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READER EDITION

October 3, 2025

ISRAEL BRIEF

Friday, October 3

Yom Kippur's quiet, rockets' roar, and the clock on Hamas: clarity at home, pressure abroad, resolve intact.

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CLASSIFICATION

Reader Edition

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Inside Israel

Public Trust Dynamics

AN INSS survey found 86–90% of Israelis approve of IDF performance, but only 30% express confidence in government leadership. Six in ten citizens report internal divisions concern them more than external threats.

Cybersecurity Breach

The Qilin group, Russian-speaking hackers, attacked Shamir Medical Center during Yom Kippur, threatening to release 8 terabytes of patient data unless paid \$700,000. Hospital operations continued despite disruptions to records systems.

Yom Kippur Observance

Streets emptied for the 25-hour fast as families biked through major cities. Magen David Adom treated 3,022 people, evacuated 2,165, and documented 293 dehydration cases, 295 bike injuries, and 149 women in labor including three babies delivered en route.

Israel and the World

Manchester Synagogue Attack

ON Yom Kippur morning, an attacker rammed worshippers outside Heaton Park Hebrew Congregation, killing two before attempting to breach the building with a knife. Armed police shot him during the assault. Analysis linked the incident to “unchecked” pro-Palestinian marches across Britain where authorities reportedly allowed hostile demonstrations.

German Terror Cell Arrests

German police arrested three suspected Hamas operatives—two German citizens and one Lebanese national—accused of plotting attacks on Jewish institutions. Raids seized assault rifles, pistols, and ammunition intended for “assassinations.”

UNRWA Lawsuit Dismissal

A federal judge dismissed a \$1 billion suit by October 7 victims’ families against UNRWA, ruling the agency immune from litigation despite a Justice Department letter earlier stating otherwise regarding Hamas collaboration claims.

Iran’s Regional Strategy

Ali Larijani, Iran’s top security official, traveled to Lebanon urging Hezbollah’s revival following leadership assassinations. He warned that “new Nasrallahs will arise” and dismissed sanctions and targeted killings as ineffective.

Briefly Noted

- Colombian President Gustavo Petro expelled Israeli diplomats and canceled trade agreements after the flotilla interception
- UN special rapporteur Francesca Albanese claimed Hamas need not release hostages for peace, provoking Italian official outrage
- The UN posted only its second-ever Yom Kippur greeting after pressure, though avoided using “Jewish” and “Israel”
- FIFA chief declined suspending Israel despite boycott calls, allowing World Cup qualifiers to proceed
- Exiled Iranian Crown Prince Reza Pahlavi launched a “We Take Back Iran” initiative claiming tens of thousands of security personnel have joined
- An Israeli Arab imprisoned three months in Jordan was released following quiet negotiations
- Hamas reportedly sabotaged humanitarian relief by firing projectiles at an aid distribution site in Rafah
- Anti-Israel vandals sprayed pro-Palestinian messaging on an Ashdod sports hall during Yom Kippur
- Former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo apologized to Orthodox Jews for COVID-era restrictions targeting their neighborhoods
- Five Israeli tourists remain stranded in Vietnam after tropical storms caused mass flooding

Developments to Watch

- **Houthi threats:** Yemen’s Houthis vowed fresh missile launches; Aden authorities seized 58 Iran-supplied containers with weapons systems bound for Sana’a
- **Iranian preparations:** An adviser to Iran’s president warned of potential simultaneous campaigns against Iran, Houthis, and Iraqi militias with targeted assassinations
- **Netanyahu signal:** The prime minister stated Israel “knows the location of the 450 kg of enriched Iranian uranium,” hinting at potential preemption
- **French readiness:** France’s chief of staff ordered highest-level combat readiness, preparing for “high-intensity war” scenarios
- **Trump ultimatum:** U.S. envoys told mediators the ceasefire proposal represents a “final window” before Israel receives unrestricted operational authority
- **Settlement leverage:** YESHA Council leaders claimed credit for removing language barring future Israeli sovereignty moves in the West Bank
- **Egyptian assessment:** Cairo indicated the U.S. plan contained addressable gaps while warning of escalation if Hamas refuses
- **Gaza commander resistance:** Hamas military leadership rejected disarmament requirements outright

- **Atarot security:** Forces shot and wounded an individual attempting to cross the barrier near Atarot junction; patrols were reinforced
- **Logistics disruption:** Far-left activists obstructed the Sufa crossing, delaying reserve unit rotations
- **Attack support networks:** Prosecutors charged Nader Muhtaseb for transporting terrorists involved in the Ramot Junction incident
- **UN advocacy:** Ambassador Danny Danon recited Psalms for hostages from the General Assembly podium on Yom Kippur eve
- **Travel security:** An Israeli family received a rental car vandalized with swastikas in Cyprus; police investigation ongoing
- **Second flotilla reports:** Organizers in Italy reportedly plan another Gaza flotilla after Israel deported 470 activists
- **Manchester investigation:** UK police believe one victim and one wounded worshipper may have been struck by police gunfire during the shootout

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ABOUT MITZPE INSTITUTE

Mitzpe Institute is an intelligence and strategy organization focused on Israeli security, diaspora threat assessment, and the strategic challenges confronting the Jewish people and the West. We produce daily intelligence, forensic analyses, strategic assessments, and tactical briefings read by policymakers, military leaders, and institutional decision-makers across more than 90 countries and all 50 US states — from the Knesset and the US Congress to allied governments, major policy institutions, and Jewish organizational leadership worldwide.

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