

Hezbollah strikes Mossad HQ, military base near Tel Aviv

Israel's ground invasion into Lebanon denied



Members of Israeli security forces inspect the impact site of a rocket fired from Lebanon on the Horeshim Interchange in central Israel on October 1, 2024.
● JACK GUEZ/AFP

International Desk

Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah on Tuesday said it had targeted the Israeli military intelligence base of Gilot near Tel Aviv, following days of Israel's deadly strikes on Lebanon. The group "launched salvos of Fadi 4 rockets at the Gilot base of the mil-

itary intelligence's unit 8200 and the Mossad headquarters located on the outskirts of Tel Aviv," it said in a statement. The Israeli military also said Hezbollah had launched rockets at central Israel, setting off air raid sirens. The head of Hezbollah's media office, Mohammad Afif, also said on Tuesday

that no Israeli troops have entered Lebanese territory, and warned that the group's strikes on Tel Aviv hours earlier were "only the beginning."

No ground invasion

In a written statement to Reuters, Afif said Hezbollah had not engaged in "direct ground clashes" with Israeli troops, but that it

would be ready to do so. The Israeli occupation army said it launched a ground offensive in Lebanon and that its forces engaged in clashes Tuesday, further escalating the conflict after a week of intense air strikes that killed hundreds, including Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah. The UN peacekeeping

mission in Lebanon said, however, the Israeli operation did not amount to a "ground incursion" and while Hezbollah denied any troops had crossed the border, an Israeli security official said localized raids had taken place and they were limited in scope. The UN force said a cross-border operation would be a violation of Lebanese sovereignty.

Israel advised people to evacuate to the north of the Awali River, some 60 kilometers (36 miles) from the border and much farther than the Litani River, which marks the northern edge of a UN-declared zone that was intended to serve as a buffer between Israel and Hezbollah after their 2006 war.

Israel's attacks

On Tuesday, Israel continued to attack various points within Lebanon, not just in the southern parts of the capital.

Israeli military said it was calling up four additional reserve brigades for operational missions on the northern border with Lebanon.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged Tuesday for a de-escalation of the conflict in Lebanon, his spokesperson said.

Guterres "appeals for an immediate cease-fire," spokesman Stephane Dujarric said, adding that, "An all-out war must be avoided in Lebanon at all costs, and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon must be respected."

Hezbollah began low intensity strikes on Israeli positions in northern occupied territories shortly after Hamas' October 7 attack on the regime's positions in the occupied territories. Since then, Israel has also launched air strikes and the conflict has steadily escalated.

Top European airlines Lufthansa, KLM and Swiss announced Tuesday they were extending their suspension of flights to the Middle East, as tensions spiral throughout the region.

15 killed in Iran flash flood

International Desk

A flash flood that swept through a southern city of Iran killed 15 people, state media reported on Tuesday, updating an earlier toll of six dead.

"After finding the last body of Halil River flood incident in Jiroft, a total of 15 are pronounced dead," said the official IRNA news agency.

The search and rescue operation had been brought to an end, it added.

Almost all of those killed in Monday's flood were Afghan nationals living in the Islamic republic, Iran's ISNA news agency reported.

Jiroft is a city located in the normally dry southern province of Kerman.

Scientists say climate change amplifies extreme weather, including droughts as well as the potential for the increased intensity of rainstorms.

Iran has endured repeated droughts in the past decade, but also regular floods, a phenomenon made worse when torrential rain falls on sun-baked earth.

In 2022, heavy rains in Iran's south left at least 80 people dead and caused damage estimated at about \$200 million.

Unleashed 'monster' must be stopped: Qatar

International Desk

Lolwah Alkhater, Qatar's minister for international cooperation, sharply criticized Israel's attacks on Gaza and Lebanon.

"A monster has been unleashed in our region. A monster that uses prohibited weapons and methods that target civilians indiscriminately," she wrote on X, referring to Israel.

She added that the "monster ... didn't adhere to a single decision by the Security Council" and violates international law daily, Al Jazeera reported.

"And yet, it continues to receive not only the blessings of some international actors, but also their weapons and taxpayers money. The Israeli Occupation EXCEPTIONALISM above international law MUST STOP," she wrote.

"Unless we stand united to stop it, this military and political bullying will destroy the entire region." Meanwhile, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez condemned the "routine massacres" occurring in the Middle East and Ukraine, urging the international community to break its silence, according to Anadolu Agency.

Speaking at an award ceremony hosted by La Vanguardia newspaper



Lolwah Alkhater

on Monday, Sánchez emphasized the need to uphold international law and promote peace in both regions.

"If the international community remains silent, we will raise our voices even more to defend international law and peace," Sánchez said.

"Those who hate democracy oppress it everywhere," he added. "We live under a relentless assault of lies. Enemies of democracy do not respect any rules. In the face of this challenge, we must step forward and defend democracy." Spain is one of the European countries that has decided to officially recognize the State of Palestine as a sign of support for a peace process with Israel.

Israel's military campaign in Gaza has continued despite a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire.

Since Sept. 23, Israel has launched massive air strikes against what it calls Hezbollah targets across Lebanon, killing more than 1,600 people, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry.

Several Hezbollah leaders have been killed in the assault, including Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah. Hezbollah and Israel have been engaged in cross-border war since the start of Israel's war on Gaza, which has killed nearly 41,600 people, most of them women and children.

Pezeshkian: Iran-China friendship flourishes into strategic ties

International Desk

President Masoud Pezeshkian expressed Iran's readiness for promotion of relations with China in all fields.

In a message to his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on Tuesday, Pezeshkian congratulated him on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

"Now that the traditional friendship between the two nations has turned into deep, sustainable and strategic relations, I express my willingness for joint efforts with your Excellency for the promotion of comprehensive

relations between Iran and China," the Iranian president said in the message.

Iran and China, by relying on their common cultural values, mutual respect, equality and altruism, have opened a new chapter in "comprehensive strategic relations" to deepen cooperation in all fields, Pezeshkian added.

Pezeshkian noted that China's impressive progress has paved the way for stronger friendship with the world.

The Iranian president said the Chinese nation has made magnificent headway in the past recent years under the guidance of Xi



Xi Jinping

Masoud Pezeshkian

Jinping, which has set the ground for stronger friendship with and common welfare for the world countries.

China is Iran's largest trade partner. Both are subject to different levels of illegal sanctions

imposed by the US.

The two countries signed the long-term strategic partnership deal in March 2021 in an attempt to reinforce their long-standing economic and political alliance.

Terrorist attacks claim six lives in southeast Iran

National Desk

Unidentified gunmen killed six people in two separate attacks on Tuesday in Iran's southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

The first attack occurred in the city of Bent, Nik Shahr District, during which gunmen opened fire on participants in a school ceremony, killing the chairman of the city council, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Bent, Parviz Kadkhodaei, and two soldiers.

The city is 230 km west of the bor-

der with Pakistan and 90 km north of the Sea of Oman.

Two police officers were killed in the second attack, which took place in Khash town in the same province. No group or individual immediately took responsibility for the terrorist attacks.

In September, gunmen killed four border guards in the province in two separate attacks. The terrorist group Jaish al-Adl claimed responsibility for one the attacks, in which one officer and two soldiers in the border guard were killed.



The province, bordering Afghanistan and Pakistan, has been the site of occasional deadly clashes involving terrorist groups, drug smugglers and Iranian security forces.