

**Date and Time:** Saturday, May 4, 2024 1:47:00AM EEST

**Job Number:** 223497083

## Documents (100)

1. [Hizbullah Forces Lob New Threats at Israel](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

2. [Iran Clamps Down on Hizbullah](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

3. [Triumphant Hizbullah face the test of peace](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

4. [Israel, Hezbollah swap prisoners, remains](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

5. [Lebanon : Shiite Muslims bury Hezbollah 'martyr'](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

6. [\*Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

7. [\*2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN HEZBOLLAH REVENGE\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

8. [\*Israel , Hezbollah exchange rocket fire\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

9. [\*HEZBOLLAH DRIVEN OUT, CLAIMS AMAL LEBANON\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

10. [\*Hezbollah calls on Palestinians to rise up\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

11. [Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

12. [HEZBOLLAH LEADER WARNS ISRAEL , URGES PALESTINIANS TO REVOLT](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

13. [Israelis and Hezbollah Exchange Prisoners and Bodies](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

14. [WEEKEND WARRIORS JOIN LEBANON STRUGGLE / INTELLECTUALS HELP HEZBOLLAH BATTLE ISRAELIS.](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

15. [Thousands flee Israeli assault Defiant Hezbollah steps up barrage](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to

Dec 31, 2000

16. [Hezbollah fighters reclaim land; War with Syria possible](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

17. [South Lebanese return to shelled homes: Going home to Hezbollah hotbed](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

18. [Hezbollah tells SLA soldiers: Kill an Israeli to save your own life](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

19. [Israel bombs Hezbollah sites for 4th day: 28 killed since the violence started](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

20. [Israel, Hezbollah halt fire: Accord aimed at civilians](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

21. [Strikes on Hezbollah are aimed at Syria](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

22. [Hezbollah vows 'hell' in Israel as war spreads: Rocket barrages force Lebanese to flee homes](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

23. [MIDDLE EAST: Israel keeps pounding south Lebanon : 400,000 flee attack on hotbed of Hezbollah](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

24. [SHELLS HIT SHELTER, LEAVING 75 DEAD-ISRAELIS ACCUSE HEZBOLLAH OF HIDING BEHIND CIVILIANS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

25. [Hezbollah vows more attacks: Peres says raids will continue; Beirut left in darkness](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

26. [Iran gains fundamental foothold in Sidon / Role of the Hezbollah Party in Lebanese politics](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

27. [\*Their Future Hazy, Lebanon 's Guerrillas Try Tourism, Politics\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

28. [\*Beirut indicates it may try to rein in Hezbollah guerrillas\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

29. [\*LEBANON : HEZBOLLAH'S NEW FACE; Is it a new political maturity of a fundamentalist's rage?\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

30. [\*75 KILLED BY ISRAELI 'MISTAKE'; SHELLS AIMED AT HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS MISS TARGET, HIT REFUGEES AT CAMP\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

31. [\*HEZBOLLAH BACKS BAN ON ATTACKING CIVILIANS< A LEADER SAID THE GUERRILLAS WOULD STOP IF< ISRAEL WENT BACK TO A 1993 UNDERSTANDING.\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

32. [\*Air attacks escalate between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

33. [\*ISRAELI SHELLS KILL 90 AT U.N. BASE< CIVILIANS NEAR SITE OF HEZBOLLAH\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

34. [\*Soldiers killed in southern Lebanon ; Peres says Hezbollah will pay for attacking army, SLA allies\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

35. [\*Attacks halted, for now; Israel , Hezbollah end two days of retaliatory strikes\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

36. [\*Amal-Hezbollah deal brings villagers a fragile peace: The bitterness left by battles between south Lebanon 's Shi'ite factions\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

37. [Lebanese unite to share grief, anger: But Israel continues its attacks against Hezbollah](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

38. [Follow Hezbollah lead, Palestinians are urged: 'If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon , it will pay a high price': Nasrallah](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

39. [DID TURKISH ARMY KILL THE FEMINIST KONCA KURIS?](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

40. [Shiite Muslims capture center stage in Lebanon](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

41. [Letters: Getting rid of Hezbollah is the key to Mideast peace](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"



**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

42. [Rockets injure 19 in Israeli towns: Hezbollah attack seen as revenge for assassination of leading Lebanese guerrilla](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

43. [LEBANESE ARMY SEALS TOWN IN SEARCH OF CLERIC / IT IS LOOKING FOR SHEIKH SOBHI TUFALI, WHO ONCE LED HEZBOLLAH. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CLASHES.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

44. [Turkish Terror Victim Espoused a Tolerant Islam](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

45. [GUERRILLA BOMBERS HEAT UP ISRAEL 'S WAR IN SOUTH LEBANON< HEZBOLLAH HAS SPRUNG AMBUSHES, KILLING FIVE SOLDIERS< THIS MONTH. AN ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION IS PREDICTED.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

46. [Syria flexes muscle against Iran](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

47. [Israeli forces kill leader of Hezbollah](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

48. [LEBANON : UNENDING CONFLICT; Israelis, Hezbollah step up violence with a new fervor](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

49. [ISRAEL -ALLIED FORCES FLEE OR SURRENDER FEW REMAINED AS HEZBOLLAH SWEEPED INTO THE LEBANESE BUFFER-ZONE VILLAGES VACATED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

50. [ISRAEL HITS LEBANON AFTER ROCKET ATTACK THE RETALIATION FOR YESTERDAY'S HEZBOLLAH STRIKE MAY COMPLICATE ISRAEL 'S WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON .](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

51. [FOR SOME LEBANESE, A TIME TO FEAR THOSE WHO WORK IN ISRAEL FEAR HEZBOLLAH'S REVENGE WHEN THE TROOPS GO HOME.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

52. [SOLDIER BURIED AS FEARS INTENSIFY ON ISRAELI BORDER ISRAEL WILL LEAVE LEBANON DESPITE HEZBOLLAH ATTACKS. SOME THINK THAT WILL MAKE NORTHERN ISRAEL VULNERABLE.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

53. [Lebanese irony: how economic woes aid Shiite radicals' fortunes](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

54. [Hostage issue figures in complex talks to halt Beirut violence](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

55. [Israelis See One Side of War](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

56. [Following Khomeini's edict](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

57. [SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST TURKEY THE NEW YORK TIMES](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

58. [Israel strikes south Lebanon](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

59. [Eager for Prosperity, Lebanese Keep Rebuilding](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

60. [SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST SPARKS OUTRAGE IN TURKEY](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

61. [Killing people loses friends](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

62. [\*Staying true to Khomeini\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

63. [\*Staying true to Khomeini\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

64. [\*Israel swaps prisoners for bodies\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

65. [\*Extremists invite tourists to Lebanon\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

66. [\*Turkey's rights record criticised\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

67. [7 KILLED AS GUERRILLAS, ISRAELI TROOPS CLASH](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

68. [ISRAELI PLANES STRIKE IN BEIRUT< ELECTRICITY TO MUCH OF THE CITY WAS KNOCKED OUT. THOUSANDS< OF LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS FLED THEIR HOMES AS ATTACKS RAGED.](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

69. [Lebanon Shi'ites celebrate as divisions deepen](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

