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READER EDITION

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ISRAEL BRIEF

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Diplomats Polish Resolutions While the IDF Plans Real Wars

◇ URIEL ZEHAVI

THE BOTTOM LINE This is the split-screen reality Israel lives in: one of Europe's most important states saying, again, that its place is at Israel's side — politically and with weapons — while Western capitals from Mexico to Ottawa and beyond normalize "Jew" as an insult in public politics. German arms and diplomatic cover matter enormously when Israel is enforcing red lines against Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas; the Mexico graffiti is a reminder that the battle is not just on borders and airspace but in language and legitimacy. Israel should lock in Berlin as a long-term strategic partner and treat every flare of open Jew-hatred in "friendly" countries as both warning and leverage: if you want to be in the serious Western alliance Merz talks about, you don't get to mainstream slurs on your presidential palace gates.

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GAZA is now formally two theaters: an IDF-controlled belt east of the Yellow Line where tunnels die by concrete and explosives, and a Hamas-run west that taxes, re-arms, and rehearses victimhood for the cameras. Up north, the 91st Division is already running rehearsal cycles in Aitaroun and Ramyeh while the security establishment quietly recommends a short, hard air campaign across Lebanon's weapons plants. In Judea and Samaria, nightly "arrest" raids around Nablus and Far'a keep turning into firefights as Iran's investment in the southern belt shows up in explosives and gunmen, not op-eds. At home, the High Court has redrawn the map on who investigates whom, Netanyahu has opted for an October 7 commission on his own terms, and the street is oscillating between gratitude and fury. Abroad, the UN is selling a "credible pathway" to Palestinian statehood in the same week Hamas announces it will never disarm and starts stockpiling weapons offshore.

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Flash Brief

- **Lebanon:** 91st Division dismantles Hezbollah sites in Aitaroun/Ramyeh; targeted strike kills Al-Mansouri fixer; short air campaign floated. *See The War Today.*
- **Gaza:** IDF controls over half the Strip east of Yellow Line, demolishing Beit Hanun tunnel complex and daily infiltrator attempts. *See The War Today.*
- **Judea & Samaria:** IDF kills terrorists in Askar and Far'a during raids as Iran-driven threat drifts south toward Hebron belt. *See The War Today.*
- **Gaza “Day After”:** Hamas rejects disarmament, hoards weapons abroad, and asks PA to “store” its arsenal while UN talks statehood. *See The War Today / Israel and the World.*
- **Law & Inquiries:** High Court lets Levin pick an external Sde Teiman overseer under strict terms; cabinet advances custom October 7 commission. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Tzur Misgavi:** State demolishes unauthorized hilltop community at Metzad even as police bust a major drug lab and dirty Border Police smuggling ring. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Diplomacy:** Israel battles US UNSC wording on “pathway to statehood,” slams PA “human trafficking” libel over Gazans going to South Africa, banks German arms reboot. *See Israel and the World.*

ON every front that matters, enforcement is moving and performance is lagging. The IDF is treating the Yellow Line and the Lebanese border like what they really are — live contact lines that need concrete, drones, and strike packages, not hashtags. Hamas treats every new acronym — ISF, Peace Council, “credible pathway” — as a timetable to game while it keeps battalion commanders underground in Rafah and weapons in Yemeni storage rooms. In Judea and Samaria, the picture looks more and more like the intel warned: Iran’s “next war” isn’t a dramatic border breach, it’s a thousand small explosives in the south if you let them knit together.

The War Today

Coercive Strikes, Botched Peacekeepers, and a Short War on the Table

Hezbollah is trying to stitch their hold over the south back together while the IDF methodically hems them in. Over the past few days, the 91st Division ran a nighttime campaign in Aitaroun and Ramyeh—dismantling structures Hezbollah was already trying to reuse, seizing rifles, Kalashnikovs, magazines, and ammo, and guiding at least five precision IAF strikes that killed three terrorists in multiple villages. In al-Mansouri, an Israeli drone hit a vehicle and eliminated Muhammad Ali Shuaikh, Hezbollah’s local fixer who doubled as the “school principal” and liaison for appropriating private property for terror use. At the same time, an IDF tank fired what it calls “warning shots” near Hammamis after misidentifying UNIFIL observers in bad

weather, forcing the peacekeepers to dive for cover before liaison channels unwound the incident. Over it all, heavy IAF traffic and fresh targeting data are feeding a recommendation from the security establishment for a short, multi-day air campaign against Lebanon—focused on weapons-production nodes in the Beqaa and Beirut and Radwan re-infiltration south of the Litani.

