



Forensic intelligence for those who act.

READER EDITION

August 5, 2026

ISRAEL BRIEF

Wednesday, August 5

The halt Israel tried to refuse arrived anyway, and the terms reopening Hormuz leave Iran administering the water.

◇ URIEL ZEHAVI

THE BOTTOM LINE Antizionism is Jew-hate, and an English tribunal has put a version of it inside the Equality Act's protected class. The judgment is narrower than Miller's reading of it — it turned on his own sworn account of a belief with nothing to do with the inherent nature of the State of Israel — and his reading is the one that will travel. Bristol never argued that his statements were antisemitic. So the question the Jewish students who reported him were actually asking has not been ruled on by anybody. The man they reported is walking back to a lectern. UK Lawyers for Israel is right that the same reasoning protects a Zionist employee, and Britain's new harassment duties land in October needing exactly that.

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Reader Edition

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A targeted killing in Gaza now needs the chief of staff's signature, where a division commander's signature used to do. The tunnels came down at Haddatha and Srobbin overnight — while Rome spent its first day arguing over which country gets to walk in behind the engineers and call it done. The terms taking shape in Muscat hand Tehran administration of the water it closed in February. And the ultimatum on the other end of that deal comes from an army that has spent virtually all its long-range precision missiles. Karhi answered a ruling that took away the coalition's election-day turnout machine by announcing that Likud will get the voter data regardless.

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FLASH BRIEF

- **Gaza:** Netanyahu refuses the pullback, and a targeted killing now needs the chief of staff's signature. *See The War Today.*
- **Hormuz:** Iran keeps the inbound lane in its own waters under interim terms, and Washington is out of long-range missiles. *See The War Today.*
- **Lebanon:** Rome's seventh round argues over who verifies while Israeli engineers keep destroying Hezbollah's tunnels. *See The War Today.*
- **Elections:** Sohlberg bars election-day voter tracking, and Karhi says Likud will get the data anyway. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Haredi funding:** The Finance Committee moves NIS 267 million to haredi education mid-recess, and a High Court justice takes it up this morning. *See Inside Israel.*
- **Michigan:** El-Sayed wins the Senate nomination on a "genocide" charge and an arms embargo, over \$30 million from AIPAC. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Ramallah:** Sotomayor lets collection begin on the \$656 million terror judgment against the Palestinian Authority and the PLO. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Britain:** Antisemitic incidents rise 21 percent in six months and assaults 82, the worst on CST's books. *See Israel and the World.*
- **David Miller:** An appeal tribunal keeps antizionism a protected belief under the Equality Act. *See Israel and the World.*
- **Doha:** Qatar laughably declares Hamas has met every commitment and calls on the world to press Israel. *See Developments to Watch.*

The Gaza roadmap? Still no verification committee. The Hormuz terms? Waiting on a Revolutionary Guards declaration binding the corps to whatever Araghchi initials. Sohlberg wrote what the election law says, and a cabinet minister answered that he will get the data by any means available.

The War Today

Netanyahu Refuses the Pullback as the Army Throttles Its Own Fire

Netanyahu said, in a video on his own Facebook page, that Israel does not come off the lines the IDF holds in Gaza until Hamas is completely disarmed. The White House sent over a draft on how that disarmament would work, and Israel sent it back with comments. "It wasn't our draft," he said. Nickolay Mladenov, who runs Trump's Gaza plan on the ground for the Board of Peace, had sat with him in Jerusalem the day before and asked for fourteen days with no strikes and no targeted killings so the disarmament could start. He got a no on that too. Israel holds better than 60 percent of the Strip now, against the 53 percent it held when it pulled back to the Yellow Line under the October 2025 hostage deal.

Troops in Gaza were told yesterday to hold fire except against immediate threats, and a targeted killing now needs the signature of Eyal Zamir, the chief of staff, where a division commander's signature used to be sufficient. The IDF Spokesman's answer was that strike policy belongs to the political

echelon. A senior officer put it this way in closed discussions: “they pushed us into a corner,” Israel has no choice but to go along with it, “but a day will come when we’ll have to go back to fighting.” The Gvura Forum, the bereaved-families group, called the order a return to October 6.