70. [ISRAELI BOMBS KILL 5 GUERRILLAS](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

71. [THOUSANDS FLEE ISRAELI ASSAULT](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

72. [\*Attack claims 4 kids; Israelis blast ambulance; ships blockade part of Lebanon\*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

73. [\*Mass Graves In Turkey Put Attention On Terror Cell\*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

74. [\*Allegations of ties with Islamic militants haunt Turkish state\*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

75. [\*UNEASY TRUCE AFTER 65 DIE IN BEIRUT\*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

76. [\*MIDDLE EAST: Southern Lebanon in crossfire again\*](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000



77. [ISRAEL 'S AIM: HALT WAR OF ATTRITION, MAKE NEW RULES FOR COMBAT](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

78. [ISRAELI ROCKET KILLS REFUGEES](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

79. [Iran losing its popularity among Lebanese Shi'ites](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

80. [Change of force](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

81. [A violent circle in Lebanon](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

82. [Iran 's Khomeini: inspiration to many S. Lebanese Shiites](#)



**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

83. [Israel trades border blows](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

84. [Air of mistrust lingers amid a tenuous peace MIDDLE EAST](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

85. [DID TURKS USE MILITANTS AGAINST KURDS?](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

86. [Nasrallah warns Israel to leave Lebanon alone](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

87. [Children die as Israeli rockets hit ambulance](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

88. [\*Christian men of war recast as refugees\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

89. [\*The spiral of violence\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

90. [\*South Lebanon 's refugees return to devastation\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

91. [\*ISRAELI KILLED IN LEBANON ROCKET STRIKE\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

92. [\*BOTH SIDES SUSPEND RETALIATION IN LATEST LEBANON ATTACKS\*](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

93. ['We have no refuge': 150,000 caught in Lebanon 's heavy crossfire](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

94. [Israel 's buffer strip falls: Occupied South Lebanon in chaos as proxy militia flees advancing militants](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

95. [ISRAELI - LEBANESE FRONT SIMMERS DOWN SPORADIC SHELLING KILLED NO ONE. SOME SAID DEADLY ATTACKS SUCH AS THOSE IN PREVIOUS DAYS LIKELY WOULD RETURN.](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

96. [THE DAY INNOCENTS WERE PUT IN THE FRONT LINE; COMMENTARY](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to Dec 31, 2000

97. [Slaughter raises barely a whimper in Washington \\* MASSACRE IN LEBANON](#)**Client/Matter:** -None-**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors**Narrowed by:****Content Type**

News

**Narrowed by**

Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to

Dec 31, 2000

98. [Syrians move into Beirut to stop factional fighting](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

99. [HUNDREDS FLEE RAIN OF SHELLS ON COASTAL ROAD](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

100. [THE TANKS ROLL IN; ISRAELI TROOPS INVADE LEBANON AND BRING FEARS OF NEW CONFLICT WITH SYRIA](#)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

**Narrowed by:**

**Content Type**  
News

**Narrowed by**  
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jan 01, 1984 to  
Dec 31, 2000

## *Hizbullah Forces Lob New Threats at Israel*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 14, 1994, Monday

Copyright 1994 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** THE WORLD; INTERNATIONAL; Pg. 4

**Length:** 728 words

**Byline:** Peter Ford, Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

**Highlight:** Guerrilla call comes amid concerns that Israel may retaliate for ambush of four soldiers in 'security zone'

### **Body**

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WEEKEND threats by Hizbullah to shoot rockets at Israeli towns if Israel attacks targets in South Lebanon have raised concerns of renewed fighting along Israel's northern border.

A senior source in Hizbullah, the Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim militia, was quoted by a Beirut newspaper on Saturday warning that his men would resume Katyusha rocket attacks on civilian Israeli targets if the Israeli Army strikes at Hizbullah positions in villages in south Lebanon.

The threat came amid widespread concerns in Lebanon that Israel was preparing a punitive operation to retaliate for the death of four soldiers last Monday in a Hizbullah ambush inside the Israeli-occupied "security zone" in South Lebanon.

Israel and its Lebanese allies occupy the 10-mile-deep strip of land along Lebanon's southern border, using it as a buffer against guerrilla attacks. Hizbullah is fighting to evict Israeli troops from Lebanon.

Villagers are reportedly afraid of the prospect of a repeat of last July's "Operation Accountability," in which Israeli strikes on alleged Hizbullah bases killed more than 100 people, wounded nearly 500, and forced 400,000 people from their homes.

## Hizbullah Forces Lob New Threats at Israel

Last Monday's ambush on a routine Israeli patrol, in which four soldiers were killed and five were wounded, prompted Israeli chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, to pledge that "we will ultimately present the bill to Hizbullah... There is a war raging in Lebanon. We will have our tough moments and pay a price, but the other side will suffer very heavy losses, considerably more than we will."

The ambush immediately provoked a burst of airstrikes and artillery fire on suspected Hizbullah positions just north of Israel's self-declared security zone.

Israeli brings in heavy guns

Since the ambush, the Israeli Army has brought in a half-dozen heavy guns to the area of the ambush, more than doubling its artillery strength in that sector, according to Timor Goksel, spokesman for the United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon, UNIFIL. "They brought the guns in in broad daylight," he said. "They were obviously meant to be seen."

General Barak's threat of retaliation, and rumors of Israeli troop movements in the security zone, prompted the unnamed Hizbullah official to tell the Lebanese daily newspaper Addiyar that "the security of residents, especially women and children, in the south, is sacred to us, and if they are harmed, our retaliation will harm women and children in Israel." Such an outbreak of retaliatory shooting would end six months of calm for the residents of Israel's northern towns and villages.

Truce brokered last July

A week of fierce artillery and rocket barrages last July ended with a truce brokered by United States Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Under the agreement, Israel promised not to launch attacks outside the security zone in return for a Hizbullah pledge not to fire rockets at targets south of the Lebanese border. That effectively limited the fighting to the security zone itself.

Although little attention has been paid to the situation in the security zone in recent months, Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Amnon Shahak recently told a Knesset (parliament) committee that the Israeli Army was engaged in a "full-scale war" in southern

## Hizbullah Forces Lob New Threats at Israel

Lebanon.

**Hizbullah** launched 330 attacks during 1993, he reported, nearly twice as many as the year before. Although most of the attacks were on units of the South Lebanon Army, Israel's Lebanese militia allies, 27 Israeli soldiers were killed in the security zone last year, according to official figures.

After each major attack in which Israelis die, Israeli officials have called on Syria to rein in the Shiite guerrillas. Syrian

troops control the areas of eastern Lebanon where **Hizbullah** has established rear guard bases, and the group's weapons reportedly come from Iran, via Syria.

"Syria could influence and prevent the activities of **Hizbullah** in southern Lebanon and establish conditions to develop peace in the area," Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said last week. "Syria does not demonstrate, in deeds or in words, what we would have expected."

The Syrian government, however, has defended the right of Lebanese guerrillas to resist the Israeli occupation of the

security zone, and has shown no inclination to curb **Hizbullah**'s activities until it has reached an overall peace treaty with Israel, involving a return of the Golan Heights to Syrian sovereignty.