ASSESSMENT

Hezbollah is rebuilding forward positions and conversion plants under civilian cover; UNIFIL is walking patrols and filing complaints (when they're not firing on Israeli reconnaissance UAVs at the behest of Paris). The UN misfire is an embarrassment, but it doesn't change the course ahead. Multiple IDF outposts still sit inside Lebanon, Hezbollah's Radwan cadres are drifting back toward the border, and the U.S. 60-day clock is running out. Either Beirut and UNIFIL start dismantling rocket plants, or Israel will keep doing it from 20,000 feet—whether that's called "limited" or not.

Media Sources: Times of Israel, Israel National News (x2), Ynet.

Contact Raids Tighten as Iran Pushes the Southern Belt

IDF units in northern Samaria ran another night of contact operations around Nablus and Far'a, killing two terrorists in separate clashes. In Askar, a 19-year-old Palestinian hurled an explosive at reservists from the Samaria Regional Brigade; he was shot dead on the spot. Hours later in Far'a, another attacker tried to strike an IDF unit during a sweep and was eliminated immediately, with no Israeli casualties. These raids sit atop a wider tempo: dozens of weapons seized across the sector in recent days, continued pressure on bomb-makers and gunmen tied into Hamas networks, and a slow southward drift of threat signatures from Jenin toward Nablus, the Karmeit Tzur ridge, and the Bethlehem–Hebron corridor.

ASSESSMENT

These aren't routine "arrests" but battlefield encounters in a theater Iran is actively trying to ignite. Every explosive thrown in Askar and Far'a is another indicator that local cells are shifting from one-off attacks to organized probing — exactly the pattern Israeli intelligence flagged as Tehran's next front after Gaza. The right posture is what the IDF is already doing: treat Judea and Samaria as a live combat environment, roll up cells before they cohere, and stay ahead of the weapons flow. Delay turns this into a war inside the heart of the country; momentum keeps it a nightly raid instead of a regional escalation.

Media Sources: Times of Israel, Israel National News.

Yellow Line Reality, Hamas's "Dignity," and Weapons Waiting Offshore

On paper, Gaza is moving toward an elegant U.S.-crafted sequence: International Stabilization Force, technocratic Palestinian committee, reconstruction fund, periodic UN reports, and a "credible path" to Palestinian self-determination. On the ground, it looks very different. The Yellow Line has carved the Strip into two realities: an IDF-controlled belt east of the line where tunnels like the one-kilometer-long Beit Hanun complex have just been demolished by Unit 367 and Yahalom, and a western zone where Hamas quietly retakes checkpoints, taxes shipments, and runs "hostage-body searches" under Red Cross

escort while its armed cadres stay untouched. Egypt and Gulf outlets now openly fret that the Yellow Line is becoming a de facto border, a 21st-century “Berlin Wall” that locks in partition instead of a temporary security measure.

Netanyahu told the cabinet he has no way to put a clock on the ceasefire while “Phase A” is still about bringing home three murdered hostages’ remains and dismantling tunnels; he also admitted the obvious: no country is actually willing to send troops into Gaza to disarm Hamas, even though Israel already signed off on the concept of a force—on the condition it really fights. Meanwhile, Hamas is behaving exactly like an organization that knows the world is desperate to pretend disarmament is happening. A captured diary from Beit Hanun commander Khaled Abu Akram describes using UNRWA clinics as a parts store—stripping batteries, solar panels, water systems—and shifting ambushes into schools after tunnels are hit. Fresh reporting shows Hamas has begun stockpiling weapons in Africa, Yemen and “friendly” states for later smuggling back to Gaza and Europe, while European investigators just exposed a Hamas-linked cache in Austria meant for attacks on Israeli and Jewish targets and arrested a British operative tied into that cell.

Inside Gaza, the roughly 100-200 Rafah tunnel fighters—commanded by at least a battalion-level Hamas officer—are still refusing to surrender, telling mediators they will only leave “with dignity” on terms they choose. Parallel leaks out of Ramallah say Hamas tried to get the Palestinian Authority to “store” its weapons rather than destroy them, so they’d be available when the next round starts; PA security chiefs Majed Faraj and Hussein al-Sheikh reportedly told them no and demanded public transfer instead, a step Hamas refuses to take. In other words: while the U.S. text forbids manufacturing, importing and stockpiling, Hamas is trying to outsource storage, move stock offshore, and keep its signature tunnels intact as a symbol of survival.