Ghazi Hamad, a Hamas spokesman, told Piers Morgan the group takes the agreement out of “forced necessity” and has not changed its mentality. Resistance is its “holy mission,” he said, and next time it may reach for “different tactics, different tools, different methods.” Morgan asked him when the weapons get handed over. He didn’t answer. The 15-point document doesn’t require him to. Weapons go to Palestinian hands only, none to Israel and none to any non-Palestinian party, and they go into storage inside Gaza. In other words? They don’t go anywhere.

ASSESSMENT

A strike that has to climb to the chief of staff of a multi-front war happens less often than one a division commander can approve — which is the point of moving the signature. [Eight months of ceasefire bought Hamas thousands of fresh recruits and its tunnels back. I’d like somebody to tell me what fourteen days buys us.] Mahmoud Fatair, Abdallah Abu al-Tayf and Jalal Tsubeih were all October 7 perpetrators still functioning as terrorists when they were killed last week — and Hamad spent the rest of his hour with Morgan saying Hamas never meant to kill civilians that day.

Tehran Takes the Water as Washington Runs Short of Missiles

The interim arrangement has terms now. Ships heading into the Gulf run the northern lane through Iranian territorial waters. Ships leaving run the southern lane through Omani waters. No tolls for sixty days, and the mines Iran laid in the middle channel cleared within thirty, after which the middle opens both ways under whatever permanent deal Tehran and Muscat write. Maybe. Abbas Araghchi, Iran’s foreign minister, agreed in principle over the weekend and needed sign-off from the Supreme National Security Council and from Mojtaba Khamenei, whom nobody in Tehran has produced since he inherited his father’s title. An American official says that ratification came through yesterday.

Trump put a deadline on it before flying to Los Angeles. “We’ll know within 48 hours.” The strait opens soon, he said, “or they’re gonna hit very hard, and then the Strait is going to be open,” and the attack he called off on Saturday would have been the largest since the Second World War. Scott Bessent said a deal could close yesterday or today, and Brent dropped four percent to under \$80. Rubio said progress, no finality.

Iranian officials describe a surviving “service fee” split evenly with Oman, and a senior Iranian source says Tehran expects full control of everything inbound and sight of everything outbound. An American official calls that account inaccurate. Washington is still waiting on a public Revolutionary Guards declaration binding the corps to whatever Araghchi initials, and the corps has not given one. Tehran says its only negotiation is with Oman. Qatar’s foreign ministry says Qatar and Pakistan are working with Muscat to keep the messages moving. Pakistani officials name themselves and Qatar

as the drafters of the framework text. The American account adds Saudi Arabia to the room.

Theoretically, the US Army has used “virtually all” of its ATACMS and Precision Strike Missiles across five months of this war, and close to half the world’s Tomahawk stock. CENTCOM burned through nearly every land-based missile it started with and restocked out of other theaters. Roughly eight in ten of the Army’s THAAD interceptors are gone and about half its Patriots, the two systems that bring Iranian ballistic missiles down over Israel as well as over the Gulf. The White House answer was that America has “far more munitions than anyone in the world.”

Against all that? Eight ships crossed Hormuz yesterday. Before February it was 130 to 140 a day.

The same package reaches the Red Sea, and the mediators say it only closes once the Houthis commit to stopping. They spent yesterday and this morning doing the opposite, claiming a ballistic strike on a Saudi tanker off Yanbu, their eighth, and a drone on the radar at Najran airport, which suspended flights indefinitely. An Indian dhow went down off Yemen after an unidentified projectile hit it, with all fourteen crew pulled out by the Yemeni coast guard. Here at home the alert level went up on an assessment that Iran will push the Iraqi Shia militias at Israel if the American strike threat turns real.

ASSESSMENT

Trump's demand list has shrunk to the one piece of leverage Iran did not hold before he started. Five months ago Washington wanted the nuclear program dismantled and the missile lines with it. What is on the table is a strait Tehran closed on February 28 and now gets to administer, with the inbound lane in its own waters and a fee it has renamed. The threat holding the other side of that deal is being made with virtually no long-range precision missiles left, which is why it keeps arriving with a fresh deadline and never with a target list.

