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READER EDITION

June 7, 2026

ISRAEL BRIEF

Sunday, June 7

Qassem rejects the deal from the pulpit and the north buries three more, Iran maps Trump's floor with live fire, and a gunman works the Sharon.

◇ URIEL ZEHAVI

THE BOTTOM LINE A nurse who wears a “from the river to the sea” pin to a Jewish patient’s bedside is telling that patient exactly what to expect. The harder number is the staff survey: Jewish NHS workers are the one group watching colleague hostility climb while every other group’s falls, inside the institution Britain holds up as its civic religion. A 60-page report and a training module for 205 trust boards is the British state doing what it does best, more or less nothing. Whether the guidance survives contact with the trusts that produced the ostracism is the variable, and “published shortly” is where these things go to wait.

CLASSIFICATION

Reader Edition

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THE enforcement keeps coming back to the same address. Hezbollah's chief rejected the ceasefire from the pulpit this week and the cabinet had nothing to ratify, so the IDF kept striking a south no Lebanese state has ever disarmed and lost three more soldiers doing it. Iran fires at Gulf capitals to find the ceiling while Washington counts the arsenal spent, a gunman ran a planned route across central Israel, and the European instruments came off the shelf one after another. Across every front this week the thing actually holding the line is Israeli, and, unfortunately, the bill for that is arriving in more funerals.

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Flash Brief

- **Qassem rejects the deal:** Hezbollah's chief calls the ceasefire "humiliating," the cabinet declines to vote, and the north buries three soldiers. *See The War Today.*
- **Iran tests the floor:** US downs more Iranian drones and missiles over the Gulf as Trump calls the arsenal spent and CENTCOM hits Iranian radar. *See The War Today.*
- **Sharon drive-by:** A gunman kills one and wounds five across Kochav Yair and Tzur Yitzhak; one suspect held, the manhunt for others continues. *See The War Today.*
- **Mob at a justice's home:** A haredi crowd attacks Sohlberg's house over draft enforcement; 62 arrested, riots follow, the draft math holds. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Ben-Gvir flotilla fallout:** Ireland bars Ben-Gvir and Smotrich as France opens a war-crimes file; EU foreign ministers weigh sanctions June 15. *See Inside Israel.*
- **France routes the EU veto:** Paris assembles national sanctions on Israelis with Britain and Norway, dropping the bloc to bypass unanimity. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Slovenia flips:** Jansa's new government takes down the Palestinian flag, and Sa'ar stands up Israel's first embassy in Ljubljana. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Pew sorts the map:** A 36-country poll puts Israel underwater everywhere, but the real story is the 46-point liberal-conservative split. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Mann review accepted:** Britain adopts all 36 recommendations on NHS antisemitism, banning pro-Palestinian badges at the bedside. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Briefly Noted:** Germany loses its Security Council seat, Gofman ousts his Mossad deputy, SOCAR moves into Israel's gas, and Oxford's Union president defends October 7. *See Briefly Noted.*
- **Developments to Watch:** A Hamas cruise-ship bomb plot off Crete, student protests across Iran, and the AG-split bill racing dissolution. *See Developments to Watch.*

LEBANON, Iran, the Sharon, the haredi-draft vacuum, the European sanctions drawer — each is a front where the paper says one thing and the field runs on whatever Israel is willing to hold.

The War Today

QASSEM REJECTS THE DEAL OUTRIGHT AS THE NORTH BURIES THREE MORE

Naim Qassem rejected the US-brokered ceasefire from the pulpit, calling the Washington declaration "humiliating" and "a road map for destroying part of the Lebanese people," and urged Beirut to quit the "farce" of direct talks. The disarm-and-withdraw demand, he said, would mean surrender. The security cabinet declined to vote. Netanyahu told ministers there is no agreement to ratify while Hezbollah opposes it, and word of Capt. Eitan Shmuel Lemberg's death reached the room mid-session. Lemberg, 21, an armored officer in the 7th Brigade's 75th Battalion, was killed by an anti-tank missile fired at his

