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READER EDITION

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ISRAEL BRIEF

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Recognition on paper, a tunnel in pieces underneath it — every signature this spring is worth exactly what its signatory can enforce, which is nothing.

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THE BOTTOM LINE The anthem of Jewish self-determination drafted in the town that would later murder at least a third of its Jews, the hope and the slaughter sharing an address. That is the whole case for the state, compressed into one biography. A president standing in a cemetery where the community is now counted in the hundreds draws the through-line straight from the Romanian gendarmes of 1941 to the synagogue arsonists working Europe in 2026, and the deterrent the Jewish people now hold against that line — sovereignty, an army, a passport home — is the answer Imber's generation did not have.

CLASSIFICATION

Reader Edition

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EVERY framework moving this week shares one defect, and it is the defect that decides them all: the only party whose compliance matters never agreed to anything. The Lebanon page is three days old and the army has already detonated the foundation under it. Washington announced an Iran halt Tehran has not signed, then moved Hormuz ahead of the nuclear question to confirm which clause matters half a world away. Even inside the Green Line the state is now choosing which of its own laws it will enforce and against whom. The signatures are decorative. The demolition charges, the target folders, and the cordon on Route 4 are the only enforcement in the picture.

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Flash Brief

- **Majdal Zoun:** The IDF blows a 200-meter Hezbollah tunnel five miles inside the zone, mere days after the framework was signed. *See The War Today.*
- **Article 4:** A classified annex preserves Israeli freedom of action and rules out any scheduled withdrawal. *See The War Today.*
- **Hormuz:** Washington declares a US-Iran halt Tehran has not ratified, with Doha talks set for tomorrow. *See The War Today.*
- **The street:** Protesters turn back a draft-evader arrest as Netanyahu's yeshiva-raid predicate collapses under the rabbis who enlist haredim. *See Inside Israel.*
- **The bench:** Levin convenes the committee he refused for eighteen months and fills 68 court posts under a High Court order. *See Inside Israel.*
- **142 dead:** Police concede total collapse and deterrence gone in the Arab sector as one in ten Israelis says they feel safe in public. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Brazil:** Bolsonaro pledges a Jerusalem embassy as Latin America's conservative wave realigns toward Washington and Jerusalem. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Massie:** A Republican now moves to strip Israel aid on the funding floor, testing the relationship from its assumed-secure side. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Ofcom:** A UK regulator calls itself powerless against a London channel airing pro-terror content because the uplink bounces off a satellite. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Caracas:** Israel flies a 16-person rescue team to Venezuela's earthquake zones as the Jewish community buries its dead. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Iasi:** Herzog marks the 1941 pogrom in the town where Imber drafted Hatikvah, decades before it murdered a third of its Jews. *See Israel and the World.*

Lebanon recognizes Israeli sovereignty on paper while its parliament speaker promises to kill the framework, so the recognition is worth what Beirut can deliver and the tunnel at Majdal Zoun looks like a receipt. Washington keeps announcing Iranian concessions the regime declines to ratify. And the same coalition that found a bandwidth for an arrest freeze and a Basic Law on Torah study has no time for 142 dead citizens [one up from yesterday's 141] — a state teaching every actor inside it exactly what its writ is worth.

The War Today

The Army Blows Tunnel Three Days After Signing Deal

The framework was three days old when the IDF detonated the biggest thing under it. Sunday night the 551st Brigade and Yahalom engineers destroyed a Hezbollah underground complex at Majdal Zoun, five miles inside the security zone — over 200 meters long, more than 25 meters deep, built with Iranian technology, holding hundreds of weapons and four launch shafts aimed at Israeli territory. The blast was heard across the Western Galilee, where the army had warned residents to expect it. Twenty Hezbollah were killed taking

the site, ten of them Radwan. The same day the air force struck three Hezbollah command centers near Nabatieh and Mayfadoun, called a response to continued fire on troops in the zone, and the IDF traded fire across the buffer line in southern Syria for the second night running. Netanyahu and Katz said Washington was told in advance. A classified annex to the agreement — Article 4 — preserves Israeli freedom of action against emerging and immediate threats and rules out any automatic or scheduled withdrawal, with redeployment tied to conditions on the ground. Zamir called the deal historic and said the army is ready to resume the war on Hezbollah and Iran the moment it has to. Beirut's speaker Nabih Berri said the framework "will not pass."