Rome Argues Over Who Verifies While Israel Keeps Blowing the Tunnels

The seventh round of American-mediated talks between Israel and Lebanon opened at the US embassy in Rome yesterday and runs through Thursday. The fight in the room is over who gets to confirm that a sector is actually clean. Israel wanted the job itself — walk in and check after the Lebanese army takes over a pilot zone, one of the sectors the June framework hands to Beirut’s army as Israeli troops pull back and Hezbollah is disarmed. Beirut refused. The delegations are working through which country does it instead, with Italy positioned as one leading candidate, and they are doing it against a deadline. UNIFIL, the UN force that has sat in southern Lebanon since 1978, closes at the end of the year, and Israel and Washington both rightly refuse to extend it.

Israeli forces set off a large explosion at Haddatha in the Bint Jbeil district overnight. The 91st Division’s 300th Brigade, working with Yahalom engineers, destroyed an underground route running dozens of meters at Srobbin that Hezbollah had been using to attack Israeli troops. The Kfir

Brigade turned up a store of Hezbollah launchers and rockets, the 4th Brigade pulled out dozens of weapons including Kalashnikovs and anti-tank rockets, and a reservist was lightly wounded. On the other side of the line the Lebanese army seized a pickup carrying 122mm Grads smuggled in from Syria and arrested two men.

ASSESSMENT

Sure, the Lebanese army will fill the tunnels with cement itself — offered by a state whose prosecutors have not authorized a single house search inside the zones it already holds. Handing the verification to Italy, or to whoever volunteers once UNIFIL closes, converts a demolition charge into a mere report.

Inside Israel

Sohlberg Bars Election-Day Voter Tracking and Karhi Announces Likud Will Not Comply

Noam Sohlberg, the High Court's deputy president and chairman of the Central Elections Committee, ruled on Tuesday that ballot-committee members and party observers may not tell their parties, during voting on October 27, which voters have come in. The fact that a person voted is private, he wrote, and so are the details around it — the hour, whether the station is a hospital ballot or one for voters who can't get about. The Privacy Protection Law does not let any of it move. Election law authorizes nobody to pass on information a party representative sees only because the state gave him a job at the station. Doing it anyway now carries criminal and civil exposure, and the voter whose details traveled can sue.

The petition came from attorney Shahar Ben Meir, joined by Tel Aviv University's privacy clinic. Likud, Shas, United Torah Judaism and Religious Zionism all told the committee the practice broke no law. Nobody else took a position.

The practice is the coalition's ground game. Likud's Elector app lets observers log who has already voted so the party can go and fetch the ones who haven't. The haredi parties run something older — a representative on a kosher phone calls the party desk after each voter, and the desk sorts the day's turnout by hasidic court and by neighborhood, then sends MKs into whichever community is running behind. Some courts come in near a hundred percent.

Shlomo Karhi answered within hours. "It seems Justice Sohlberg thinks the Elections Committee is another Bagatz courtroom, where the rules of the game can be changed with a stroke of the pen," the communications minister said. "We will not allow this absurd decision to be implemented on the ground. We will get the information by any means available to us." Agudat Yisrael officials said the timing showed "a desire to steal the elections." Likud is weighing a High Court petition, and the coalition is looking at legislating around the ruling mid-recess. Knesset legal officials say that route needs a

government bill plus the opposition's agreement on both the substance and the order of business.

ASSESSMENT

The privacy point is real. State officials sit at a ballot box, watch who walks in, and phone it to a party desk, and no election statute ever really authorized it. What Sohlberg took away, some twelve weeks out, is the machine that closes an enthusiasm gap — and one survey this week puts opposition-bloc voters about fifteen points more motivated than the coalition's. With roughly one in ten haredi and national-religious voters saying now that they won't turn up at all, in the two sectors that have always turned out hardest. He wrote that his ruling states the law as it stands, and asked the Knesset to work out the relationship between election law and privacy law properly. The Knesset is in recess until after the vote. Karhi's answer cost more than the ruling did. A minister announcing he will get the data by any means available hands the petitioners the enforcement case they did not have.