tank north of the Litani — followed over the weekend by Capt. Shahar Gamla ז"ל of Egoz and Sgt. Ohad Yaari ז"ל. Hezbollah launched a drone-and-rocket barrage at the western Galilee minutes after Netanyahu left a Shlomi meeting with northern mayors, fired an explosive drone at Givati troops that severely wounded an officer near Beaufort, and its mortar fire killed a Serbian UNIFIL peacekeeper near Marjayoun. The Air Force struck more than 650 targets across the south over the week, hit Hezbollah's engineering-unit commander Abed Harb, and killed two Lebanese Army officers and a soldier in a vehicle near Nabatieh the IDF says it assessed as a threat in an evacuated combat zone.

ASSESSMENT

The pilot zones hand the Lebanese Army exclusive control of ground a Lebanese state has never once disarmed, and Qassem saying so from the pulpit is the premise collapsing on schedule — the man who has to lay down the rifle has announced he will not, which is why Netanyahu has nothing to bring the cabinet. We have watched this fire-control arrangement run all spring with the text binding Israel and the shooting never stopping [the difference this week is that Tehran has put its own re-entry on the Beirut-strike trigger, so the next launcher Hezbollah fires at a northern town carries an Iran clause].

IRAN TESTS THE AMERICAN FLOOR WHILE TRUMP CALLS THE ARSENAL SPENT

US forces shot down two more Iranian attack drones over the Strait of Hormuz over the weekend, days after intercepting seven ballistic missiles Iran fired at Kuwait and Bahrain and four more drones at the strait — six missiles downed, a seventh failed in flight, no American casualties. CENTCOM answered by striking Iranian radar and ground-control sites at Goruk and on Qeshm Island, has now redirected 129 commercial vessels and disabled six more enforcing the blockade since April, and Bessent directed a team to assess Gulf-state repair costs the administration intends to bill against Iranian assets. Trump, in an NBC interview, claimed Iran's military was "totally destroyed" with roughly 21 percent of its missiles remaining, said Washington does not need a deal to get Iran's enriched uranium because "it's entombed," and said he would be "honored" to meet Mojtaba Khamenei. Mojtaba, for his part, in a message delivered by a proxy declared the US and Israel had been dealt a "decisive blow." A senior Iranian official told CNN that any agreement now turns on the release of \$24 billion in frozen Iranian assets, two weeks after Qatar floated a \$6 billion "humanitarian" loan to sweeten a deal. Israeli defense officials assess Tehran is "playing with cards it does not have," betting Washington will not strike before the World Cup and the July 4 anniversary, while Trump told aides he rejoins the war only if Iran kills American troops.

ASSESSMENT

Tehran is mapping the exact floor Trump drew, and a regime “playing with cards it does not have” is still firing live ballistic rounds at GCC capitals to find the ceiling before any memorandum gets signed. Trump’s 21-percent number cuts against his own “totally destroyed,” and the gap is the whole problem: a fifth of Iran’s pre-war arsenal is still a lot of missiles, and the man counting them has just told Tehran he will absorb their fire rather than escalate. Billing the regime’s frozen assets for Kuwaiti and Bahraini repairs is the kind of pressure that reads well in a Treasury memo and changes nothing the IRGC is doing in the field. A regime whose price for peace has fallen to \$24 billion in unfrozen cash — after weeks of a blockade bleeding it an estimated half-billion a day — is bargaining from the treasury, not the missile count. The live fire is the leverage of a state that needs liquidity to survive the aftermath, and the squeeze underneath it is real: concede the nuclear program or asphyxiate. That it is not yet a deal is the whole point — the IRGC has always preferred suffocation to surrendering the enrichment, which is why the economic floor and the nuclear floor are not the same.