## Graphic

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Map, ISRAELI IMPOSED 'SECURITY ZONE'. STAFF

**Load-Date:** February 15, 1994

## *Iran Clamps Down on Hizbullah*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

October 10, 1989, Tuesday

Copyright 1989 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** THE WORLD; Lebanon; Pg. 3

**Length:** 1079 words

**Byline:** Edward Alan Yeranian, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

**Highlight:** But a generation of Beirut's Shiite youth has grown up with the urban fighter as a role model.

### **Body**

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BEIRUT'S teeming Shiite suburbs have long been forbidden ground to foreigners. In the period since February 1984 when the Lebanese Army lost control of west Beirut to Islamic militia groups, few have dared to set foot there.

Rumors of hostages languishing in basement dungeons somewhere between the neighborhoods of Bir al Abed and Ouzai have been enough to dampen the fervor of the most enthusiastic. But now the situation has begun to change.

Behind the shift is Iran's new president, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. He has convoked Hizbullah's top leadership at least three times since coming to power, according to moderate Shiite sources in Beirut.

Many of the hard-liners in Hizbullah dislike the new tone of Iran's leadership.

Mr. Rafsanjani has urged peaceful coexistence between Lebanon's warring factions in addition to sounding a stern condemnation of kidnappings, says one Shiite cleric who was recently in Tehran.

Security sources in west Beirut confirm that Imad Mughnieh, who is reputed to be the chief artisan of the kidnapping of foreigners in the Lebanese capital, is under house arrest in Tehran, as are several of his more zealous surrogates.

No one in Hizbullah, to be sure, has been seized by a sudden warmth of feeling toward the United States, long guilty in the minds of most of coddling Israel, their most hated foe.

"It is the duty of every Muslim to liberate Al Qods (Jerusalem)," according to Zayyed, Hizbullah's district commander in Bir al Abed. "We will not end our resistance to Zionism until Palestine is free."

Drawings of Al Aqsa mosque with a Star of David above it and the words "liberation, a duty," adorn walls throughout the southern suburbs. In addition, there is the slogan "Death to America" and the portrait of a young child crying as Israeli bombs fall on its head.

The stern visage of Ayatollah Khomeini is present on posters throughout the suburbs, overseeing the tangible achievements of his revolution.



## Iran Clamps Down on Hizbullah

Modern high-rise apartment blocks and well-organized social services have improved the lot of Lebanon's once-downtrodden Shiite minority, in part thanks to Iranian money.

Occasional palm trees and old Ottoman buildings with red tile roofs have survived urban sprawl in Bir al Abed as have sand drifts, blowing in from the nearby Mediterranean.

About 85 percent of the suburbs are controlled directly or indirectly by Hizbullah, which loosely surveys its turf by placing members in civilian dress to watch over most streets or buildings. Since Syria's demilitarization of the southern suburbs last January, armed Hizbullah checkpoints have disappeared from street corners.

Ahmed, a Hizbullah official with gentle eyes and a soft smile that belie the Kalashnikov rifle by his side, asked matter of factly what people thought of Hizbullah abroad. As if to anticipate the eventual negative response he insists, "We just try to live by the precepts of Islam. It is like we were in (the Iranian religious center at) Qom here. People are very religious."

Hizbullah has gained popularity as the authentic Islamic resistance movement at the expense of the more Western-oriented Shiite militia Amal.

Amal has been practically evicted from the southern suburbs, although it remains strong in southern Lebanon.

"Amal is a tool of the Syrians," according to Ahmed. "The Syrians don't set foot in Bir al Abed. And if they do, no one talks to them."

Not everyone is positive about Hizbullah. Mounir, a 19-year-old who also lives in the southern suburbs, is critical. "These people want to send us back to the Middle Ages. For them, women should swim in chadors and men must not play cards, because it's un-Islamic."

In the streets, a radio can be heard broadcasting the Hizbullah radio station, which plays a liturgy to Imam Musa Sadr, the late Shiite religious leader who disappeared while visiting Libya in 1978. People beat their chests as a sheikh sings the incantation.

The home of Muhammad Hussein Fadlallah, Hizbullah's spiritual guide, is in the Beirut suburb of Hart Hreik, just up the road from the ruins of the former Palestinian refugee camp of Borj el Barajneh.

The scenery is lunar: buildings with stories collapsed upon each other and piles of rubble lining the streets.

Sayyid Fadlallah wastes no time in proclaiming his cause. "Violence by the Shiite community in Lebanon is a reaction to Israeli violence against it," he complains. "The foreign press call Shiites terrorists, but they never stop to condemn the Israelis who slaughter innocent children and civilians every time their planes raid Lebanon. Isn't that a crime?"

With respect to the group's alleged goal of setting up an Islamic republic in Lebanon, Fadlallah is deliberately vague. "Islam solves all of man's problems, so why shouldn't we live by Islam?"

Concerning foreign hostages held by groups associated with Hizbullah, he deflects the question deftly; first denying involvement in the kidnappings, then subtly defending them.

"We are against the taking of hostages which is cruel. But the suffering of the Lebanese people has led to many acts of cruelty on all sides."

It is widely assumed in Beirut that Fadlallah has no direct control over the hostages - whose fate is variously attributed to Sheiks Sobih al-Tofeili and Abbas Mussawi. But it is not true, either, that he has no influence in the matter whatsoever.

Ayoub, a Shiite who lives in the Bekaa Valley town of Baalbeck, now under Hizbullah control, described Fadlallah's influence in Hizbullah. "He is not a military leader within the group, but when he speaks the faithful listen to him."

## Iran Clamps Down on Hizbullah

Indeed, Fadlallah's Friday sermons at the Imam Reda mosque in Bir al Abed are the most-attended services at any Beirut mosque. Overflowing crowds fill the streets outside the ornately carved stone building as loudspeakers spread his message.

If many **Hizbullah** extremists wear the blank look of "true believers," still others blend in easily with the population. Young militiamen resemble their counterparts on both sides of the demarcation line: kids without an education, earning a living the only way they know how.

"The real cause of chaos in Lebanon today," according to one French journalist who used to live in the southern suburbs, "is that an entire generation of children has grown up with the urban street warrior as its role model.

"**Hizbullah** definitely has some legitimate causes," he continues. "But their tactics have gotten them nowhere, if not into the annals of Lebanese terrorism."

## Graphic

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PHOTO: BEIRUT: **Hizbullah** demonstrates on Aug. 5 in the Bir el Abed neighborhood against Israel's abduction of Muslim Shiite Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid., M. ATTAR/SYGMA

## *Triumphant Hizbullah face the test of peace*

Guardian Weekly

June 14, 2000

Copyright 2000 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL NEWS; Pg. 3

**Length:** 1277 words

**Byline:** Brian Whitaker in Beirut

**Highlight:** The force that ousted Israel has a highly visible political presence in Lebanon. What will happen at the polls?

### **Body**

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Abdullah Qasir, a **Hizbullah** member of the Lebanese parliament, quotes a Koranic verse: "If you are rude, people will not like you."

Rude? The party that became notorious in the 1980s for bombing embassies and kidnapping foreigners is now preaching against rudeness.

Calling itself "The party of God" and incorporating a gun in its emblem may not be the best way to win friends, but these days **Hizbullah** wants to be loved, by Christians and Sunni Muslims as well as by its fellow Shias.

