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READER EDITION

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ISRAEL BRIEF

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Lebanon turns into an axis franchise hub, and Israel starts cutting into the systems that failed on October 7 while the 'international community' rebuilds the ecosystem that made it possible.

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THE BOTTOM LINE The operational environment surrounding Israel integrates institutional hypocrisy: United Nations platforms label defensive operations as aggression; Western welfare, education, and nonprofit sectors finance hostile networks; international elites alternate between historical revisionism and contemporary antisemitism. Israeli strategy must integrate this as a warfare dimension: systematically expose resource flows to militant networks, force alliance choices between enforcement and performative disapproval, and resist legitimacy erosion from institutions simultaneously funding adversaries.

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THE war continues across multiple fronts despite ceasefire rhetoric. In Rafah, tunnel operations proceed with casualties reported among militants while hostage remains transfer only under pressure. Lebanon witnesses Hezbollah's chief of staff buried under Israeli drone operations. Hamas units prepare to reinforce Hezbollah positions. The Vatican attempts diplomatic intervention through a papal visit. Domestically, accountability measures target intelligence and military leadership involved in October 7 failures. Internationally, Iran develops expanded missile capabilities while Western systems continue providing financial and platform support to hostile actors.

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Flash Brief

Rafah Operations: Infantry brigades dismantle remaining tunnel infrastructure; 11 of 17 emerging militants eliminated; hostage remains transferred to Red Cross following pressure.

Lebanon Developments: Hezbollah leadership funeral proceeds under aerial surveillance; Hamas forces position for potential reengagement; Pope plans controversial visit despite security concerns.

Iran/Axis Activities: Tehran reports enhanced missile production; Russian collaboration on laser technology underway; Houthi statements affirm support for regional conflicts.

Judea & Samaria Operations: Joint IDF–Shin Bet operations eliminate two terror operatives in separate locations; Arab mob attacks Jewish shepherd on state-held land.

Institutional Changes: Mossad removes senior intelligence officer; Unit 8200 commanders dismissed; Defense Minister escalates oversight; Political party restructuring occurs.

Information Warfare: Foreign-operated protest accounts exposed on social platforms; welfare fraud diverts funds to militant networks internationally.

Diplomatic Activity: Security agreements signed; Terror designations reviewed; Regional partnerships strengthened.

THE WAR TODAY

Rafah's Underground Dies While UNRWA Resurrects Hamas's Ecosystem

Israeli forces conduct ongoing tunnel demolition operations in Rafah. Infantry brigades Nahal and Golani, alongside engineering unit Yahalom, have systematically dismantled hundreds of meters of tunnel infrastructure. Operations report approximately 60 targets struck, 15 shaft collapses, and 11 of 17 terrorists who emerged from bunkers eliminated, with six captured for interrogation.

Militants attempting to cross the Yellow Line separating zones faced immediate lethal response. Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad transferred a hostage's remains to Red Cross custody following Jerusalem's public acknowledgment of continued delay as a ceasefire breach.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) simultaneously announced educational facility reopening, bringing approximately 300,000 Gazan students into 124 sites and operating medical clinics treating roughly 15,000

people daily—the same organizational structure previously documented as providing operational support to militant activities.

ASSESSMENT

Tactical enforcement continues with immediate consequences for infiltration attempts and tunnel activity. However, simultaneous restoration of the same welfare infrastructure that previously enabled militant operations creates strategic instability. Sustained neutralization requires treating organizational reconstruction as part of the operational environment rather than humanitarian activity.

Dahieh Under Drones, Al-Qassam in Lebanon, Rome in the Flight Plan

Following the elimination of Haytham Ali Tabataba'i, Hezbollah's operational chief, the organization conducted military funeral ceremonies under continued Israeli aerial surveillance. Leadership messaging shifted from sectarian framing toward domestic legitimacy, with Ali Damoush characterizing casualties as “defenders of Lebanon” rather than regional combatants.

Intelligence assessments indicate Israel is now targeting successive command layers across the organization. Lebanese and Western officials acknowledge systematic elimination of remaining operational leadership. Hamas military brigades have established significant presence in Lebanon and reportedly prepared several hundred fighters for potential redeployment to support Hezbollah if hostilities resume.

Tehran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps issued statements regarding retaliation. Houthi officials publicly reaffirmed support for regional partners. Iranian advisers characterized the resistance movement as strengthened despite leadership losses. Hezbollah sources privately communicated that “current circumstances do not allow a response” to ongoing strikes.