DRIVE-BY GUNMAN KILLS ONE ACROSS THE SHARON BEFORE CAPTURE

A gunman opened fire across several points in central Israel on Sunday, killing one man and wounding at least five in a drive-by that began at a gas station in Kochav Yair, northeast of Tel Aviv, and continued near Tzur Yitzhak and along Route 5533 by Tzur Natan. A man of about 30 was found critically wounded on Route 5533 and later pronounced dead. Two were hit at the Kochav Yair station, one seriously, and the attacker also fired on the guard post at Sla’it without causing casualties. Residents of Tzur Yitzhak were ordered to shelter on an infiltration alert while the IDF, Shin Bet, and police ran a door-to-door manhunt. One suspect was arrested and forces kept searching for a second attacker who fled into Tzur Yitzhak. Police identified both as Arab citizens of Israel.

ASSESSMENT

A shooter working a string of soft targets across the Sharon — a gas station, a junction, a village guard post — is the heartland-terror trajectory we have tracked toward a second Gaza inside the Green Line, now in commuter Israel northeast of Tel Aviv. That both gunmen are Arab citizens of Israel makes the trajectory literal — not infiltrators from Judea and Samaria but men who live inside the line, know the roads, and worked a planned route. A coordinated two-man job across the Sharon is not the lone-wolf profile, which is the part to watch while the second attacker is still loose.

Inside Israel

HAREDI MOB HITS A JUSTICE’S HOME, THEN RIOTS OVER THE ARRESTS

A haredi mob attacked Deputy Chief Justice Noam Sohlberg’s home in Alon Shvut over his order tightening draft-evader enforcement, smashing windows and flowerpots, wrecking a car in the garage, and leaving behind an Israeli flag with a swastika in place of the Star of David while Sohlberg, his wife, children, and grandchildren were inside. Police arrested 62, some refusing to cooperate at the custody hearing. Friday night the streets answered the arrests with fresh riots in Jerusalem, Beit Shemesh, and Bnei Brak, the main crowd surrounding the Lev HaBira station and trying to force the gate. A

civilian who called the police hotline after being knocked down and kicked in the head was told there was “no dispersal order.” Netanyahu, Levin, and Court President Amit all condemned the attack within hours, Amit calling it a red line and an assault on the rule of law. Dozens of judges have since told court administrators they fear their own homes are next. The arithmetic under all of it has not moved: an army roughly 12,000 short, the evader roll past 39,000, first-half haredi enlistment under 2,000.

ASSESSMENT

The street is doing exactly what the absence of a law leaves it free to do, and a police force that “had no dispersal order” for a mob beating secular civilians has already told the next mob what enforcement will cost it [the same catch-and-release reflex we’ve watched run for months]. Ninety thousand men outside the system is what burden-not-shared looks like. The condemnations are real and unanimous and worth nothing without the statute the coalition has spent two years refusing to write, which is why the enforcement deadline lands in the dissolution window with nothing behind it.

☒ Dossier: *Field Dossier: The Math Survives the Vote* — The arithmetic this entry leans on — the 39,000-name evader roll, the manpower shortfall, and the Sohlberg enforcement deadline landing inside the dissolution window with no statute behind it — is the structural case this Dossier builds, that the draft math does not care which government is sitting when the deadline arrives.

IRELAND BARS BEN-GVIR AND SMOTRICH AS FRANCE OPENS A WAR-CRIMES FILE

Ireland barred National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir and Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich from entry, with Taoiseach Micheal Martin vowing to push the same measure to the full EU. Ben-Gvir answered that if Ireland’s prime minister wants him sanctioned, “I must have done something right.” France’s national counter-terror prosecutor opened a preliminary war-crimes inquiry after Foreign Minister Barrot referred a consular report covering 37 French nationals among the roughly 430 detained flotilla passengers, with French outlets naming Ben-Gvir’s dockside video — activists on their knees, hands bound, as he films and announces “we are the landlords” — as the trigger. EU foreign ministers convene June 15 to weigh personal sanctions on both ministers. Italy is driving it. Czechia is opposed and may pull a second state with it. And Germany is signaling it could back measures against Ben-Gvir while balking at Smotrich. Netanyahu defended Israel’s right to stop “provocative flotillas of Hamas terror supporters” while adding that Ben-Gvir’s conduct toward the detainees “is not consistent with the values and norms of the State of Israel.”