Coalition Moves a Quarter Billion to Haredi Schools in the Election Recess

The Knesset Finance Committee voted on Tuesday to move more than NIS 267 million to the haredi education system. About NIS 12.5m of that goes to haredi culture, and the rest to transport for the party-run school networks, teacher training, and what the paperwork calls coordination and liaison bodies — the Vaad HaYeshivot, a body that has spent the war telling young men not to enlist. Another NIS 26m keeps men inside the drop-out yeshivas, the institutions built to hold haredi men who are not learning full time, a year after the government announced it would stop paying for students there who refuse to serve. Only a small share of haredi boys' elementary schools teach the core curriculum the law requires.

Dozens of Jerusalem Faction men massed outside a conference on the army's haredi enlistment tracks on Jaffa Street, called there by a notice on the anti-draft phone lines describing the event as stalls for shmad, apostasy. They blocked the taxi carrying the organizers, kicked it and spat into it. They chased the haredi media adviser Rafi Perlstein, pulled the kippa off his head and went for his laptop, and when police put him in a cab they surrounded it and offered the driver a fistful of notes to put him back out. The driver's son, a boy with special needs, was in the back seat. The driver refused.

Officers were called Nazis and murderers. Brig. Gen. (res.) Ofer Winter, who had presented at the conference, walked out through men shouting that he was a traitor to the Jewish people and had no part in Judaism. "I would recommend the Military Police draft the ones who chased me tonight," he said. "They are certainly not learning Torah."

A faction calling itself HaTzibur HaHaredi wrote to Arye Deri, Gafni and Yitzhak Goldknopf on Tuesday demanding political representation and giving them until Friday, after which it will put the question to the gedolim with community representatives. Tens of thousands of haredim are getting no answer to their needs, the letter says, many of them are saying now that they will not vote in October or will vote for a party that is not haredi, and it is the continued collision with large parts of Am Yisrael that endangers the

haredi public's future. Full protection for the men whose Torah is their craft, it asks, and a proper service arrangement for the thousands who cannot learn a whole day.

ASSESSMENT

Netanyahu says he will pass a full conscription law in the next Knesset and jail the men who are not learning. Sure. And his Finance Committee spent Tuesday, mid-recess, funding the body that tells them not to go and the yeshivas built for the men who are not learning. [I would like to hear that NIS 26 million explained to a reservist past his hundred-and-tenth day this year.] The letter on Deri's desk asks him for the same thing the army has been asking for — a track for the men who don't actually learn Torah all day — and it comes with a Friday deadline and tens of thousands of votes behind it. Unsurprisingly, police made no arrests on Jaffa Street.

Israel and the World

El-Sayed Takes Michigan's Senate Nomination as Two House Seats Hold

Abdul El-Sayed won Michigan's Democratic Senate primary yesterday, roughly 49 percent to 47 — about 20,000 votes, called by NBC at 93 percent counted while the other desks were still waiting on Wayne County. He is Detroit's former health director, he calls the war in Gaza a "genocide," and he wants American military aid to Israel cut off. Haley Stevens, the congresswoman running as the pro-Israel moderate for the open seat Gary Peters is vacating, had Gretchen Whitmer, Chuck Schumer and more than \$30 million from AIPAC and its super PAC — the most the group has ever put into a single race, inside a campaign that spent \$62 million against El-Sayed's \$2.1 million. A poll last week had her fifteen points behind.

In Missouri's first district Wesley Bell beat Cori Bush about 71 percent to 26, a rematch of the 2024 primary that took her seat. "The M in Missouri doesn't stand for Middle East. It stands for Missouri," he told voters on election day. And in Michigan's eleventh, the seat Stevens gave up to run statewide, Jeremy Moss — a Jewish state senator who supports Israel and doesn't hedge it — beat Aisha Farooqi 49 to 33. Michigan's seventh did neither: William Lawrence, a former member of the Democratic Socialists of America, took it over a former ambassador to Ukraine and a former Navy SEAL who split the rest between them.

El-Sayed now faces Mike Rogers in November for a seat Democrats have to hold to have any path back to the Senate, in a state Trump carried in 2024. Reuters/Ipsos has the share of Democrats with a favorable view of Israel at 22 percent in May, down from 59 in 2018.

ASSESSMENT

Andy Levin, the Jewish former congressman who campaigned for El-Sayed right up to the polls closing, skipped the victory party — traveling, the campaign said. I'd have found somewhere else to be that night too. The next Democrat facing a Senate primary just watched a man run on the "genocide" charge and a total arms embargo and win the nomination in a state his party has to carry. November decides whether it costs him anything.