The Israeli retreat from southern Lebanon has certainly brought **Hizbullah** respect and admiration, if not love. Almost everyone in Lebanon believes that its long guerrilla war, in which 1,375 "martyrs" died, has brought them liberation. In the Arab world generally, it is difficult to underestimate the psychological power of its achievement.

Since the establishment of Israel in 1948, through two full-scale wars (in 1967 and 1973), the Arabs have known nothing but defeat. Not only has this coloured political discourse for two generations, it has become deeply embedded in the culture: a constant theme of films, books and poetry. All that changed last week. "This is the first Arab victory," the **Hizbullah** spokesman Hussein Naboulsi says. "The first time the Israelis have left an Arab land in defeat."

The conclusion he would like the world to draw is that **Hizbullah's** methods work and should be copied elsewhere. Already, taunting comments can be heard in the streets: why have the Syrians and Palestinians failed where the Lebanese have succeeded?

There is, however, still unfinished business with Israel: issues regarding hostages, prisoners and, above all, the return of the Shebaa farms, a border area claimed by Lebanon which Israel says belongs to Syria. "If the Israelis do not leave that part of Lebanon the resistance will continue," Mr Naboulsi says.

But he adds: "We're not in a hurry. We'll wait and see." After years of conflict, the Lebanese people clearly want peace, and **Hizbullah** has a lot to lose by resuming the armed struggle.

No party could have hoped for a more auspicious start to an election campaign. Lebanon is due to go to the polls in August, and **Hizbullah** -- which has seven MPs -- hopes its popularity will make it a significant contender. But for that to happen it must appeal beyond its core Shia constituency.

## Triumphant Hizbullah face the test of peace

What began in 1982 as an underground movement during the civil war, and quickly earned a reputation as the most daring of Lebanon's armed groups, is today very much above ground: it has a television station, a radio station, a newspaper and a website ([www.hizbollah.org](http://www.hizbollah.org)).

Its big stockmarket investments make it an important stakeholder in Lebanon's economy, which some regard as limiting its revolutionary ambitions.

One key to its success is that it combines guns with good works. When effective government was lacking in much of Lebanon it set up its own social security network, providing jobs, health care and education. A European aid worker in south Lebanon says: "During the Israeli occupation, if someone's house was hit by a rocket **Hizbullah** would be round within two or three days to rebuild it."

This has undoubtedly helped it win favour, though critics accuse it of cynically ingratiating itself with certain groups. It has also created expectations that may be difficult to fulfil, particularly as central government reasserts itself in the south and tries to take over some of **Hizbullah**'s functions.

Its welfare, cultural and sporting organisations are its main recruiting grounds. Anyone can join. "They don't have to be committed to all the rules, but they must support **Hizbullah** politically," Mr Qasir says.

Once they are in these peripheral organisations, volunteers are assessed for loyalty, ideological orientation and discipline, and if they pass the test may be invited to join the party. A particular personality type is said to be favored: those with good listening skills who will implement party decisions without question.

The selection process accounts for the party's extraordinary discipline. Mr Qasir says: "You might find a very poor **Hizbullah** member, but he never thinks of stealing."

The party claims "tens of thousands" of members, but key decisions are made by a close-knit group of no more than 10 people, headed by Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, who took over in 1992 after the Israeli army killed Sheikh Abbas Mussawi.

At the outset **Hizbullah** was funded mainly by Iran, to the tune of \$ 500m a year in the mid-80s, plus unspecified amounts, probably running to hundreds of millions, for weaponry. That has fallen dramatically over the years, and today the Iranian government support is thought to be no more than \$ 20m annually.

Realising that the good times might not last, **Hizbullah** invested heavily wherever the opportunity arose: in import and export businesses, in banks, agriculture, property, department stores and petrol stations. This provides a steady income, and the party's finances are said to be relatively clean and free from embezzlement. The other important source of funds is individual donations through the *khoms* system, which requires Shia Muslims to donate a fifth of their annual income to charity.

Because of Lebanon's unique cultural and religious mix -- in a population of 3.5m there are at least 18 sects -- **Hizbullah** has become more tolerant of opposing views than Islamist groups elsewhere. It does not seek to impose its own code of behaviour on other Lebanese, although this was not always the case: it used to run "morality patrols" on the beach but met with so much opposition that it abandoned them.

Today Lebanon is probably the only Arab country where **women** walk in the street not only with their heads uncovered, but some with their shoulders and legs uncovered as well.

In local elections in Harat Haraik, an area of Beirut where it dominates, the party amazed its opponents by insisting that a Christian should become mayor. Mr Naboulsi says: "We don't impose our views on others; we let people make their own choice. If you have kids and force them to do things, they will hate you. If you are a friend to them they will love you. Islam is not a force, it's discussion and dialogue."

He smiles constantly, the way born-again Christians smile in the United States. Some are suspicious, but Nizar Hamzeh, an expert on **Hizbullah** at the American University of Beirut, believes that it is sincere, up to a point.

## Triumphant Hizbullah face the test of peace

It accepts freedom and democracy, not for their own sakes but because of local conditions, he says. "**Hizbullah** is pragmatic and has decided to perform a contract with the wicked, but the achievement of the Islamic state will always be there as a goal."

Electorally, its problem is that Lebanon's political system has a built-in "sectarian ceiling", designed to prevent any religious group from achieving dominance. This means, in Mr Hamzeh's view, that no matter how popular **Hizbullah** becomes it may be unable to win more than 10 of the 128 parliamentary seats directly, though it will probably make alliances with other parties. "The challenge for **Hizbullah** is how to recruit non-Shias. It has succeeded with some Christians and other sects, but those remain few," he says.

It is not just a matter of persuading them to support the party but, ultimately, converting them to an ideology that is rooted in the political theories of the late Ayatollah Khomeini. To **Hizbullah** activists, those theories are so obviously correct that dialogue, tolerance and avoiding rudeness will surely be enough to win others over. The question is what **Hizbullah** will do if others fail to see the light.

More on **Hizbullah** at [www.guardianunlimited.co.uk/israel](http://www.guardianunlimited.co.uk/israel)

## Graphic

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Photo, By God and by the gun . . . **Hizbullah** prepares to do battle in a Lebanon freed from war, Ali Hashisho

**Load-Date:** June 26, 2000

## *Israel, Hezbollah swap prisoners, remains*

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

July 22, 1996, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 883 words

**Byline:** REUTER; AP; NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Tearful relatives welcomed Lebanese prisoners and the bodies of more than 100 guerrillas swapped yesterday for the remains of two Israeli soldiers in a deal between arch foes Israel and Hezbollah.

Turbaned Hezbollah clerics and thousands of bearded militants and weeping relatives of the dead guerrillas received in the southern village of Kfar Tibnit 123 coffins brought by the Red Cross from the Lebanon-Israel border.

"Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar (God is Greatest). The heroes have arrived," chanted a crowd of relatives and militants as the coffins, draped in yellow Hezbollah flags, arrived at the group's Beirut bastion hours later.

In exchange, Israel received from Hezbollah the bodies of soldiers Yosef Fink and Rahamim Alsheikh, held for a decade and flown to Israel earlier yesterday. Hezbollah also freed 17 fighters of Israel's South Lebanon Army militia ally.