The Vatican scheduled a papal visit to Lebanon, framing the Pope's presence as potentially deterring further escalation—a calculation that command structures across the region must incorporate into operational timing decisions.

ASSESSMENT

Lebanon's conflict environment has expanded beyond traditional Hezbollah-state dynamics to include multi-faction axis presence, increased Iranian footprint, and improvised diplomatic intervention. Israel's decapitation strategy has disrupted established operational equations. Tehran and Hezbollah now face a genuine dilemma: responding escalates risks during cadre pipeline collapse, yet continued absorption of strikes undermines organizational credibility domestically. Treating Lebanon as a forward operating theater for the broader axis clarifies Israel's strategic choice: determine timing independently or permit adversaries to dictate terms during organizational vulnerability.

Iran's Missile Lines Feed Every Front That Tries to Kill Jews

While diplomatic negotiations occur, Iran maintains continuous development of missile capabilities. Officials characterize current production as surpassing pre-conflict levels in both quantity and quality. Russian cooperation extends to advanced laser technology development supporting precision systems and nuclear-relevant research.

Missile derivatives distribute across proxy networks: Houthis employ them against maritime targets while publicly articulating support for regional conflicts; Hezbollah's Lebanon-based envelope incorporates advanced systems; Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad utilize Iranian engineering knowledge for weapons development and smuggling operations into Judea and Samaria.

Iranian operational scope extends beyond kinetic systems to cyber operations, online disinformation campaigns, and coordinated antisemitic propaganda distribution throughout Western discourse. Financial networks route resources to foreign "activism" accounts and encourage attacks against Jewish targets across multiple geographic zones.

ASSESSMENT

Iran operates an integrated apparatus treating all attack vectors—missiles, proxies, cyber operations, disinformation—as components of unified warfare against Israel and Jewish populations globally. Axis participants remain indifferent to attack mode. Effective counter-strategy requires moving beyond symptom management toward systematic disruption of Iran's production, training, and financial infrastructure.

INSIDE ISRAEL

Katz, Zamir, Barnea and Bibi Start Cutting Into the System

Accountability measures previously limited to policy discussion are now affecting institutional personnel. Mossad leadership removed Brigadier General G, the former Operations Division head in Military Intelligence, from his seconded position. Two Unit 8200 colonels—the Palestinian Arena Operations commander and the Collection Center commander—face dismissal over October 7 performance.

Defense Minister Israel Katz initiated a 30-day comptroller review of internal investigations and froze senior military appointments. IDF Chief of Staff Eyal Zamir objected publicly to civilian oversight imposition. Prime Minister Netanyahu convened both officials to clarify governmental authority over military leadership.

Netanyahu announced completion of Israel's Muslim Brotherhood organizational prohibition following Trump administration executive action. Mansour Abbas responded with accusations of electoral manipulation and warnings against security service politicization.

Likud party held its first national convention and leadership elections in years, reconstituting party structures in advance of anticipated national elections.

Israeli police detained a senior municipal official on charges related to corruption investigations. Social platform analysis identified that high-profile domestic protest accounts operate from international locations rather than grassroots positions.

ASSESSMENT

Breaking traditional avoidance patterns regarding institutional failure represents a systemic test. Intelligence and military leadership are experiencing career consequences; civilian oversight mechanisms are being asserted; Brotherhood infrastructure is being challenged. Abbas's anxiety signals recognition that functional state institutions rejecting Islamist power-sharing fundamentally alter political dynamics. Governmental sustainability depends on maintaining accountability pressure against institutional resistance, media opposition, and NGO litigation.

Binyamin's Shepherds Take the Hits While the Media Looks the Other Way

In western Binyamin, tactical territorial competition manifests in immediate violence. At Beit Karnayim Farm, established by the Binyamin Council to block Palestinian Authority land acquisition, dozens of Arab rioters attacked a Jewish shepherd, stole equipment, and attempted advancing toward residential areas until property owner firearms intervention halted the advance.

Strategic farms distributed across Binyamin and western Samaria function as state land reserves preventing Palestinian Authority territorial encroachment that would fragment Israel's central geography. Operational security results from IDF-Shin Bet joint operations: Ala Raouf Shetiyya, a soldier-killer operative near Shechem, was eliminated following armed confrontation; Sultan al-Ghani, identified as the perpetrator in Gideon Perry's murder in Jenin, was removed in coordinated operations, yielding weapons cache and explosives from secured hideouts.