Americans Can Start Collecting \$656 Million From the PA and PLO

Justice Sonia Sotomayor refused yesterday to freeze the \$656 million judgment American terror victims hold against the Palestinian Authority and the PLO, and collection can begin now. The judgment covers the bombings and shootings in Jerusalem between 2002 and 2004 that killed 33 people, Americans among them, and wounded hundreds more. A jury in New York awarded the damages in 2015. The Second Circuit threw the award out the next year for lack of jurisdiction, holding that American courts could not hear suits against foreign groups when the violence was not aimed at Americans. Congress answered in 2019 with the Promoting Security and Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act, the Supreme Court upheld that statute last year, and the Second Circuit put the judgment back in March.

Ramallah told the court that paying now would destabilize the services it runs in Judea and Samaria and jeopardize regional security. They don't want to endanger the large part of their budget which goes to stipends for convicted terrorists, for the families of men killed carrying out attacks, and for Palestinians wounded in them. You probably know of it under the term pay-for-slay.

ASSESSMENT

An American court has finally told the Palestinian Authority to pay up. And not just to the terrorists. The families filed twenty-two years ago. Getting here took an act of Congress and a unanimous bench. And the order letting collection start came from Sotomayor, who is nobody's idea of a hard-line vote on anything. Ramallah pleaded poverty while running the payroll that rewards the men who did these bombings. Hopefully it will soon find out how much of its money sits somewhere an American court can reach.

Britain's Jew-Hate Count Rose 21 Percent and Its Assaults 82

Britain's Jewish communities logged 1,926 antisemitic incidents in the first half of this year, up 21 percent on the same months last year. The Community Security Trust, which runs their security, has recorded a worse half-year only once. The violence rose faster than the total. Assaults hit 135, an 82 percent jump and the worst six months on CST's books. School incidents rose 59 percent to 178, with assaults on Jewish pupils and staff running higher than in any other setting, and synagogue incidents rose 31 percent. Campus was the one number that fell, to 28 from 36.

Two visibly Jewish men were stabbed in Golders Green on April 29 in an attack police are treating as terrorism. CST logged 21 antisemitic incidents that day, 24 the next and 26 the day after, the worst run of the six months.

High-profile attacks on Jews embolden the people watching them, the report says. Four Hatzola ambulances burned in March, and somebody put “BOYCOTT ISRAELI GOODS” stickers on the surviving vehicles in Stamford Hill. Arson hit Finchley Reform Synagogue, a former Jewish charity building in Hendon and Kenton United Synagogue — all three claimed by Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia, a group Britain has since proscribed and one CST says was almost certainly directed by Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

An “antizionist” political motivation ran through 676 of the incidents. Israel, Gaza or October 7 came up alongside anti-Jewish abuse in 41 percent of the total. A hundred and five reports compared Israel to Nazi Germany. The policing minister, Sarah Jones, called the numbers appalling. The shadow home secretary, Chris Philp, called them a national emergency and asked for a moratorium on marches.

ASSESSMENT

The count rose 21 percent and the assaults rose 82, which is a threat moving from abuse toward injury. CST puts the London synagogue arsons on Iran’s Revolutionary Guards. Britain answered by proscribing the group that claimed them and putting £250 million over three years into police around Jewish schools and synagogues. That buys guards. No British court has yet put a case on the men who gave the order.

*Closed Dossier: **The Wrong Geography** — The Dossier’s argument is that the threat now operates in Manchester while the institutions defending Jews are still sized to Gaza — and Britain answering an IRGC-directed synagogue arson campaign with £250 million of guards and no case against the men who gave the order is that mismatch written into a budget line. ##### Britain’s Appeal Tribunal Keeps Antizionism a Protected Belief in Law*

But we wouldn’t really want to do anything to change things, right? The Employment Appeal Tribunal in London threw out the University of Bristol’s challenge to a 2024 ruling in David Miller’s favor. Bristol sacked Miller, a sociology professor, in 2021 over his public comments about Jewish students. The original tribunal called that discrimination. It held that Miller’s belief — Zionism is inherently racist, imperialist and colonial — is a philosophical belief protected under the Equality Act 2010, and that firing him for it went further than his conduct warranted. The appeal panel, under Lord Fairley, found Bristol’s grounds not well founded, including its argument that political beliefs sit outside the Act altogether.