ASSESSMENT

This is the deal — an enforcement license dressed as a peace. The classified annex is the whole agreement: Israel withdraws when Hezbollah is verifiably disarmed, which is the condition no court or rifle in Beirut can deliver, so Israel withdraws never and demolishes in the meantime. A senior official floated this as "bigger than the Abraham Accords" because Lebanon recognized Israeli sovereignty for the first time since the early 1980s [a recognition contested by Berri]. The recognition Beirut's own parliament speaker rejects is worth precisely what Beirut can enforce, which the tunnel at Majdal Zoun answered.

Washington Declares an Iran Halt Tehran Has Not Signed

A US official said yesterday that Washington and Tehran agreed to stop the tit-for-tat strikes around Hormuz and will meet in Doha tomorrow to negotiate the strait itself, a session that now takes precedence over the postponed nuclear talks. Tehran has confirmed none of it. Araghchi said only that Iran will implement the memorandum "in good faith" on a principle of "commitment for commitment," blamed American and Israeli violations of the deal's first clause, and warned of "decisive action" against any breach. The announced halt follows CENTCOM's strikes on ten Iranian sites in and around the strait and Iran's missile and drone fire on US bases in Kuwait and Bahrain, with a Qatari citizen killed by shrapnel from the fighting.

ASSESSMENT

Washington keeps announcing Iranian concessions the regime declines to ratify, and the announcing is the point — the headline buys the calm, Tehran banks the economic clauses, and the commitment evaporates by the next news cycle [Araghchi committing to "commitment for commitment" is all you need to know really]. Putting Hormuz ahead of the nuclear file confirms which clause has DC-backing: the strait Iran can actually close is negotiable, the stockpile sitting on Iranian soil is not on the table. A standing line to the IRGC was sold as the thing that would prevent the next Gulf strike.

Inside Israel

Protesters Turn Back a Draft-Evader Arrest as Netanyahu's Yeshiva Predicate Collapses

Crowds blocked a draft-evader arrest near Jerusalem and the officers left the scene, one telling the protesters he had come alone and brought no patrol cars. The same morning, Bismuth notified Katz and cabinet secretary Fuchs that his Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee would convene this week to enact the ninety-day enforcement freeze as a temporary order, paired with the marathon sessions fast-tracking Basic Law: Torah Study that would place yeshiva study on par with service. The predicate Netanyahu laid at Saturday's press conference cracked underneath all of it. Rabbi Yonatan Reiss, who runs the Hedvata network of haredi hesder yeshivas and works to enlist haredi men, said the warning Netanyahu quoted — that "Torah students are being arrested inside the yeshivas" — was never sent by the hesder leadership and describes events of which not a single case is known to have occurred. Reiss said the message Netanyahu acted on came from Goldknopf, and that for three years the cabinet secretary blocked every integration framework the camp that actually enlists haredim tried to advance.

ASSESSMENT

The street now turns back the arrests by standing in front of them, which is the enforcement holiday the temporary order is meant to legislate already running without the order. The coalition is legislating exemption against its own Knesset legal adviser's on-record objection while ninety thousand men stay outside a system short seventeen thousand combat soldiers, and the only people it stopped listening to are the ones offering it a way out.

The Committee Levin Refused to Convene Fills the Bench the Court Ordered Filled

The Judicial Selection Committee met Sunday for the first time since January 2025 and selected sixty-eight people for posts across the court system — fifty-three permanent judges and fifteen registrars and acting district-court judges in Beersheba, Haifa, Jerusalem and Nof Hagalil. The session followed a unanimous three-justice High Court panel that on May 31 ordered Justice Minister Levin to convene the committee and prioritize the Beersheba and Haifa district vacancies, after fifty-one posts sat empty with fifteen more opening by year's end. Yesh Atid's Elharrar and the two Bar Association representatives abstained on the magistrate-court promotions in protest that Levin still left the Central, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem district shortages unfilled. The round addresses the backlog the Court called serious harm to the public without resolving the permanent district-court vacancy crisis that drew the intervention.

ASSESSMENT

Levin convened the committee he spent eighteen months refusing to convene, and he did it under a Court order timed to land while the dissolution clock runs. Filling the lower courts the public actually uses while leaving the contested district seats open is Levin spending the minimum the order demands and holding the rest of the fight for whoever wins in October [the appointments the country needed all along were never the ones the fight was about]. Whoever staffs the next bench decides which of these contests the coalition can still win, and the committee that drifted into bar-association co-option of judicial succession is exactly what the reform was meant to rebalance.

Senior Police Concede Total Collapse as One in Ten Feels Safe

Senior police commanders conceded this week that enforcement in the Arab sector has collapsed and that deterrence no longer exists, the starkest such admission yet from inside the force itself. A snap poll put the share of Israelis who feel safe in public space at eleven percent. A further killing near Nazareth brought the Arab-community toll for 2026 to a hundred and forty-two, days after the weekend run of murders that pushed it past a hundred and forty.