The SLA, which helps Israel hold an anti-guerrilla zone in south Lebanon, freed 20 captives from Khiam jail and prepared to free 25 more later under the deal brokered by German mediators.

SLA sources said the second batch of prisoners, all men, were driven to Kfar Tibnit checkpoint in a Red Cross bus, like the first group which included three women. Many of the freed captives had been held for more than 10 years.

A convoy of 17 trucks carrying the sign of the International Committee of the Red Cross brought in the coffins of the guerrillas, killed in clashes with Israeli forces.

Hezbollah militants draped the numbered coffins in the group's flag showing a fist bearing an AK-47 assault rifle before Hezbollah ambulances brought the bodies to Beirut.

The pro-Iranian group, also known as Party of God, is expected to hold a mass funeral later in the week for the dead guerrillas, who belong to Hezbollah and other Muslim and leftist anti-Israeli factions.

The captives freed from Khiam, three of them women, were taken in a Red Cross bus from the hilltop jail in Israel's south Lebanon occupation zone to Kfar Tibnit.

Hezbollah deputy chief Sheik Na'eem Qassem, who welcomed the freed captives in the nearby town of Nabatiyeh, said Hezbollah will continue its efforts to free all the captives held by Israel and the SLA. There are about 70 Lebanese prisoners in Israel and some 160 would remain at SLA-run Khiam after yesterday's releases.

Israel , Hezbollah swap prisoners, remains

**Hezbollah** fighters would continue to attack Israeli troops until they oust them from south Lebanon, Qassem said.

It was the first major swap since 1991 when the SLA freed 51 captives and Israel returned nine guerrillas' bodies in a deal that paved the way for release of western captives in Lebanon.

SLA sources in Lebanon said earlier that 141 bodies would be handed over, 123 from Israel and 18 held by the militia. The 17 SLA fighters released by **Hezbollah** refused to enter into the Israeli-held zone, preferring to stay outside.

Red Cross delegates received the Israelis' remains at the Shiite Muslim group's press office in Beirut's southern suburb. They handed the bodies over at Beirut airport to German officials headed by Bernd Schmidbauer who sealed the deal Friday after talks in with **Hezbollah** leaders.

**Hezbollah** has been fighting to dislodge Israeli forces from the south Lebanon border enclave carved by the Jewish state in 1985 to shield its northern towns from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

The exchange followed three months of secret negotiations brokered by a German official, Bernd Schmidbauer, an aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl. It kindled hopes for better cooperation between Israel and the guerrillas, whose battles erupted into widespread fighting in April.

Acceptance of the terms marked an important policy decision Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who said he hoped it would lead to further flexibility from **Hezbollah**, also known as the Party of God, and its two major sponsors, Syria and Iran.

"The return of our dead is a step in the right direction," Netanyahu said. "I hope that we can anticipate additional steps in the near future."

The exchange reflected an easing of policy by Israel, which had insisted that any further swap include information about Capt. Ron Arad, a navigator in the Air Force who is the only Israeli missing in Lebanon known to have survived capture.

Israel has maintained for years that Arad is being held by Iranian elements in Lebanon, but officials conceded that the accord leading to the exchange yesterday provided them with no new information about him. **Hezbollah** and Iran have denied having any information about Arad's whereabouts.

Among its Shiite prisoners, Israel still holds two top **Hezbollah** officials, Sheik Abdel Karim Obeid and Mustafa Dirani, kidnapped by its commandos as potential bargaining chips, and Netanyahu expressed hope that yesterday's agreement might lead to a further exchange.

A similar sentiment was voiced by the German intermediary Schmidbauer, who traveled to Lebanon, Syria and Iran during what he described as "very difficult" negotiations. He said he was determined to pursue efforts aimed at winning the return of all prisoners and of those missing in action.

- In the first major swap since 1991, Israel receives bodies of two soldiers in exchange for Lebanese prisoners and bodies of more than 100 guerrillas.

## Graphic

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Photo: AFP / Members of **Hezbollah** carry one of 123 coffins containing remains of combatants returned by Israel.

**Load-Date:** July 23, 1996

Israel , Hezbollah swap prisoners, remains

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End of Document



## Lebanon: Shiite Muslims bury Hezbollah 'martyr'

The Ottawa Citizen

April 21, 1996, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A4

**Length:** 966 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWS

**Dateline:** Beirut

### **Body**

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DEFIANT MOURNERS: Shiite Muslims gathered Saturday to celebrate the life and death of one of the 'soldiers' in the battle to evict Israel from a strip of land in south Lebanon. Few seemed prouder than the young Hezbollah guerrilla's mother.

Haji Umm Hammoud Cherri was a defiant mourner Saturday as more than 1,000 Shiite Muslims converged on a cemetery to bury her young anti-Israel guerrilla son, his casket wrapped in the fiery red Hezbollah flag.

It was the second time in eight years that Cherri has buried a son killed in Hezbollah's stubborn armed struggle to evict the Jewish state from a strip of land it occupies in south Lebanon. Cherri said she has four more sons prepared to sacrifice their lives for Hezbollah's cause.

"I am proud," said Cherri, sitting among female mourners draped in the traditional black covering of fundamentalist Muslim women. "I am very happy, for now I have two martyrs. For freedom and liberty the price is not high. I am able to give more."

After she spoke, the women around her erupted into angry chants of "Death to Israel, enemy of humanity" as men covered Ahmed Cherri's coffin with fresh soil. It is a temporary grave until the latest mini war between Israeli forces and Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God) guerrillas ends and his body can be moved to his native southern village.

The 23-year-old fighter died Wednesday in a shelling attack on Baarchit, a Hezbollah stronghold at the edge of Israel's so-called security zone in south Lebanon. He was among six Hezbollah fighters reportedly killed since the fighting began 11 days ago.

Most who gathered to pay homage to the "martyr" were from south Lebanon. They are among the nearly 400,000 who have fled north to escape the massive Israeli bombardment of their towns and villages. Those who lingered after the burial were anxious to sing the praises of Cherri and vent their rage at Israel for launching its so-called Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Anger against Israel has reached a fever pitch since Israeli shells hit a UN camp on the outskirts of the southern town of Qana Thursday, killing at least 75 Lebanese civilians and wounding scores of others who had sought refuge at the compound housing Fiji peacekeepers

## Lebanon : Shiite Muslims bury Hezbollah 'martyr'

Though some are upset at Hezbollah for firing Katushya rockets into northern Israel from positions that risk retaliatory strikes on Lebanese civilians, most Lebanese still oppose ending the armed resistance before Israel vacates their country. "We don't want to kill anyone," said Haj. "But they are killing in our country without right."

Others vowed no end to the resistance -- which Israel calls "terrorism" -- until south Lebanon is freed of Israeli forces. They dismissed Israel's latest military offensive against the guerrillas as a losing proposition, citing its inability so far to crush the warmaking ability of the Hezbollah militia. Even when a ceasefire is negotiated to end the current fighting, they said it won't halt Hezbollah's targetting of Israeli forces in the "security zone."

They also argued that the devastating impact on the civilian population of the Israeli air raids and shelling has boosted support for Hezbollah.