ASSESSMENT

Gaza is exactly where you’d expect it when diplomacy runs ahead of enforcement: a ceasefire line treated abroad like an abstract “phase marker,” and on the ground like a real border that Hamas intends to burrow under, work around, and wait out. The Rafah tunnel men, the Beit Hanun diary, the offshore depots, and the PA “weapons storage” gambit all say the same thing: Hamas has no intention of disarming; it is repositioning. Israel’s refusal to put a fake timeline on an international force no one will send is not foot-dragging, it’s sanity. The only sequence that works is the one Netanyahu and Katz keep stating out loud: tunnels blown, weapons seized or destroyed, Hamas cadres in cells or graves—and only then any foreign force, any reconstruction money, any talk of governance. Anything else just hands Hamas a U.N. refurbishment grant and calls it peace.

Media Sources: Jerusalem Post (x5), Israel National News (x2), Ynet.

Inside Israel

Courts, Commissions, and Who Gets to Investigate Whom

The High Court's Sde Teiman ruling cut both ways: it threw out Justice Minister Yariv Levin's choice of Judge Asher Kula to oversee the MAG leak probe, but explicitly affirmed Levin's authority to appoint an external overseer when the Attorney General and State Attorney are in a conflict of interest. The justices laid out strict criteria for the new figure — senior state employee, deep criminal-law and investigative experience, no political ties, no subordination to either Levin or the prosecution — and then slammed the legal system for never seriously checking its own conflicts. In parallel, the cabinet decided to advance an "independent" October 7 commission of inquiry with full powers, giving Netanyahu 45 days to define its mandate, while ministers like Gideon Sa'ar and Orit Strock pushed to keep the political echelon off the panel and Ben-Gvir insisted the legal elite (including the AG who blocked tougher terror detention rules pre-war) must also be examined.

ASSESSMENT

The High Court drew a new line — ministers can step in when the AG is conflicted, but only with a serious, apolitical criminal lawyer, not a political crony — while the government drew its own line by opting for a custom commission instead of a formal state inquiry. The risk is obvious: turn this into another round of institutional trench warfare and nothing deep gets fixed; treat it as a one-time chance to put generals, spooks, ministers and the legal bureaucracy under real scrutiny, and the system comes out harder and cleaner. Either way, October 7 won't be explained by one memo or one minister; it was a chain of failures, and every link must be named.

Media Sources: Ynet, Israel National News (x2).

Demolishing Builders, Not the Networks Poisoning the Country

Hundreds of police, Border Police, and Civil Administration troops stormed a hilltop above Metzad to evacuate 25 families and demolished a community at Tzur Misgavi — one built over the course of two years in a deliberate attempt to block documented illegal Arab expansion from Sa'ir. The operation came at the explicit request of Gush Etzion council head Yaron Rosenthal, who warned that the construction was swallowing hundreds of dunams needed for thousands of planned housing units. Nachala called the demolition an attack on Zionism and "the pioneers of settlement," and while they're not right about everything, they're not speaking nonsense either.

Because the same morning the state tore down Jewish homes, it also announced two other stories that show where the real rot has been: police dismantled one of the largest synthetic-drug labs in years near Ashdod — nine suspects, kilos of "Doctor," and literal piles of cash — and investigators arrested five Border Police officers running bribe-fueled smuggling of illegal residents and contraband. That's actual criminal anarchy. Yet the government can marshal overwhelming force against those trying to keep a foothold on a ridge — one where the same government is planning to build more homes — while the networks poisoning cities and compromising borders metastasized for years.

None of this means the hilltop was blameless. Pirated land seizures that undermine coordinated planning jeopardize it. But the propaganda line that this is “settler violence” or “anarchy” is exactly that: propaganda. What’s happening on the ground is far narrower — a handful of kids pushing past the line, a handful of structures that jumped the gun — in a movement that overwhelmingly builds, farms, and secures the land, not torches it.