ASSESSMENT

The crime unit warned only days ago that a parallel authority was taking root inside the state, and the police command has now gone further and conceded the ground is already lost — the body charged with enforcement putting its own retreat on the record. The eleven percent who say they feel safe are the other half of that fact: the governed have read the writ for what it is and stopped waiting on it. When the force responsible for the law says it cannot enforce it across a fifth of the country's communities, the sentence measures priority as much as capacity, because the same writ that vanishes in Qalansawe and Jaffa still arrives in force wherever the coalition decides it should.

Israel and the World**Bolsonaro Wants to Celebrate a Brazilian Win in Jerusalem**

Flavio Bolsonaro, a leading candidate for Brazil's presidency, said he hopes to mark a victory in October's election in Jerusalem, repeating a pledge to move Brazil's embassy there next year if he wins. The conservative evangelical senator, speaking on the margins of a Latin American lawmakers' conference in Buenos Aires, cast the choice as a values question — “we have no Israeli ambassador in Brazil, but we have an Iranian one” — and called Lula, who recalled his envoy in 2024 and joined the ICJ case against Israel, an antisemite who does not speak for Brazilians. The race runs alongside a run of conservative wins across the continent realigning Latin America toward Washington and Jerusalem, with Milei's Argentina already the anchor.

ASSESSMENT

This is the conviction track Jerusalem has spent the war discovering it can still bank when the Gulf one freezes — normalization built on the politics of the country doing it, not extracted from a reluctant Arab public that prices Israel against a war-strengthened Tehran [the same wiring that flew the PLO flag over Ljubljana for two years and pulled it down in twenty minutes runs the other way in Latin America]. The cost is that it is wiring, not foundation: an embassy that moves on Bolsonaro's win moves back on the next Lula, exactly as Brasilia's ambassador already has once. And the firmer alignment is eroding where it was supposed to be structural — a senior House Armed Services Democrat who weeks ago called the attacks on a routine US-Israel cooperation clause "simply not accurate" now wants the clause stripped, which is the partisan sort arriving inside the one institution the recognition machine cannot reverse with a coalition vote.

A London Channel Airs Pro-Terror Content and Ofcom Says It Cannot Touch It

A CAMERA-backed investigation documents years of antisemitic and pro-terror broadcasting on Al-Hiwar TV, a UK-based Arabic channel that has interviewed convicted Hamas terrorists, praised October 7, and framed the murders at Golders Green and in Bondi as legitimate. Ofcom claims it is powerless to act because the channel routes its signal through a foreign satellite and pushes the same content onto YouTube, placing it outside the regulator's licensing reach. The op-ed calls on the British government to close the loophole and on the Metropolitan Police to open an investigation under the Terrorism Act 2006.

ASSESSMENT

A regulator that cannot reach a channel broadcasting to British living rooms because the uplink bounces off a satellite has defined its own jurisdiction down to nothing. The same British system that restored the Palestine Action proscription and let a court refuse to mistake the placard for the program is, on this file, declining to read the broadcast as the offense. The open question is the one that has trailed every counter-terror move in this jurisdiction we have tracked — whether the Met carries an Al-Hiwar file past the courtroom door or lets it lapse the way the encampment charges did.

Israel Flies a Rescue Team to Caracas as Venezuela's Jews Bury Their Dead

Three members of Venezuela's Jewish community were confirmed killed in the earthquakes that struck the country this weekend, with four still missing and dozens of families left in homes destroyed or rendered unlivable, according to the head of Caracas's largest Ashkenazi congregation. Israel landed a 16-person rescue delegation in the disaster zones — personnel from the Magen Disaster and Emergency Management Company, the Ready for Rescue nonprofit, and SmartAID, working alongside the local community's own relief effort.

ASSESSMENT

The mission is arvut made literal — Israeli first responders crossing a hemisphere to dig for Jews most of them have never met, in a country whose government spent two decades treating Jerusalem as an enemy capital. A small community that has shrunk under Chavismo gets the one form of help no host government and no international body reliably extends to Jews in trouble [the same lesson Amsterdam taught when the Foreign Ministry could not evacuate Israelis from a Jew Hunt!]. When the ground opens, the state built as a refuge turns out to be the first crew digging.