"We're still alive, we can still have children," said Mohammed Cherri, 34, a businessman and a distant relative of the dead Hezbollah fighter. "He (Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres) can't destroy all the people."

## UPDATE

The Issue: The fighting between Israeli forces and Hezbollah guerrillas.

What's New: Shiite Muslims bury one of six Hezbollah fighters reportedly killed in an Israeli shelling attack in south Lebanon.

What it means: The funeral was a chance for supporters of Hezbollah to demonstrate their support for the guerrilla campaign to evict Israel from south Lebanon. They say Israel's bloody offensive into Lebanon has boosted support for Hezbollah among the population.

Local groups call for ceasefire

Local Lebanese and Jewish groups are supporting international calls for a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah forces in Lebanon.

Nearly 1,000 members of the Lebanese community tied up traffic in the Byward Market during the noon hour Saturday when they marched to protest recent Israeli shelling of southern Lebanon.

The rally concluded on Parliament Hill, where demonstrators stood in the rain to hear speeches denouncing Israel's part in the latest Middle East confrontation.

"We support the Lebanese government's position, which calls for an immediate ceasefire and for the withdrawal of Israel from Lebanon," said Oussama El-Mohtar, a spokesman for the March 14th Committee for Lebanon, which is named after the date of a 1978 incursion by Israel into Lebanon.

Lawrence Greenberg, president of the Ottawa Jewish Community Council, said the local Jewish community also hopes efforts to negotiate a ceasefire will be successful, but he said Israel has the "absolute right to protect its borders and there has been trouble on that northern border for at least 15 years."

Greenberg also said Jews "extend their heartfelt condolences" to the families of the more than 100 Lebanese civilians who died Thursday after Israeli artillery hit a United Nations refugee centre.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien issued a statement deploring the attack and Canada has also urged a negotiated ceasefire and to do everything they can to get the Islamic extremists that form Hezbollah under control.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said he regretted the carnage and blamed the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas for launching Katyusha rockets at Israel from near the UN base. Hezbollah, meanwhile, denied firing from near the post.

The Israeli attack prompted an international outcry and increased pressure on all sides to end the 10-day mini-war.

## Graphic

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Photo: Reuter Photo / FUNERAL PROCESSION: Relatives of Hezbollah fighter, among six reportedly killed since the fighting began 11 days ago, mourn in Beirut's southern suburbs on Saturday

**Load-Date:** April 22, 1996

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End of Document

## *Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state*

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 27, 2000 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** Canada & World; Pg. A6; News

**Length:** 481 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** Bint Jbeil, Lebanon

### **Body**

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**Hezbollah**'s triumphant leader warned Israel Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

AP

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea -- that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil, safe and happy and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of **Hezbollah** guerrillas killed in the fighting.

Draped from the podium was **Hezbollah**'s logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "**Hezbollah** will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. **Hezbollah**'s yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colourful headscarves of **women** and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising **Hezbollah**. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "**Hezbollah** is the victor." Others chanted: "**Hezbollah** is brave, moving forward."

## Hezbollah's leader taunts Israeli state

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere."

"In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments, at a minimum, to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

## Graphic

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Lebanese children make a "V" victory sign as Hezbollah supporters wave flags of the movement at the Fatma gate in the northeastern Israeli border town of Metulla Friday. Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas and Israeli troops are patrolling the Israel-Lebanese border as changes to fortify the fence are being taken after the last Israeli soldier left southern Lebanon Thursday, ending 18 years of Israeli occupation. Associated Press photo: Elizabeth Dalziel

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2002

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End of Document

## 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN HEZBOLLAH REVENGE

The Toronto Star

August 18, 1999, Wednesday, Edition 1

Copyright 1999 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 356 words

### **Body**

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MARKABA, Lebanon (Reuters-AP) - Hezbollah guerrillas avenging a commander's slaying killed two Israeli soldiers and wounded seven others in clashes yesterday in southern Lebanon, a day after the death of a senior guerrilla officer in a car bomb.

The Israeli army, giving the toll from several hours of fighting, also said its soldiers killed three Hezbollah gunmen inside the occupied zone in south Lebanon.

Israel sent its air force on several bombing runs during a fierce four-hour artillery, mortar and rocket battle in Wadi Slouki, a valley in no-man's land across from the Israeli-occupied zone.

It was the most serious fighting since Israeli air raids targeted bridges and power stations in central Lebanon in June, killing 10 people.

The casualties were Israel's first combat fatalities in Lebanon since Prime Minister Ehud Barak took office in July.

The incident started when soldiers patrolling the zone's central sector spotted guerrillas laying mines, Hezbollah's weapon of choice against Israeli troops, an Israeli army spokesperson said. The fighting continued as soldiers chased retreating Hezbollah gunmen.

The death of the two Israelis, in a hail of light arms and rocket fire, raised to 12 the number of soldiers killed in Lebanon so far this year. Three of the injured soldiers sustained severe wounds, the army said.

Meanwhile, in the Hezbollah stronghold of south Beirut, a funeral was held for commander Ali Hassan Deeb, better known as Abu Hassan, who was killed by roadside bombs Monday in the southern port city of Sidon.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah and the Lebanese government blamed Israel for the bombing. No one has claimed responsibility. But yesterday, the Israeli army suggested Deeb may have been blown up by a rival Lebanese group.

More than 8,000 Hezbollah supporters marched in searing heat behind Abu Hassan's coffin. Women in black flowing robes followed the men, who beat their chests in traditional Shiite Muslim mourning or waved clenched fists in the air.

The crowd shouted slogans such as: "Death to America! Death to Israel," "Israel is the enemy of Islam" and "America is the Great Satan."

## 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED IN HEZBOLLAH REVENGE

## Graphic

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<CREDIT> LARA FAISAL/REUTERS </CREDIT> <SUBJECT> COMMANDER BURIED: </SUBJECT> Hezbollah commandos lead a funeral procession of thousands yesterday in Beirut for Ali Hassan Deeb, known as Abu Hassan. Hezbollah accuses Israel of killing him with a car bomb in Southern Lebanon on Monday.

**Load-Date:** August 18, 1999

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End of Document

## *Israel, Hezbollah exchange rocket fire*

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

April 17, 1996, Wednesday

Copyright 1996 Telegraph Herald

**Section:** Front, Pg. a 1

**Length:** 589 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, Lebanon

### **Body**

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Israeli aircraft struck suspected rocket-launching pads in southern Lebanon today and Hezbollah guerrillas fired rockets at Israel, as diplomats intensified efforts to broker a truce on the last active Arab-Israeli war front.

Israeli fighter jets teamed up with Cobra helicopter gunships to attack the suspected launching sites, Lebanese security sources said. There was no word of casualties, and it was unclear if any rocket launchers were hit.

Hezbollah guerrillas fired two early-morning rocket barrages into northern Israel and the border enclave Israel controls in southern Lebanon.

One rocket fell near an apartment building in the Israeli border city of Kiryat Shemona, slightly injuring one man and damaging homes and cars, the army said.

Israeli gunners retaliated by pounding suspected guerrilla targets across southern Lebanon. Lebanese police said two people were wounded in the shellfire.