ASSESSMENT

Every instrument in this cascade was draftable before the video existed: the Quai d'Orsay's referral, Dublin's entry ban, the Italian sanctions request waiting on Kaja Kallas's agenda. The clip is the on-ramp these had been waiting for. Read the membership. The same European bloc that cannot assemble a qualified majority to suspend the Association Agreement can assemble one to ban two men, because banning them costs Brussels nothing and lets it perform for an audience that follows opinion rather than fact. Ben-Gvir grasps the mechanism better than his critics do — the sanction is the credential, which is why he thanked Dublin for it on the way out the door.

SETTLERS RAMPAGE THROUGH HUWARA AS AN IDF ROUND KILLS A HEBRON INFANT

Dozens of masked Israelis in pickup trucks descended on Huwara near Shechem on Shabbat, beating residents, burning an auto shop, and driving off livestock. The Red Crescent counted nine wounded, including a local councilman hit by shrapnel, and footage showed at least one soldier striking a Palestinian. The IDF said troops and Border Police had been dispatched after reports that livestock belonging to Israeli civilians was stolen, then moved to separate the sides once “violent clashes developed.” At Efrat Junction the same weekend, Israelis blocked Palestinian cars and threw stones; one driver rammed an Israeli, lightly wounding him, and was arrested with several others, while no Israelis were detained for the assaults. Near Hebron on Friday night a routine foot patrol fired two rounds at a car the soldiers said was accelerating toward them. One round killed a seven-month-old, Sam Abu Haikel, and wounded his parents. The force left the scene fearing a mass disturbance, learned of the death afterward, and is now under deep investigation at Judea and Samaria Division. The soldier has not yet been questioned by Military Police.

ASSESSMENT

Strip the “settler violence” label the wire copy arrives wearing and what is left is still a roll-up the security establishment should be running before the foreign press does — masked men torching property and seizing herds is the kind of vigilante disorder that hands hostile actors their leverage and degrades the coordination the IDF actually depends on in the sector. And the accountability runs one direction. Arrests at Efrat fell only on the Palestinian driver, and a dead infant from a patrol's two rounds sits in a folder while the shooter stays in his unit. Both edges of this weekend feed the same trajectory we've tracked toward a second Gaza in the heartland — one where the disorder is ours to police and the cost of not policing it is paid in exactly the legitimacy Jerusalem can least afford to spend.

Israel and the World

FRANCE ROUTES AROUND THE EU VETO WITH NATIONAL SANCTIONS ON ISRAELIS

France is assembling coordinated national sanctions — asset freezes and travel bans on Israelis tied to Judea and Samaria — with Britain and Norway, and an announcement is expected within days. The trigger is the same package

we've watched stall in Brussels: with no unanimity at the EU level, Paris told the other capitals to drop the bloc and move to national lists each government writes itself. The lists may differ country to country, and most of the participants are keeping the names quiet so targets cannot move assets first. Sa'ar called the May 11 EU round an arbitrary, political sanction on citizens for their views with no legal basis.

ASSESSMENT

The veto inside the EU was the one brake that worked, and Paris just engineered around it — when twenty-seven governments will not agree, the workaround is a coalition of the willing writing its own lists, which needs no Hungarian signature and no qualified majority. That is the drafted-package pattern finding the trigger it was waiting on: the names were ready, the only open question was the legal vehicle, and “national measures” is the vehicle that clears with three governments instead of twenty-seven [the human-rights framing is doing the work the missing legal basis cannot]. France runs a standing drawer of these instruments — the Ben-Gvir entry ban, the Eurosatory exclusion, now this — and reaches for whichever one the week permits, which is why the warning a European diplomat already put on the record, that the precedent does not stop at the first names, is the part Jerusalem should read closely.