Herzog Marks the Iasi Pogrom and Names the Hatred Still Live

President Isaac Herzog joined a Romanian state ceremony at the Iasi Jewish cemetery marking the 85th anniversary of the June 1941 pogrom, in which Nazi-aligned Romanian authorities murdered more than 13,000 Jews — roughly a third of the city's Jewish population, now reduced to a few hundred. Romania's chief rabbi opened with Kaddish, and a reburial of newly identified victims followed. Herzog warned of an “alarming” resurgence of Jew-hatred in the present, and noted that Naftali Herz Imber wrote the first draft of Hatikvah in that same town, decades before the massacre.

ASSESSMENT

The anthem of Jewish self-determination drafted in the town that would later murder at least a third of its Jews, the hope and the slaughter sharing an address. That is the whole case for the state, compressed into one biography. A president standing in a cemetery where the community is now counted in the hundreds draws the through-line straight from the Romanian gendarmes of 1941 to the synagogue arsonists working Europe in 2026, and the deterrent the Jewish people now hold against that line — sovereignty, an army, a passport home — is the answer Imber's generation did not have.

Briefly Noted**Frontline & Security**

- *Jerusalem Post*: Israel's cyber chief says Iranian attacks on Israeli infrastructure have roughly tripled since the war, from about 1,600 to 4,800, hitting critical systems, major organizations, and small firms alike — the one front no memorandum even claims to cover.
- *JNS*: Border Police undercover units arrested three terrorists overnight in Shechem, two of them Hamas operatives, and seized a cache of ammunition and bomb-making material in a separate raid in the same city.
- *Walla*: Two suspects, aged 16 and 20, were caught with about 45 kilograms of hashish flown across the Egyptian border by drone.

Diplomacy & Geopolitics

- *JNS*: A Westminster magistrate threw out the International Centre of Justice for Palestinians' private prosecution of a British-Israeli reservist as “fundamentally flawed” — a man rejoining his own army under Israeli law had not “enlisted” in a foreign one under the 1870 Foreign Enlistment Act.

- **JNS:** Three ICC judges sued the Trump administration in Manhattan federal court to void the Executive Order 14203 sanctions imposed over the court's Israel warrants and unfreeze their American bank accounts.

Public Diplomacy & Media

- **JNS:** Captured Hamas documents analyzed by the Meir Amit center show Sinwar timed the October 7 invasion to break Saudi-Israeli normalization before it matured — the slaughter as a tool to keep a Palestinian state unbuilt and the resistance axis in business.

Economy, Tech & Infrastructure

- **JNS:** The Israel Innovation Authority is expanding its Startup Fund to back early-stage deep-tech firms.

Culture, Religion & Society

- **JNS:** Fr. John Pawlikowski, a principal architect of the Catholic Church's post-Nostra Aetate turn toward the Jewish people, died at 86. He spent five decades building Catholic-Jewish dialogue into something institutional, and worried at the end that Middle East tension was pulling the foundation loose.

Developments to Watch

Northern Front (Lebanon / Syria)

- **The pilot that decides the framework deploys this week** — The Lebanese Army is set to move into two southern cities under CENTCOM supervision, a test of whether Beirut can keep Hezbollah from reconstituting.

Gaza & Southern Theater

- **IDF officers warn Hamas is readying for the next war** — Senior commanders told the brass Hamas is rebuilding its forces inside the security zone while American opposition holds back renewed Israeli action.
- **Hamas executes its way out of a Gaza uprising** — Hamas crushed the anti-rule protest campaign by publicizing the executions of Gazans it accused of collaborating with Israel, keeping full control of the strip.

Regional Axis (Iran, Houthis, Militias)

- **The Houthis spend the Hormuz calm extending their reach** — The Sanaa group is using the announced halt to improve both the range and the accuracy of its missiles.
- **Tehran opens a second Hormuz channel through Muscat** — Iran's deputy foreign minister discussed the strait's future management with Oman. The regime is working a track Washington does not sit in, which lets it pocket the Doha calm in front and bargain the strait itself out the side door.

- **Pahlavi launches a “week of action” as the Doha table opens** — The exiled crown prince used Khamenei’s burial to call for global protests from July 4 and urged Trump to halt the talks outright, marking six months since the regime crushed the street.

Diplomatic & Legal

- **Massie moves to cut Israel aid on the funding floor** — Rep. Thomas Massie is pushing to strip Israel aid from the State Department’s annual funding bill. Appropriations Democrats warn the amendment would gut a range of programs beyond it. The clause now draws a Republican knife, which tests the aid relationship from the side the recognition machine always assumed was secure.

Every front this week opens the same gap between what gets signed and what gets enforced, and the only institution still closing it by force is the one that never expected a signature to do the work. Israel demolishes the tunnel, fills the bench under a court order, flies the rescue crew to Caracas, and treats every signature it holds as a license to keep acting.

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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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