



GLOBAL EYE INTELLIGENCE

THE QUAGMIRE



WEST ASIA TRACKER

THE HEZBOLLAH FRONT

- Hezbollah fires dozens of missiles at northern Israel: Overnight, almost fifty rockets were fired at northern Israel, according to Israeli media. Online footage saw the Iron Dome deflecting many rockets over the northern region of Israel. Later, Hezbollah acknowledged that the bombing was a reaction to the civilian injuries and the "attacks of the villages of Kafr Kila and Deir Saryan."
- It further stated that hundreds of Katyusha rockets were used to bomb New Beit Hillal for the first time. Hezbollah declared on Saturday that one of its fighters had died. It follows an Israeli attack that also left six people injured in the South Lebanon town of Deir Saryan. During his speech on Tuesday, Hassan Nasrallah, the leader of Hezbollah, declared that the deaths of Hamas leader Ismail Hamiyeh and senior commander Fouad Shukr in an Israeli airstrike would mark the beginning of a new era in the multifront fight with Israel.
- Since October 8th, when the militant group opened a pressure front at the border between Lebanon and Israel to help its ally, Hamas, Israel and Hezbollah have been exchanging gunfire regularly.

THE HEZBOLLAH FRONT

- According to an AFP count, the cross-border violence has claimed the lives of at least 542 individuals in Lebanon, the majority of them were fighters but also included 114 civilians. 47 Israeli deaths were reported by the IDF, including those that occurred in the Golan Heights.
- Amid worries of a full-scale Israel-Hezbollah war, several foreign embassies have announced new preventive measures. Countries ask their citizen to leave Iran, Israel and Lebanon as quickly as possible: The US, Russia, and India among others urged their citizens to leave Lebanon as soon as possible.
- Additionally, France, Poland, Norway, and Belgium among others urged citizens to leave Iran, Israel and Lebanon as quickly as possible. The warnings came amid fears of an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah and a broader regional conflict. Despite flight suspensions and cancellations in Beirut, "commercial transportation options to leave Lebanon remain available", the US Embassy statement said.

IRGC STATEMENT ON HANIYEH

- Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) says that Ismail Haniyeh was killed by a "short-range" projectile fired from outside his residence.
- As per IRGC, according to the investigations and analyses, the assassination was carried out by firing a short-range projectile with a warhead of approximately 7 kilograms, along with a strong explosion, from outside the area of the guests' accommodation.
- The statement blamed Israel for the operation, which it said was carried out with "a short-range projectile with a warhead" that weighed about 15 pounds. It "caused a strong explosion," the statement said, without giving more details. Israeli officials have declined to comment on the attack. As the principal political figure for Hamas, Haniyeh was instrumental in negotiating an end to the conflict in the Gaza Strip. To work on expanding Hamas's international allies, he departed the enclave in 2019 and divided his time between Qatar and Turkey, making sporadic trips to Iran.

B I D E N - B I B I S A G A

- US President Joe Biden warned Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu against escalating tensions: In a "tough" phone call on August 1, Biden told Netanyahu to "stop escalating tension in the region," Axios reported, citing two US officials.
- Biden reportedly complained to Netanyahu that the two had discussed securing a hostage deal but Israel went ahead with Ismail Haniyeh's assassination. Biden also warned Netanyahu that if he escalates again, he "shouldn't count on the US to bail him out," a US official told Axios. Although Tel Aviv is not requesting military assistance, Israel's National Security Council asserts that the US will offer it any assistance required if Iran launches an attack.
- In response to threats from Iran and its allies, the Pentagon announced that it would send more fighter jets and warships to the Middle East to strengthen defences.

U S T R O O P S R E I N F O R C E M E N T

- U.S. forces move toward Israel as Iran threatens to attack: To safeguard Israel, the Pentagon is redeploying large amounts of weaponry and resources. U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin has issued orders modifying the country's military posture to strengthen force protection, bolster backing for Israel's defence, and guarantee readiness for a range of emergencies.
- The USS Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group, which is presently stationed in the Central Command area of responsibility, will be replaced by the USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group. More cruisers and destroyers equipped with ballistic missile defence have been ordered by the US and delivered to the US Central and European Command areas.
- Moreover, the Secretary has directed the deployment of an extra fighter squadron to the Middle East, enhancing our capacity for defensive air support. The USS WASP Amphibious Ready Group / Marine Expeditionary Unit (ARG/MEU), which operates in the Eastern Mediterranean, is one of the several assets the US military maintains in the area that are enhanced by these posture adjustments.

REGIONAL DIPLOMACY

- Jordanian Foreign Minister made a rare and urgent visit to Tehran to dial down tensions in the region. The Acting Foreign Minister of Iran has warned all his regional counterparts that Iran reserves the right to respond to the breach of Iranian sovereignty.
- Iran called for an all alliance meeting which included leadership from Hezbollah, Houthis, Hamas, Iraqi Resistance and other factions to decide on the course of action against Israel. This led to a renewed insecurity in the Gulf monarchies as they find themselves trapped between the West and the Iranian Axis.
- The US has tried to reach out to Iran through various channels but Iran has not engaged in any communication yet. The Iranians believe that it is important to preserve the element of surprise this time.
- US CENTCOM chief visited Doha before visting Tel Aviv. Israeli negotiators tried to push the ceasefire deal in Cairo but Hamas declined to participate owing to their steadfast commitment to avenge the death of their political bureau chief Ismail Haniyeh.



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