ISRAEL OPENS ITS FIRST EMBASSY IN SLOVENIA AS LJUBLJANA SWINGS BACK

Sa'ar instructed the Foreign Ministry director-general to stand up Israel's first-ever embassy in Ljubljana, hours after Slovenia's parliament confirmed Janez Jansa's new government. Jansa, returning for a fourth term at the head of the right-wing Slovenian Democratic Party, took down the Palestinian flag the previous government had flown at parliament. President Natasa Pirc Musar answered by raising it at her own palace and repeating the “genocide” charge. The flip lands a day after Slovenia refused landing rights to an Israil flight, which diverted to Zagreb — a parting shot from the apparatus the outgoing prime minister Robert Golob built into one of Europe's most hostile.

ASSESSMENT

A single European capital reversing direction does not turn the continent, but it marks where the recognition campaign meets its ceiling — the wave that has half of Western Europe voting on a state that died on October 7 is reversible at the ballot box [if you can break the red-green alliance and politicians are willing to speak truths even to people who don't want to hear it]. The split inside Ljubljana is the whole story in miniature: a pro-Israel government and a president who flies the flag of the cause anyway, which is the gap between what a government decides and what its institutions keep doing long after the vote. Israel converts these flips cheapest where the incoming leadership wants the partnership for its own reasons, and an embassy is the marker that buys ground Israel owns rather than studio time it rents.

PEW'S 36-COUNTRY POLL SORTS ISRAEL'S IMAGE ALONG THE LEFT-RIGHT LINE

A median of 67 percent across 36 countries hold an unfavorable view of Israel against 25 percent favorable, in a Pew survey of 44,657 respondents, the largest international study fielded since the war with Iran. Of the 24 countries

Pew has tracked over time, only Greece moved marginally toward Israel. Unfavorable views climbed in 13, up ten points in South Korea, nine in Germany, Italy, Argentina and Nigeria, eight in Britain, seven in the United States. Even Hungary ran 54 percent unfavorable. The splits underneath the headline are sharper than the headline: 83 percent of American liberals hold unfavorable views against 37 percent of conservatives, 74 percent of Americans aged 18 to 34 against 49 percent of those over 50, and across Australia, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden roughly nine in ten on the left view Israel negatively. Confidence in Netanyahu fell across much of the West alongside the country numbers.

ASSESSMENT

Read the crosstabs, not the median. A 46-point liberal-conservative gap in the United States and a left-right spread over 23 points in seven democracies shows a country being sorted onto one side of every Western political map. The generational cut says the same thing on a longer fuse: the 18-to-34 cohort that runs 74 percent unfavorable in America is the electorate of 2040. None of this has cost Israel a single thing the power corridors decide. The procurement environment, the Treasury sanctions machinery, and the Gulf integration all ran in Israel's favor through the same months Pew was in the field, because favorability is the broadcast layer and we have never read the broadcast layer as the scoreboard [the scoreboard is which capitals took the call this week, and that list got longer, not shorter].

BRITAIN ACCEPTS THE MANN REVIEW AFTER JEWISH NHS STAFF "SUFFER IN SILENCE"

The government accepted all 36 recommendations of Lord John Mann's review into antisemitism in the National Health Service, the country's largest employer, ordering the 205 NHS trusts in England to put their chairs and chief executives through mandatory anti-racism training within six months and barring staff from wearing political badges, pro-Palestinian symbols included. The review found Jewish staff facing "routine ostracism" — the one religious group in the latest staff survey for whom colleague discrimination keeps rising — and Jewish patients concealing their identity, delaying care, or avoiding treatment altogether. One Jewish doctor in London described colleagues who said they would not treat patients from Israel even with a life at risk. The review followed two doctors struck off the medical register for antisemitic conduct and a third facing trial for inviting support for Hamas, and it lands eight months after the Manchester synagogue attack that killed two Jewish men.

