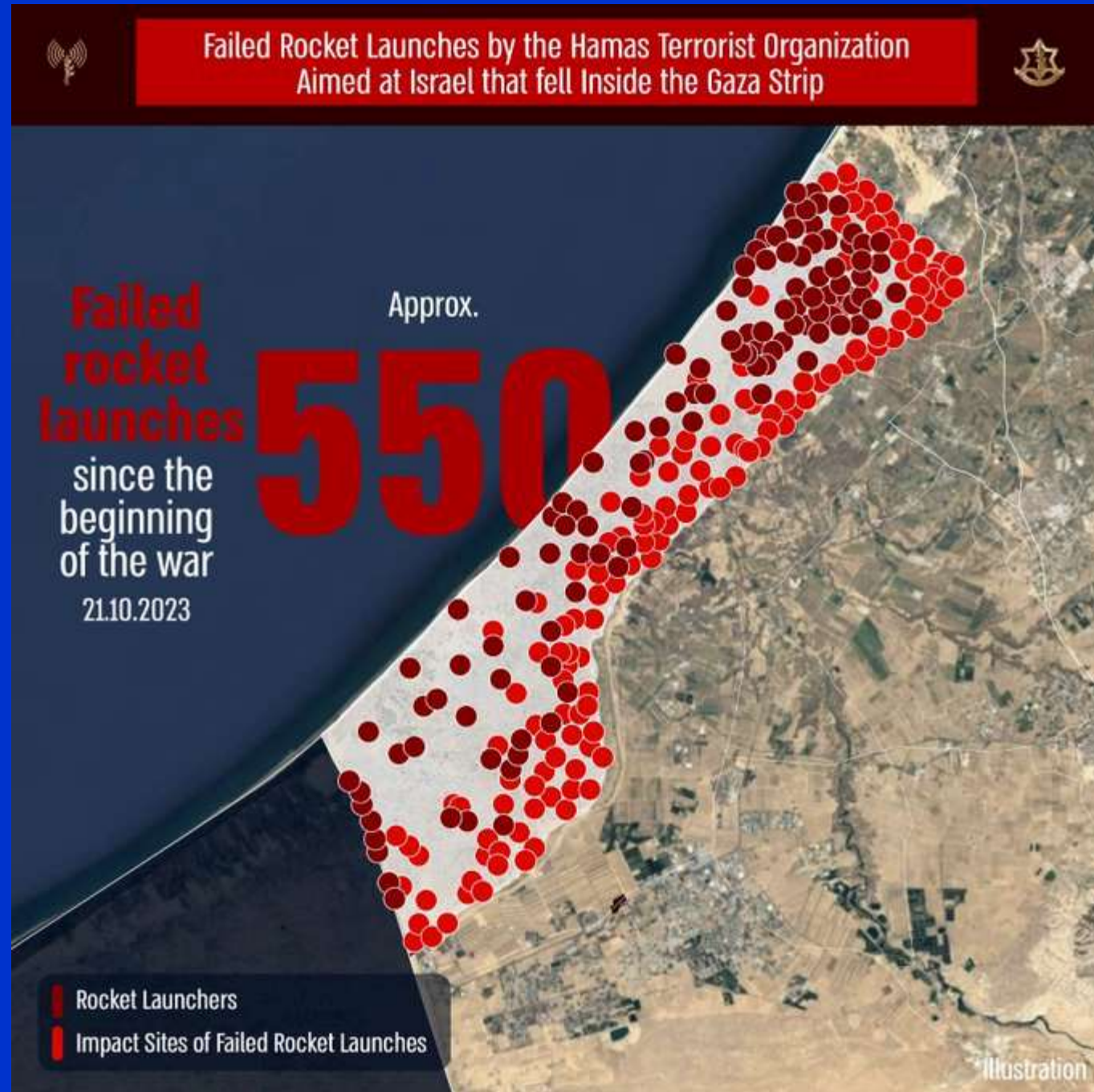
I said to the Lord, “Do not grant, O Lord,  
the desires of the wicked [רָשָׁע rasha]; do  
not promote his evil device, that they  
not be exalted.” Selah. Psalm 140:8



I said to the Lord, “As for the head of those who surround me, may the mischief of their lips cover them.”

Psalms 140:9

I said to the Lord,  
“May burning coals  
fall upon them; may  
they be cast into the  
fire, into deep pits  
from which they  
cannot rise.”  
Psalm 140:10



I said to the Lord, “May a slanderer not be established in the earth; may evil [רַע ra] hunt the violent man speedily.” Psalm 140:11

## **WATCH: Palestinian Authority praises Hamas massacres as ‘heroic’**

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Two senior members of Fatah, the ruling faction of the Palestinian Authority, hail the Hamas massacres in southern Israel, calling them ‘heroic,’ and ‘a source of pride.’





I know that the Lord will maintain the  
cause of the afflicted and justice for the  
poor. Psalm 140:12

## Holocaust survivor escapes Hamas but fears for missing family

By Joseph Campbell

October 16, 2023 1:09 PM CDT - Updated 9 days ago



JERUSALEM, Oct 16 (Reuters) - Being unsafe in her own home was a feeling that 87-year-old Holocaust survivor Ruth Haran had not experienced since the end of World War Two.

That changed on Oct. 7 when Hamas gunmen burst into her home in the kibbutz of Beerli in southern Israel. They forced her into the house's safe room. She emerged hours later unscathed. Her family did not.

Ten of Haran's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are now missing, and she believes Palestinian militants are holding them in the Gaza Strip.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/holocaust-survivor-escapes-hamas-fears-missing-family-2023-10-16/>

Surely the righteous will give thanks to  
Your name; the upright will dwell in Your  
presence. Psalm 140:13

Last week's Torah Portion (a reading calendar developed around 600 BC) teaches us that the human race was repopulated after the Flood and every person will be on one side or the other... the side of the **righteous** and **blameless** (like Noah) or the side of the **evil** and **violent** (like Hamas). – Tehila Gimpel

Followers of Jesus, where will you stand?



# Let's pray Psalm 20 together

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob set you securely on high! May He send you help from the sanctuary and support you from Zion! May He remember all your meal offerings and find your burnt offering acceptable! May He grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your counsel! We will sing for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners. May the Lord fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the Lord saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some boast in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the Lord, our God. They have bowed down and fallen, but we have risen and stood upright. Save, O Lord; may the King answer us in the day we call.