ASSESSMENT

Most Jews in Judea and Samaria are exactly what you’d expect: law-abiding families, farmers, reservists, and small-business owners quietly holding the ground. The problems come from a microscopic minority: hotheads who confuse personal ego with Zionism. Treat criminal acts as such — not as symbols for entire publics. Enforcing demolition orders at Tzur Misgavi doesn’t weaken the settlement project; it protects it from being hijacked. The same goes for the Border Police bust: if you want Israelis to believe the system can keep Arabs with guns out and Jewish kids safe from poison, seeing dirty cops in handcuffs is part of the job. Ben-Gvir says those who riot against soldiers or smuggle illegals don’t represent the settler public; he’s right, and backing tough, targeted enforcement is how you prove it.

Media Sources: Israel National News, Ynet, Jerusalem Post (x2), JNS.

Judicial Meltdown Became Hamas’s “Golden Opportunity”

Hamas’s own leaders say Israel’s internal crisis — the judicial reform brawl, public talk of reserve refusals, open claims that the IDF was becoming a political weapon — helped convince them that October 7 was their “golden opportunity.” In the months before the massacre, Hamas media and internal messaging fixated on Israeli fractures, reading every protest and every “I won’t serve” op-ed as proof the army’s cohesion was cracking and that the Jewish public had lost its stomach for a long, ugly war. Lt.-Col. (res.) Jonathan Halevi’s research relies only on Hamas’s official website, its newspaper, and the Izzadin al-Qassam Brigades’ own channels —this isn’t an Israeli projection exercise, it’s the enemy’s stated logic. From their point of view, the combination of a paralyzed political system and a visibly divided officer corps was the window they’d been waiting for since Oslo.

ASSESSMENT

None of this means Israelis should stop arguing about law, religion, policy, or anything else; this isn’t Russia or Iran. It does mean there is a hard red line we can’t cross again: when internal fights migrate from the Knesset and the op-ed page into the IDF’s cohesion and the legitimacy of reserve service, we’re not “saving democracy,” we’re writing Hamas’s target sequence for them. The next time a government tries to drag the army into a culture war, or a protest leader flirts with telling brigades to stay home: remember who is watching, recording, and planning. We can’t undo the signal we sent before October 7, but we can make sure the new signal is just as clear: the politics are noisy, the country is angry and alive, but the IDF is off-limits as a toy — and anyone betting on another “golden opportunity” will be filled with overwhelming regret.

Media Source: Jerusalem Post.

Israel and the World

UN Sells a “Pathway,” Israel Reads It as a Trap

Washington is pushing a UN Security Council resolution that bakes Trump’s Gaza plan into international law, including an International Stabilization Force, a technocratic “Peace Council,” and that magic phrase about a “credible pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood.” Jerusalem is scrambling to strip the statehood language and lock in hard security control: Netanyahu convened an emergency cabinet huddle; Gideon Sa’ar told 160 German influencers that a Palestinian state in today’s reality is just “a Hamas terror state”; and coalition partners are demanding explicit opposition to the text. Hamas, for its part, dropped the mask entirely — issuing a joint statement with other Gaza factions rejecting any disarmament, any foreign force, and any infringement on their “right to resistance,” even as they quietly stockpile weapons abroad for later smuggling back into Gaza.

ASSESSMENT

The gap is not subtle: the U.S. is trying to engineer Gaza’s “day after” on paper with a half-promised Palestinian state as the sweetener, while Hamas says openly it will neither disarm nor accept foreign boots, and Israel says just as openly it won’t accept a terror state two kilometers from its population centers. When the side you’re offering a state tells you it intends to keep its guns and its “resistance,” believing that more resolutions or nicer acronyms will civilize them is fantasy. Israel’s line holds: demilitarization and real enforcement first, or every “pathway” becomes just another lane back to October 7.

Media Sources: Ynet, Israel National News, Times of Israel.

Gaza Emigration, South Africa, and the “Human Trafficking” Libel

A charter flight carrying 153 Gazans left via Ramon Airport, routed through Kenya, and landed in Johannesburg — where South African border authorities held the passengers for 12 hours because they had no clear return tickets, hotel addresses, or proper paperwork. After a scramble involving the Palestinian embassy and the NGO Gift of the Givers, 130 were admitted on 90-day visas, 23 continued on to other countries, and Pretoria opened an investigation into how an opaque charity called “Al-Majd Europe” organized the trip. The PA Foreign Ministry responded by accusing Israel of “human trafficking” and “blood trading,” warning of shadowy networks “driving Palestinians out” to serve Israeli interests, even as COGAT says a third country agreed to receive them under Israel’s declared policy of allowing Gazans who want to leave to do so.