The panel refused Miller’s cross-appeal and left the limits standing. His comments aimed at Jewish students and Jewish student societies were culpable misconduct, and were not a manifestation of the protected belief. His compensation is halved for contributory fault, his harassment claim is dismissed, and the tribunal put at 30 percent the chance Bristol would have sacked him lawfully anyway. Miller has produced a weekly show for the Iranian regime’s Press TV since he left. He called the judgment a binding precedent meaning no vice-chancellor can ever again lawfully sack an academic over Zionism, and a victory for “the final dismantling of Zionism.” He intends to return to his chair. The tribunal did not order Bristol to give it back.

CST called the finding that every party accepted Miller is not antisemitic “utterly surreal.” UK Lawyers for Israel reads the judgment the other way round. Both tribunals decided on Miller’s own sworn account of his belief — that it had nothing to do with Israel’s inherent nature, and that he was not open to violence. On the same reasoning Zionist belief is protected too, and discriminating against an employee for holding it breaches the same Act. The Campaign Against Antisemitism pointed out that Bristol never argued Miller’s statements were antisemitic, so no tribunal could decide it, and flagged the workplace harassment duties landing in October.

ASSESSMENT

Antizionism is Jew-hate, and an English tribunal has put a version of it inside the Equality Act’s protected class. The judgment is narrower than Miller’s reading of it — it turned on his own sworn account of a belief with nothing to do with the inherent nature of the State of Israel — and his reading is the one that will travel. Bristol never argued that his statements were antisemitic. So the question the Jewish students who reported him were actually asking has not been ruled on by anybody. The man they reported is walking back to a lectern. UK Lawyers for Israel is right that the same reasoning protects a Zionist employee, and Britain’s new harassment duties land in October needing exactly that.

Briefly Noted

Frontline & Security

- *Ynet News*: The IDF closed its probe into the July 24 attack near Tel in Samaria: the first force too small, the reinforcements and the medics late, the hike never coordinated with the brigade, Maj. Yuval Ezra ז”ל killed after charging one of the attackers and killing him.
- *Algemeiner*: Britain arrested Mohammad Yousef Hasna on Friday and is holding him while Washington seeks his extradition to New York on charges he ran money, food and supplies to Hamas from a senior post at what prosecutors call a sham humanitarian organization, working since at least 2023 with the ministry Ghazi Hamad used to run.
- *Arutz Sheva*: Soldiers working in Qabatiya dismantled ten machines the cells there use to turn out weapons and explosive devices.

Diplomacy & Geopolitics

- *Globes*: Dublin ordered its new €53 million government jet without the Elbit system that lets a Falcon 6X land in fog — buying it would have meant a defense contract with an Israeli company — so Micheal Martin’s pilots may now have to divert in bad weather.
- *JNS*: Gideon Sa’ar opened an official visit to Ecuador, the first by an Israeli foreign minister in 44 years, and represents Israel on Friday at Abelardo de la Espriella’s inauguration in Cali. Colombia’s designated foreign minister agreed with him two weeks ago to move Bogota’s embassy to Jerusalem,

exchange ambassadors immediately and waive visas both ways, reversing the break Gustavo Petro made in 2024.

- *Ynet News*: Ilham Aliyev's foreign-policy adviser Hikmet Hajiyevev told a Turkish broadcaster that Baku ran a campaign to stop Israel recognizing the Armenian genocide, calling Turkey's interests a "red line" for Azerbaijan, and claimed Israel took the message seriously enough that "further progress on the issue was prevented." Jerusalem answered that the government recognized the genocide unanimously and will not change that, though the item did come off the Knesset agenda without a vote.
- *Jewish News UK*: The Charity Commission opened a statutory class inquiry into eight British charities, out of a larger group, over money they sent to Israeli communities in Judea and Samaria, and has shared the scope with the police and HMRC. The referral came from MP Melanie Ward, who ran Medical Aid for Palestinians before she was elected.