ASSESSMENT

The Judea and Samaria operational environment reflects Arab-initiated militant and mob activity rather than the "settler violence" narrative circulated by international commentary. Territorial competition, Iranian-funded militant networks, and Palestinian state apparatus aggression constitute the actual threat environment. Jewish communities maintain this geographic depth through agricultural presence and military coordination. Government support through security operations and planning decisions stabilizes broader Israeli geography; withdrawal of institutional backing inverts strategic calculation and undermines the communities maintaining this critical territory.

ISRAEL AND THE WORLD

Israel Pushes Allies to Choose: Sovereignty, Security... or Revisionism

Israeli diplomatic engagement reveals clear differentiation between partners strengthening collective security and states enabling hostile actors. Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar signed a bilateral security agreement in Asunción with

Paraguay, acknowledging that country's designation of Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, Hamas, and Hezbollah as terrorist entities while announcing trade expansion.

Families of murdered Israelis filed federal litigation in the United States against cryptocurrency exchange Binance, alleging the platform knowingly routed over one billion dollars to militant organizations and state actors, exposing Western financial technology as a force multiplier for hostile networks.

Massachusetts released a unanimous 70-page commission report documenting historic antisemitic violence surge, recommending law enforcement training, educational curriculum revision, and explicit recognition that phrases like "globalize the intifada" constitute calls for violence against Jewish populations.

Turkey's trajectory reflects intensifying hostility: Christian religious sites convert to mosques; Jewish institutions face targeting; state-aligned media campaign for citizenship revocation from Israeli-serving Turks.

United Nations Resolution 2803 contains annexes extending peacekeeping jurisdiction into adjacent Israeli logistical corridors, potentially creating internationalization precedents in the Negev unless Jerusalem files formal interpretive reservations.

ASSESSMENT

Nations demonstrating willingness to name hostile actors, implement enforcement mechanisms, and coordinate with Israel constitute genuine strategic coalition partners. Countries laundering Islamist power or remaining neutral while providing resources to adversaries require exposure. Israel must aggressively protect territorial sovereignty against international jurisdictional creep, particularly regarding military command authority and southern territory.

Western Systems Keep Feeding Jihad and Punishing Jews

International discourse reveals systematic incongruence between stated principles and material practice. Palestinian Authority representatives at the United Nations characterize Israeli ceasefire enforcement as "seeking collapse," while Israeli officials document daily humanitarian convoy authorization and militant infiltration across clearly demarcated boundaries.

Minnesota welfare and housing programs diverted millions through informal financial channels to Al-Shabaab operations. Swedish investigators documented over 100 million dollars in taxpayer-funded school and preschool resources flowing to Islamist networks connected to extremism and fraud. Analysis characterizes Western welfare provision as functionally subsidizing actors subsequently committing mass casualty attacks against civilian populations.

European direct action: United Kingdom-based Palestine Action operatives conducted sledgehammer assaults on defense contractor facilities, fracturing a police officer's spine; Polish extremist parliamentarians conducted antisemitic speeches near Auschwitz with justice ministry promising enforcement action while simultaneously escalating diplomatic conflict with Israel regarding Holocaust narrative terminology.

ASSESSMENT

The operational environment surrounding Israel integrates institutional hypocrisy: United Nations platforms label defensive operations as aggression; Western welfare, education, and nonprofit sectors finance hostile networks; international elites alternate between historical revisionism and contemporary antisemitism. Israeli strategy must integrate this as a warfare dimension: systematically expose resource flows to militant networks, force alliance choices between enforcement and performative disapproval, and resist legitimacy erosion from institutions simultaneously funding adversaries.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Diplomacy & Geopolitics

- **France-Iran Engagement:** Paris will host Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi for discussions on detained nationals, nuclear programs, and regional issues while promising IAEA cooperation advocacy. European diplomatic investment in process continues as Tehran accelerates production timelines.
- **Trump Brotherhood Review:** Executive order directs State Department and Treasury Department assessment of Muslim Brotherhood organizational chapters for terror designation, citing Hamas financing and rocket attacks. Implementation could finally align American law with regional security reality.
- **Belgian Royal Delegation:** Two Belgian princes toured Samaria as guests of Israeli regional officials, openly supporting Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria while praising developmental expansion. Signal that European elite consensus on Palestinian territorial claims shows fractures.
- **Bnei Menashe Immigration:** Israel approved aliyah for 5,800 Bnei Menashe from India by 2030, facilitating community reunion and establishing settlement primarily in northern regions. Strategic demographic and security positioning framed as restoration rather than displacement.