ASSESSMENT

The accusation is grotesque even by Ramallah standards. Israel has been utterly open about one basic, humane policy: if Gazans want out and a third country will take them, Jerusalem will help them leave, not lock them in a cage for PR. A shadowy, AI-headshot “NGO” with no working email and a crypto donate button is not Israel’s style; if anything, Israel would happily advertise that people are choosing a new life elsewhere rather than living under Hamas. The real scandal isn’t that some Gazans took a one-way flight out; it’s that their own leadership calls that “human trafficking” while keeping millions trapped under a regime that burns their aid and uses their kids as shields.

Media Source: Jerusalem Post.

Germany Reopens the Arms Spigot While Slurs Appear in Mexico City

In Europe's core, Germany is re-anchoring itself where it says it belongs. Chancellor Friedrich Merz told his party's youth wing that Berlin must stand "in the Western alliance — at Israel's side," and followed words with policy: Berlin is lifting its partial arms embargo on Israel and returning to case-by-case approvals now that the Gaza ceasefire has stabilized. Sa'ar welcomed the move and urged others to follow. At the same time, the rot on the wider stage is on full display: in Mexico City, anti-government protesters spray-painted "Jewish whore" on the gates of the National Palace to attack President Claudia Sheinbaum, the country's first Jewish head of state. Israel's foreign minister condemned the slur as both antisemitic and misogynistic, reminding everyone that in 2025 the oldest hatred still feels very comfortable in the streets.

ASSESSMENT

This is the split-screen reality Israel lives in: one of Europe's most important states saying, again, that its place is at Israel's side — politically and with weapons — while Western capitals from Mexico to Ottawa and beyond normalize "Jew" as an insult in public politics. German arms and diplomatic cover matter enormously when Israel is enforcing red lines against Iran, Hezbollah, and Hamas; the Mexico graffiti is a reminder that the battle is not just on borders and airspace but in language and legitimacy. Israel should lock in Berlin as a long-term strategic partner and treat every flare of open Jew-hatred in "friendly" countries as both warning and leverage: if you want to be in the serious Western alliance Merz talks about, you don't get to mainstream slurs on your presidential palace gates.

Media Sources: JNS (x3).

Briefly Noted

Frontline & Security

- *Globes*: Israel's IAI opened a suicide-drone production plant in Morocco to manufacture SpyX loitering munitions for Rabat's growing arsenal. Morocco is quietly becoming Israel's most serious defense partner in North Africa — and every Israeli system deployed there is one less French footprint and one more block against Iran's reach across the Sahel.
- *Jerusalem Post*: Iran's IRGC hijacked a Marshall Islands-flagged tanker en route to Singapore, prompting CENTCOM to call it a "blatant violation of international law." This is Iran reverting to piracy as statecraft — a reminder that its answer to pressure is to threaten global shipping and dare the West to enforce its own rules.
- *Ynet*: Iran and Hezbollah rebuilt their weapons-smuggling empire through Turkey, maritime routes, cash businesses and crypto after Syria collapsed and old corridors closed. The U.S. may demand Beirut shut these channels

by year-end, but without real enforcement Hezbollah will keep turning Lebanon's economy into a laundromat for Iranian money and war.

Economy, Tech & Infrastructure

- *Ynet*: A strategic analysis shows the Houthis seized Yemen's economy by exploiting its centralized import-chokepoint system — the same system now collapsing under Israeli strikes and sanctions. That fragility means the "Houthi state" is built on economic sand, and Israel can keep squeezing until the regime starts choosing coercion over survival.

Culture, Religion & Society

- *Jerusalem Post*: U.S. officials say October 7 has fueled a surge in ISIS recruitment, with young Americans radicalizing online and plotting attacks against Jews, LGBTQ groups, and community targets. Hamas's massacre didn't just embolden jihadists abroad — it reignited the ISIS ecosystem that feeds on the same grievances and hunts the same victims.
- *ABC7 Chicago*: An Illinois man who attacked a police officer after cutting an Israeli flag off a home is now charged with a hate crime. Even in American suburbs, Jew-hate keeps showing up with knives — and prosecutors finally seem willing to say the quiet part out loud.