ASSESSMENT

A nurse who wears a "from the river to the sea" pin to a Jewish patient's bedside is telling that patient exactly what to expect. The harder number is the staff survey: Jewish NHS workers are the one group watching colleague hostility climb while every other group's falls, inside the institution Britain holds up as its civic religion. A 60-page report and a training module for 205 trust boards is the British state doing what it does best, more or less nothing. Whether the guidance survives contact with the trusts that produced the ostracism is the variable, and "published shortly" is where these things go to wait.

Briefly Noted

Frontline & Security

- *JNS*: Duvdevan commandos, working off Shin Bet intelligence, picked up two operatives advancing attacks out of Jenin and Al-Yamun — one of them a financier from the network “Operation Iron Wall” supposedly dismantled in January 2025, back in the field and back to raising money.
- *JNS*: The FBI arrested three men in Kansas and California for wiring funds to ISIS and talking, on Discord, about traveling to “die on behalf of” the group — one of them said he wanted his name written on the drone used to attack Americans.

Diplomacy & Geopolitics

- *JNS*: Germany lost its UN Security Council bid for the first time ever, drawing 104 votes to the 127 it needed while Portugal and Austria took the seats, and Foreign Minister Waidephul conceded that Berlin’s “special responsibility for Israel” may have cost the votes.
- *Jewish Insider*: The House buried Rashida Tlaib’s resolution ordering US forces out of Lebanon 324 to 92, with 117 Democrats joining Republicans to kill it against 91 of their own colleagues.
- *Israel Hayom*: Abelardo de la Espriella, the populist-right frontrunner leading Colombia’s June 21 runoff by eight points, has pledged to move his country’s embassy to Jerusalem and rebuild the strategic alliance Gustavo Petro severed when he cut ties and called IDF soldiers “Nazis.”

Public Diplomacy & Media

- *The JC*: BBC Arabic refused to amend a report that calls Ahlam Tamimi merely “accused” of the 2001 Sbarro bombing that killed Arnold Roth’s 15-year-old daughter Malki, a murder Tamimi has boasted of for years.
- *Algemeiner*: The Oxford Union president told a 100-person group chat that October 7 was “less than proportional” and that the Hamas killers will be “lauded as heroes,” adding the slaughter should have gone further.
- *JNS*: Qatar Foundation International is winding down its US operations, the entity that an ISGAP report last month tied to \$65 million across 220 American school programs as an influence operation shaping how Middle East issues are taught.

Domestic & Law

- *JNS*: New Mossad chief Roman Gofman, days after the High Court cleared his appointment, removed his deputy “A.” — Barnea’s designated successor and Netanyahu’s own fallback had the Court blocked Gofman — and will promote a replacement from inside the service.
- *Israel Hayom*: Gil Segal, a Yesh Atid co-founder and the party’s longtime director-general, crossed to Yisrael Beiteinu and endorsed Liberman for

prime minister — center-bloc realignment ahead of a dissolution vote the coalition expects within two weeks.

Economy, Tech & Infrastructure

- *Ynet News*: Azerbaijan's SOCAR has moved into every layer of Israel's gas business at once — the largest new exploration zone in Israeli waters, a 10% stake in Tamar, and the LNG cargoes that backstopped Egypt and Jordan through the 32-day Leviathan shutdown during the Hormuz war. The redundancy is real infrastructure-as-sovereignty, and it sits on the same Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline Iranian operatives were caught plotting to hit in March.
- *The JC*: The OECD projects Israel's war-hit economy to grow 3.3% in 2026 and 5.6% in 2027 — roughly double the global rate and more than five times the UK's by 2028 — while flagging conflict risk and a swelling deficit as the drag.
- *Times of Israel*: The shekel's sharp appreciation has cut local export revenue by more than NIS 6.5 billion in the first months of 2026, with manufacturers warning the strong currency is now eating into the war recovery the OECD is counting on.
- *JNS*: Hebrew University researchers bound growth factors directly to a cellulose scaffold, cutting the most expensive input in cultivated steak by up to 90% and clearing one of the field's main barriers to scale.