With the violence a week old and showing no sign of abating, three foreign airlines - British Airways, Kuwait Airways and Swiss Air - canceled flights today, according to officials at Beirut airport.

The Israeli army has bombarded Lebanon with thousands of artillery shells and its air force has conducted hundreds of sorties in an effort to end guerrilla rocket attacks on Israel.

Forty-six people - including 39 Lebanese civilians - have been killed and 170 wounded since hostilities escalated last week. About 400,000 Lebanese have fled southern Lebanon to the relative safety of the north, and an estimated 17,000 Israelis have fled south to escape Hezbollah rocket attacks.

Today, Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah swore to keep up the attacks until Israel halts its military campaign. The offensive, he said, cannot break the Shiite Muslim guerrillas' will.

"The only way for (Israeli) settlements to be secure is for our civilians - children, women, farmers - and villages to be safe from aggression," he said.

President Clinton blamed the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas for the fighting. At a news conference in Tokyo today, he said U.S. diplomats were trying to arrange a cease-fire.



## Israel , Hezbollah exchange rocket fire

At the same time, France - Lebanon's former colonial ruler and a close backer - was pursuing its own cease-fire plan.

French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette has visited Israel, Lebanon, and Syria - the real power broker in Lebanon - and was headed back to Israel today.

"I hope to formulate a specific plan for a cease-fire mechanism," he said in Beirut on Tuesday.

The French and American proposals have not been officially disclosed. But according to Israel, Egyptian and Lebanese press reports, both plans are based on a 1993 U.S.-sponsored verbal understanding under which Israel and **Hezbollah** agreed not to attack civilians.

Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, of Lebanon, said the French and American proposals would be "difficult to accept, but we will study them carefully." He left for London today for a meeting with officials, then is to continue to Cairo for a meeting of the 22-nation Arab League.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said today that the U.S. attempts to broker a cease-fire were still in an early stage. Peres said he was holding out for a written agreement, and not a verbal understanding such as the one in July 1993 that ended a similar Israeli military strike against the guerrillas.

He also noted that Israel didn't expect a truce to be a cure-all.

"We don't want to raise expectations," Peres said during a tour of an army base in northern Israel. "We cannot expect from this campaign a solution to all the problems."

**Load-Date:** December 9, 1996

## HEZBOLLAH DRIVEN OUT, CLAIMS AMAL; LEBANON

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

January 11, 1989 Wednesday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; Pg. 9

**Length:** 533 words

**Byline:** Source: Reuter, The New York Times

### **Body**

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BEIRUT, Tuesday: The proSyrian Amal militia said it had taken over most positions of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God) in south Lebanon as Tehran tried to end inter-Shi'ite fighting which has killed 50 people this year.

An Amal spokesman said its militiamen drove Hezbollah militants from the southern village of Jubah yesterday after a three-pronged attack under heavy artillery cover. But Hezbollah denied the claim.

The fighting reflects a longrunning struggle between the two groups - the pro-Syrian militia Amal and the Iranian-sponsored fundamentalists of the Party of God - for power in southern Lebanon, as well as for the ideological and religious loyalties

of Lebanon's Shi'ites. Amal said it controlled 90 per cent of the mountainous Iqlim al-Tufah area, 60 kilometres south of Beirut, following ferocious mortar and artillery battles which erupted 10 days ago.

The Iranian News Agency (IRNA) said the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Ali-Mohammad Besharati, left Tehran for Damascus yesterday to mediate between the warring groups.

IRNA said Mr Besharati was carrying a message from President Ali Khamenei to Hezbollah and Amal leaders, and would hold talks with them in Lebanon.

Iranian sources said Mr Mohammed Rafsanjani, brother of the Speaker of Iran's Parliament, Mr Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, paid a brief visit to Beirut and held talks with top Shi'ite religious leaders.

Mr Rafsanjani met Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual mentor of Hezbollah, in Beirut's southern suburbs.

Sources close to Mr Fadlallah said the two agreed that "all measures should be taken to stop the bloodletting".

The Iranian envoy also met the vice-president of the Higher Shi'ite Council, Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddine.

He was reported as saying: "Contacts will start in 24 hours to solve the problem. There are ideas and steps under consideration."

## HEZBOLLAH DRIVEN OUT, CLAIMS AMAL LEBANON

Iran, which supports Hezbollah financially and militarily, sent several envoys to Beirut during previous fighting between Amal and Hezbollah in their struggle for the allegiance of Lebanon's 1.5 million Shi'ites.

One Muslim political source said the rift between the two rival Shi'ite groups was too deep to be bridged by political means, and that the inter-Shi'ite conflict would not end until one side overpowered the other.

An Amal political official, Mr Ali Khreis, said: "Amal's decision is to wipe out all Hezbollah positions in the south because its presence has become a danger to our people in the area."

A Hezbollah official declared: "Our fighters have vowed to fight until death."

There were no accurate figures of yesterday's casualties. The official National News Agency said two people were killed and seven wounded.

Thousands of villagers have fled their homes to safer areas.

Police said 15,000 civilians from seven villages in the district, Iqlim al Toffah, south-east of the port city of Sidon, had arrived in safer parts of the south, while others had gone to the Bekaa region in eastern Lebanon.

A few civilians who reached Beirut told of fierce fighting between the two groups. They said that combatants engaged in house-to-house and sometimes in hand-to-hand fighting, and that the scene of the battles was littered with bodies.

## Graphic

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Picture by REUTER Shi'ite women mourn relatives killed in fighting between Lebanese factions.

**Load-Date:** July 20, 2007

## *Hezbollah calls on Palestinians to rise up*

The Cambridge Reporter

May 27, 2000 Saturday

Copyright 2000 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

**Section:** CANADA AND WORLD; Pg. C4

**Length:** 514 words

**Dateline:** BINT JBEIL, LEBANON

### **Body**

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Hezbollah's triumphant leader warned Israel on yesterday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.  
AP

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea - that time is gone," he said.

"You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of Hezbollah guerrillas killed in the fighting.

Draped from the podium was Hezbollah's logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "Hezbollah will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. Hezbollah's yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colourful headscarves of women and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising Hezbollah. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "Hezbollah is the victor." Others chanted: "Hezbollah is brave, moving forward."

## Hezbollah calls on Palestinians to rise up

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere."

"In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments at a minimum to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

Israel completed its troop pullout from Lebanon before dawn Wednesday, six weeks ahead of its self-imposed July 7 deadline. Israeli-allied militiamen dropped their weapons and fled in the face of advancing guerrillas and their supporters.

## Graphic

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AP; Palestinian activists from the militant Islamic movement Hamas burn an Israeli flag during a protest march in Gaza City yesterday in support of hunger striking Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Eighty-two men and 10 women have joined prisoners in their hunger strike since it began 28 days ago to free 1,600 prisoners held by Israel, seen as freedom fighters by Palestinians.

**Load-Date:** December 2, 2002

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End of Document

## *Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says*

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

May 27, 2000 Saturday Final Edition

Copyright 2000 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A12; News

**Length:** 435 words

**Dateline:** BINT JBEIL;LEBANON

### **Body**

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BINT JBEIL, LEBANON -- Hezbollah's triumphant leader warned Israel Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

Associated Press

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea -- that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of Hezbollah guerrillas killed in the fighting. Draped from the podium was Hezbollah's logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "Hezbollah will conquer."