Public Diplomacy & Media

- *JNS*: Shin Bet director David Zini told the Knesset's intelligence subcommittee in a classified briefing last week that Iranian influence operations against the October 27 election campaign have already started, and a State Comptroller's report puts Israel nine years past identifying the threat with no national policy on it and no agency in charge of the answer.
- *JTA*: Parliament's standards commissioner is investigating Richard Tice, Reform UK's deputy leader, for not declaring a sponsored September trip to Israel before he spoke in a Commons debate on "pro-Israel influence" — a trip already sitting on the register of members' interests.
- *Israel Hayom*: Ireland's football association will give its own supporters no stadium access and no help with tickets for either Nations League fixture against Israel, citing operational and security concerns — matches already moved to neutral ground in Hungary and Serbia, the second of them closed to the public. Last week the Stop The Game campaign and the SIPTU trade union restated their backing for any Irish worker who refuses on conscience to service them.

Am Yisrael

- *The JC*: Kemi Badenoch is standing by her party's pick of Joshua Bonehill-Paine for a Somerset council seat, saying he has shown contrition since he was jailed in 2015 over antisemitic material and in 2016 for racially harassing Luciana Berger, then a Jewish Labour MP. The Home Office has him certified to train police officers on antisemitism. Shocking more aren't making aliyah from Britain.
- *Ynet News*: A black-clad crowd blocked the entrances of a hotel in the Bulgarian ski resort of Bansko on Sunday, gave Nazi salutes and chanted "Sieg Heil" at the dozens of Italian and Israeli teenagers inside on a youth-movement training course. Police cleared them off — and they came back once the officers had gone.

- *Jerusalem Post*: Somebody printed flyers carrying the City of Amsterdam's own logo, listing the Jewish and Israeli performers at Pride and where each was due on stage, and telling readers to report "IDF soldiers" to a real discrimination-reporting platform whose form had been lifted without permission. The footer sent them to the Hind Rajab Foundation, which files criminal complaints against Israelis travelling in Europe.

Domestic & Law

- *Walla*: The State Attorney's Office indicted a 16-year-old from Beitar Illit in the Beersheba juvenile court on racially motivated threats and assault, over repeated visits to an Arab family's compound in the South Hebron Hills carrying a metal rod and telling them the land was not theirs. Prosecutors asked the court to hold him until the proceedings end.
- *Israel Hayom*: Infrastructure for rebuilding Kadim is nearly finished twenty-one years after the Disengagement emptied it, with the first families due on the ground within weeks, and the founding core is mostly families from Tel Aviv and Gush Dan put together by graduates of Zionist yeshivot and reservists back from Iron Swords. It is one of four northern Samaria communities uprooted in 2005, and the Shomron Regional Council's plan puts nineteen new ones there in their place.

Economy, Tech & Infrastructure

- *Globes*: High-tech wages rose 13.7 percent in the year to May, to an average NIS 35,760 a month, and the sector added essentially no jobs — 397,100 against 396,400 — so high-tech now employs 9.5 percent of Israeli workers, down from 10 percent a few years ago.
- *Times of Israel*: The Prime Minister's Office and the Accountant General issued a tender yesterday for a locally built quantum computer called Project Nexus, in the name of "Israeli technological sovereignty," with no budget and no timeline attached to it. Erez Askal, who runs the National AI Directorate, told a Knesset committee in July that the wider plan needs about NIS 5 billion a year — money the announcement does not claim to have.
- *Globes*: El Al cleared \$125.9 million in the second quarter, more than double what it earned a year earlier, on revenue up 27 percent to \$986 million, and that is with the last nine days of Operation Roaring Lion costing it \$55 million at the start of the quarter. The profit came off fares: seats grew 9 percent and revenue per available seat-kilometer grew 12 percent.
- *Jewish News UK*: A Tel Aviv University study counts 268,509 Israelis who left the country for three months or more across 2023 to 2025 — 86,509 in the first year, 91,499 in the second, 90,922 in the third — so the jump came right after October 7 and the two years since have held level. Itai Ater, one of the authors, says the level is not yet a risk, though the same team's earlier work found the leavers run heavily to doctors, engineers, academics and high earners.