Culture, Religion & Society

- *Israel Hayom*: A Haredi community ascended the Temple Mount this week for public, rabbi-led prayer — the first organized haredi ascent of its kind, by the followers of Tiberias's Rav Dov Kook, who came to pray for his recovery. A recent Amshinov heter for limited ascent along the inner walls and a roughly 30 percent jump in Jewish visitors are loosening a taboo the haredi rabbinate held for generations.
- *Jerusalem Post*: Mizrahi-music pioneer Yishai Levi died at 63, a voice Netanyahu called part of "the soundtrack of our lives" across communities and sectors.
- *The JC*: Bar-Ilan computer scientist Talia Eden donated part of her liver to Bissan, a critically ill eight-month-old Arab baby from Jerusalem whose own family could not match — a kiddush hashem the delegitimization campaign has no shelf for.

Developments to Watch

Judea & Samaria

- **IDF strips the cover off the roads** — The army has begun clearing the dense brush and farm plots that hug the routes, settlements, and bases across Judea and Samaria. It is the approach vector that residents flagged for years.

Northern Front (Lebanon / Syria)

- **Israel holds its fire ahead of round five** — Israel has shifted to defensive and preventive action only in the south, going into the fifth Washington round as the pilot meant to test whether the Lebanese Army can hold the ground. Cabinet pressure to widen the strikes climbs with every funeral, and the restraint lasts only as long as Hezbollah's fire stays under the line Netanyahu will absorb.
- **Aoun turns on Hezbollah from the chair** — Lebanon's president told CNN that Hezbollah does not speak for the Lebanese, that Iran holds the country as a bargaining chip, and that he does not rule out being targeted for saying it. A sitting president naming the patron in public is the split the disarmament clause would need if the state had the capacity to crack down on Hezbollah. It's also the kind of break Hezbollah has answered with a car bomb before. **LIKELY TO ESCALATE**

Gaza & Southern Theater

- **A Hamas cell readies a cruise-ship bomb off Crete** — Greek police arrested a 37-year-old Gazan who, reports indicate, trained with Hamas and stockpiled bomb chemicals in an Athens flat. Early indications point to an Israeli tourist ship arriving Tuesday, which puts the interdiction window inside some 48 hours.

Regional Axis (Iran, Houthis, Militias)

- **Student protests spread across Iran** — Rallies that began over exam changes have widened into anti-regime marches in Tehran, Karaj, Isfahan, Shiraz, and Mashhad, with arrests reported. The regime that has kept its wounded successor out of sight now faces the street it has not let gather since the war, at the moment its internal ceiling on escalation is most exposed.
- **Witkoff and Kushner stand up a deal-implementation team** — The two briefed roughly a hundred specialists at the Oak Ridge nuclear complex on implementing a potential Iran agreement, reports indicate. Washington is building the verification machinery for a memorandum Tehran has not signed, and the enriched-stockpile question Grossi pressed is the one this team exists to answer.

Home Front & Politics

- **The coalition races the AG-split bill against dissolution** — Constitution Committee chair Rothman says the bill carving up the Attorney General's office can be finished in about a month, with the Knesset set to dissolve within weeks. The coalition wants the structural change locked into law before the term ends, which sets the split bill and the dissolution vote on a collision the High Court is already being asked to referee.

The pattern of the week is the gap between what gets signed and what gets enforced, and the enforcement is Israeli every time. Qassem will not lay down

the rifle, Tehran is firing live rounds to find the line Trump drew, and the European capitals that cannot suspend an agreement can ban two ministers in an afternoon. None of it moved the things the power corridors decide — the procurement, the Treasury machinery, the Gulf integration all ran Israel's way through the same months the poll was in the field.

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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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