Developments to Watch

Northern Front (Lebanon / Syria)

- **Short Lebanon Campaign Taking Shape** – The security establishment is now openly recommending a short, multi-day air campaign in Lebanon targeting weapons-production sites in the Beqaa and Beirut and Radwan re-infiltration south of the Litani. If UNIFIL and the LAF keep pretending not to see Hezbollah's rebuild, Israel will enforce 1701 from the air, not via talking points. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**
- **UNIFIL Mis-ID Shows Hair-Trigger Tension** – An IDF tank fired warning bursts near Hammis after misidentifying UNIFIL patrolmen as suspects in heavy weather; no one was hurt and liaison channels defused it.
- **Syrian Border Skirmishes Complicate Northern Picture** – Syrian regime forces briefly detained Lebanese soldiers at Halmat Kara, while Druze National Guard units traded heavy fire and mortars with troops in Suweida. A shakier Syrian south means more moving parts along Israel's extended buffer and more room for Iran and spoilers to slip through. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

Gaza & Southern Theater

- **IDF Holds Half of Gaza, Eyes Next Push** – Chief of Staff Zamir says the IDF now controls over half the Strip and is demolishing tunnels east of the Yellow Line while deliberately avoiding direct rule over civilians. His

warning about needing readiness for a rapid offensive “on the other side of the Yellow Line” is the real timer, not whatever the UN writes. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

- **Tunnel Demolition Becomes Daily Business** – Katz reports tunnel destruction is progressing via explosives and poured concrete throughout IDF-held areas, even as the multinational disarmament force in “old Gaza” remains PowerPoint-only. If no one shows up to enforce demilitarization in the west, expect the IDF to keep expanding the concrete map east to west.

Regional Axis (Iran, Houthis, Militias)

- **Iran Admits Enrichment Halt, Not Intent** – Tehran now concedes it isn’t enriching uranium anywhere after the June Israel–US strikes, while insisting it will re-assert its “inalienable right” once it can. That’s not a climb-down, it’s a pause for repairs — and proof that kinetic enforcement, not paper, is what actually froze the program.
- **Houthis Push “Local Economy” After Strikes** – With ports and airports hammered and sanctions biting, Houthi media is suddenly selling “locally produced” soap, clothes and veggies while calling for boycotts of foreign goods. A terror regime built on import chokepoints is discovering that “resistance” doesn’t keep the shelves stocked.

Judea & Samaria

- **Samaria Shooting Keeps Threat Level High** – A terrorist opened fire near Al Neve farm in Samaria, triggering an ongoing pursuit. Between that and nightly explosive attacks around Nablus, the Samaria sector is behaving less like “policing” and more like a low-grade front that Iran would love to upgrade. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

Diplomatic & Legal

- **UN Gaza Force Stalls, Algeria Becomes Hamas’s Lawyer** – Hamas is leaning on Algeria to oppose the U.S. Gaza force draft at the Security Council, branding any foreign presence “a new form of occupation.” The veto loop plus Arab grandstanding means the only real stabilization force in Gaza remains the IDF, like it or not. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**
- **UN Statehood Language vs. Israeli Red Lines** – As the U.S. pushes a UNSC text tying Gaza stabilization to a “credible pathway” to Palestinian statehood, Netanyahu, Sa’ar, Ben-Gvir and Smotrich all reiterate there will be no Palestinian state west of the Jordan. The resolution fight will be the next big test of how far Washington insists on process while Israel insists on memory.

Home Front & Politics

- **Infrastructure and Risk at Home: Health Basket vs. Crumbling Prefabs** – While the Health Ministry names a 19-member committee to decide the 2026 health-basket under tight budget caps, a prefab classroom in Beit

Shemesh collapsed in bad weather, injuring six kids. It's a neat snapshot of the home front: finely tuned national-level rationing on paper, and ad-hoc infrastructure that literally falls on children's heads in the rain.

What shifts next will tell you who's serious. In the north, watch whether the recommendation for a short Lebanon campaign turns into an approved target bank and a date, or gets smothered in diplomatic euphemism. In Gaza, watch whether anyone besides the IDF is prepared to physically take a rifle out of a Hamas operative's hands, or whether "demilitarization" remains a word, not a set of coordinates. Inside Israel, the October 7 commission and the Sde Teiman overseer can either be real knives that cut into every failed layer or foam props waved for TV.

— Uri Zehavi · *Intelligence Editor With Modi Zehavi · Data + Research Analyst*

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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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