Culture, Religion & Society

- *Jerusalem Post*: Smotrich put NIS 113 million through the steering committee on Tuesday for more than seventy heritage sites across Judea and Samaria — preservation, public access, rescue excavation, infrastructure — on top of the NIS 250 million the government approved in May. Sebastia is among the seventy, and UNESCO listed it last month as endangered “Palestinian heritage” threatened by Israel’s plans for a Shomron national park.
- *Israel Hayom*: Somebody tore the Israeli flags off the grave of Staff Sgt. Regev Amar ז”ל — killed on October 7 in the battle for Kibbutz Kissufim — at the cemetery in Sde Nehemia yesterday, the second time in a week.
- *Jewish News UK*: Sagi Assa of Wolfson Medical Center flew Tel Aviv to Kigali and back inside thirty hours so that Gerard Misago — the first Rwandan interventional pediatric cardiologist, trained in Israel through Save a Child’s Heart — could open the pulmonary valve of an eleven-day-old baby in Rwanda for the first time, with the man who taught him standing alongside.

Developments to Watch

Judea & Samaria

- **A demolition order lands in Tell** — The army posted a confiscation and demolition order on the Tell home of Farouk Ramadan, who carried out the July 24 shooting in Samaria and was killed at the scene. Posting the order starts the appeal period.

Northern Front (Lebanon / Syria)

- **Syria moves on the Iraqi border** — Al Arabiya says Syria’s defense ministry raised its alert level and sent units to the Iraqi frontier, with Hezbollah-aligned channels placing the reinforcement around Al-Bukamal. No official Syrian source confirms any of it, and Al-Bukamal is the crossing Iran’s land route into Syria has always run through.

Gaza & Southern Theater

- **Qatar certifies Hamas as compliant** — Qatar’s foreign ministry announced that Hamas has met every commitment required of it and called on the international community to press Israel into meeting its own. Doha brokered the text and now grades the performance under it, with the implementation timetable still unwritten.

Regional Axis (Iran, Houthis, Militias)

- **Smoke over Jebel Ali, no answer** — Axis-aligned channels reported overnight explosions in Dubai’s Jebel Ali industrial zone and put a Houthi

missile behind them. Nobody in the Emirates has confirmed anything past the smoke, and a Houthi strike on the Emirates would be the first of this war.

- **Bandar Abbas announces its own explosions** — The Revolutionary Guards' Hormozgan corps told residents that controlled demolitions of unexploded ordnance run for 72 hours around Bandar Abbas from this morning, and that there is nothing to worry about. Bandar Abbas is Iran's main naval port on the strait, and the notice went out inside Trump's 48-hour ultimatum.
- **Washington tells Riyadh to hold** — American officials advised Saudi Arabia against wide-scale military action in Yemen, and Riyadh is talking to Sanaa through Omani mediators while it keeps preparing military options. Washington's stated worry is the energy market, and that is the argument Riyadh has to answer before it moves.

Diplomatic & Legal

- **Amman convenes on the Temple Mount** — Jordan hosts an emergency session today of Arab League foreign ministers plus Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan, over what Ayman Safadi calls an "immediate threat" of an Israeli takeover at Al-Aqsa. Safadi says Jordan is working the legal route, and a session with that guest list is convened to produce a filing.
- **The Board of Peace works Congress** — Josh Gruenbaum led a Board of Peace delegation on Monday that briefed the national-security staff of Thune, Schumer, Johnson and Jeffries on the roadmap and where implementation stands. The stabilization force and the reconstruction money need appropriations, and the board is building its bipartisan cover before Israel has signed anything.

Home Front & Politics

- **Levin has until Sunday on Mahash** — The High Court gave Yariv Levin and the Attorney-General's office until Sunday to say whether they will appoint the Police Investigations Department's director and its selection committee before October 27. The Movement for Quality Government and the Bar Association want the court to freeze the law that pulled the department out of the State Attorney's Office, and Levin's answer is what it rules on.
- **Standing Together reaches a party office** — Standing Together activists banged on the doors of Religious Zionism's headquarters in Shoham this morning with their hands painted red, chanting that the blood is on the government's hands. Police arrived after they had gone, and Religious Zionism is asking Eisenkot, Bennett and Tropper to say something about it.

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Uriel Zehavi is the executive director of Mitzpe Institute, where he writes the daily Israel Brief and co-directs its Institutional Intelligence practice with Modi Zehavi. He is the author of four books from Mitzpe Press and advises Israeli and allied clients on strategic communications for Western audiences.



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