Culture, Religion & Society

- **Identity Warfare:** Commentary argues Jewish communities face comprehensive identity assault beyond antisemitic incidents, suggesting press releases and cultural institutions cannot address systematic ideological campaigns.

- **Entertainment Boycott Ineffectiveness:** Activists called for *Stranger Things* boycott following cast members' pro-Israel statements; global audiences largely ignored calls as Netflix releases final season.
- **Streaming Antisemitism:** Major platforms (Spotify, Apple, Amazon, YouTube) host tracks containing explicit violence calls against Israeli military and civilians with millions of streams, accompanied by targeting graphics. Platforms simultaneously enforce content policies against other incitement categories.
- **Hostage Narrative Equivalence:** European activists replicated Israeli "Bring Them Home" campaign using Palestinian prisoners framing, rhetorically equating convicted terrorists with kidnapped civilians and murdered hostages. Narrative warfare designed to erase distinction between incarcerated militants and murdered civilians.

DEVELOPMENTS TO WATCH

Northern Front (Lebanon / Syria)

Russia Eyes New Southern Syria Footprint: Israeli assessments indicate Moscow seeks renegotiated deployments in southern Syria near Israeli security zones. Russian presence at key positions complicates future operational planning and provides Iranian assets additional protective layers against Israeli strike operations.

Gaza & Southern Theater

Hostage Body Handover Under Duress: Following 13+ hours of delay after Islamic Jihad announced remains discovery, Hamas and Islamic Jihad transferred a coffin to Red Cross custody. Transfer occurred only after Jerusalem publicly characterized continued delay as ceasefire violation, establishing precedent that leverage over remains drives organizational decision-making.

Judea & Samaria

Two Major Terror Planners Removed: Overnight operations eliminated Sultan al-Ghani in southern Jenin (identified as Gideon Perry's murderer) and Ala Raouf Shetiyya in Samaria. These represent significant network nodes; elimination reduces Iranian-supported Judea-Samaria operational capacity while increasing likelihood of escalatory response attempts from related networks. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

Storm Damage to Security Barrier: Heavy precipitation collapsed a section of the separation barrier near Al-Burj in western Dura, creating geographic vulnerability in an area with established hostile cell activity.

Regional Axis (Iran, Houthis, Militias)

Hamas Units in Lebanon Ready to Embed: Local reporting indicates hundreds of Hamas Al-Qassam brigade fighters in Lebanon coordinated with

Hezbollah and prepared for redeployment if hostilities resume. Multi-organizational axis presence complicates deterrence calculations requiring broader target sets. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

Embassy Evacuations from Venezuela: Multiple countries initiated embassy staff evacuation from Caracas, anticipating potential United States military action. If Washington opens Venezuelan theater, Tehran and allies will interpret distraction rather than deterrence, historically viewing American operational saturation as opportunity for testing.

Diplomatic & Legal

Trump's Muslim Brotherhood Clock: Executive order grants State Department and Treasury Department 45 days to assess Muslim Brotherhood chapters for foreign terrorist organization or specially designated global terrorist designations. Potential sanctioning could constrain global network seeding Hamas, international fundraising, and Western "civil society" organizations.

Araghchi to Paris: Iranian Foreign Minister negotiates with France regarding sanctions relief, detainee exchanges, and "regional issues" with Paris pledging IAEA cooperation advocacy. Tehran will present diplomatic engagement while maintaining centrifuge operation and missile refinement.

Home Front & Politics

Foreign-Run Protest Accounts Exposed: Social platform location data revealed that prominent Israeli protest accounts directing domestic discourse operate from Ireland rather than representing local activism. Foreign funding of information operations requires integration into security threat assessment.

Haredi Draft Protest Escalation: Haredi teenagers conducting draft protests repeatedly climbed construction cranes creating rescue requirements. Fringe community willingness to accept physical danger rather than military service signals integration challenges in equality-of-burden legislation.

Closing Analysis

THE operational landscape clarifies across multiple theaters. Gaza's tactical enforcement against Hamas contrasts with simultaneous restoration of organizational enablement infrastructure. Lebanon's volatility increases as axis actors embed while diplomatic figures attempt intervention. Judea and Samaria operations target significant nodes while recognizing escalatory response probability. Domestic institutional accountability measures face resistance requiring sustained governmental commitment. International framework reveals systematic resource flows funding adversaries while imposing rhetorical demands on Israel.

The coming period determines whether institutional reform continues, whether Lebanon's escalation risks trigger preemptive Israeli action, and whether Western systems maintain current trajectories or adjust priorities toward genuine security cooperation.

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