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Leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, Hezbollah says

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere. In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said.

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2002

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End of Document

## **HEZBOLLAH LEADER WARNS ISRAEL, URGES PALESTINIANS TO REVOLT**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

May 27, 2000, Saturday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

Copyright 2000 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

**Section:** NEWS, Pg. 4

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** The Associated Press

**Dateline:** BINT JBEIL, LEBANON

### **Body**

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\* Sheik Hassan Nasrallah says, however, that his guerrilla group is not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

**Hezbollah's** triumphant leader warned Israel on Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals. He also urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from southern Lebanon to rise up anew against the Israelis.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made it clear that it was too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it has periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea - that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276 - the total of **Hezbollah's** guerrillas killed in the fighting. Draped from the podium was **Hezbollah's** logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "**Hezbollah** will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, thrusting clenched fists in the air. **Hezbollah's** yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colorful headscarves of **women** and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising **Hezbollah**. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated in a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan, "**Hezbollah** is the victor." Others chanted, "**Hezbollah** is brave, moving forward."



## HEZBOLLAH LEADER WARNS ISRAEL , URGES PALESTINIANS TO REVOLT

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying that if Palestinians wait for the international community, "You will get nowhere."

"In order to liberate your land, you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs, you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry, but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments at a minimum to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

Israel completed its troop pullout from Lebanon before dawn Wednesday - six weeks ahead of its self-imposed July 7 deadline - as Israeli-allied militiamen dropped their weapons and fled in the face of advancing guerrillas and their supporters.

U.N. teams, meanwhile, fanned out in southern Lebanon to ensure Israel has withdrawn completely.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said Friday in New York that he would send several thousand peacekeeping troops to southern Lebanon once the United Nations has formally verified that Israel's withdrawal from a border zone it occupied for 18 years was complete. Annan said he expected to have the certification of Israel's withdrawal "in the next few days."

**Load-Date:** May 27, 2000

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End of Document

## *Israelis and Hezbollah Exchange Prisoners and Bodies*

The New York Times

July 22, 1996, Monday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 1996 The New York Times Company

**Distribution:** Foreign Desk

**Section:** Section A; ; Section A; Page 6; Column 3; Foreign Desk ; Column 3;

**Length:** 905 words

**Byline:** By DOUGLAS JEHL

By DOUGLAS JEHL

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM, July 21

### **Body**

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Israel and the Iranian-backed guerrilla group Hezbollah today carried out the largest swap of prisoners and bodies since their conflict in southern Lebanon began 14 years ago.

The exchange followed three months of secret negotiations brokered by a German official, and it kindled hopes for better cooperation between Israel and the guerrillas, whose battles erupted into widespread fighting in April.

Neither Israel nor Hezbollah relinquished the prisoners most eagerly sought by the other side. But by day's end, the two sides were well on their way to completing a handover that is to grant freedom to 45 Shiite Muslims from a jail in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon and the return of more than 100 Hezbollah bodies in exchange for the remains of two Israeli soldiers last seen in 1986.

Acceptance of the terms marked an important policy decision by Israel's new Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, who said he hoped that it would lead to further flexibility from Hezbollah, also known as the Party of God, and its two major sponsors, Syria and Iran.

"The return of our dead is a step in the right direction," Mr. Netanyahu said this afternoon. "I hope that we can anticipate additional steps in the near future."

The exchange, carried out via an aircraft, trucks and buses that shuttled freed prisoners and coffins across the Israeli-Lebanese frontier, was the first between the sides since 1991.

It reflected an easing of policy by Israel, which had insisted that any further swap include information about Capt. Ron Arad, a navigator in the Air Force who is the only Israeli missing in Lebanon known to have survived capture.

Israel has maintained for years that Captain Arad is being held by Iranian elements in Lebanon, but officials conceded that the accord leading to the exchange today provided them with no new information about him. Hezbollah and Iran have denied having any information about Captain Arad's whereabouts.

## Israelis and Hezbollah Exchange Prisoners and Bodies

Among its Shiite prisoners, Israel still holds two top **Hezbollah** officials, Sheik Abdel Karim Obeid and Mustafa Dirani, kidnapped by its commandos as potential bargaining chips, and Mr. Netanyahu expressed hope that today's agreement might lead to a further exchange.

A similar sentiment was voiced by the German intermediary, Bernd Schmidbauer, an aide to Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Mr. Schmidbauer, who traveled to Lebanon, Syria and Iran during what he described as "very difficult" negotiations, said he was determined to pursue efforts aimed at winning the return of all prisoners and of those still missing in action.

Mr. Netanyahu's Government has also expressed interest in a limited deal to halt hostilities in southern Lebanon, the last active front in the Arab-Israeli wars.

But it is not clear that either side is willing to make the concessions needed to bring an end to the fighting in the self-declared security zone that Israel has occupied since its forces invaded Lebanon in 1982.

**Hezbollah** was established by Iran to help counter that Israeli invasion, and today's exchange underscored both the duration and the fury of the conflict that has followed.

Pvt. Yosef Fink and Pvt. Rahamim Alsheik, the two Israeli soldiers whose bodies were returned today, were among six still missing from battles in Lebanon between 1982 and 1986 at the height of fighting there. The two, then 20 years old, were ambushed in February 1986 while on a patrol in the Israeli-occupied zone, and later died in captivity.

Israel learned as a result of an earlier prisoner exchange in 1991 that both men were dead. But until this month, attempts to win the return of their bodies had repeatedly fallen way to new hostilities, including Israel's kidnapping of Mr. Dirani in 1994 and its new invasions of southern Lebanon that year and again in April in response to **Hezbollah** rocket attacks on towns in northern Israel.

Among others handed over by **Hezbollah** today were 17 members of the South Lebanon Army, which operates side by side with Israeli forces in southern Lebanon and some of whose soldiers had been held captive for years.

Some of the freed men kissed the forehead of **Hezbollah**'s leader, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, before they were handed over to representatives of the International Committee for the Red Cross, who delivered them to a checkpoint in southern Lebanon leading to the Israeli-occupied zone.

Of the 45 Shiite prisoners to be freed under the accord, only 20 had been released by late evening from a prison run by the South Lebanon Army in the village of Kham, which lies inside the Israeli-occupied zone. Those who were released, including three **women**, were bused northward to the village of Kafr Tibnit.

Israeli officials said that the German-brokered negotiations leading to the release began on the eve of Israel's election in late May, after Shimon Peres, then the Prime Minister, gave his approval to Chancellor Kohl, and that Mr. Netanyahu was briefed about the evolving accord shortly after his victory.

Since taking office, Mr. Netanyahu has taken a tough line toward **Hezbollah**, saying that his Government would "take care" of the guerrilla force "in our own way."

In his meeting with reporters this afternoon, the Prime Minister did not say today why he had not demanded that the deal include information about Captain Arad or the three other missing Israeli soldiers, who were in a tank crew battling Syrian armored forces in the Bekaa region in June 1982. Nothing has been heard of them since.

## Graphic

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## Israelis and Hezbollah Exchange Prisoners and Bodies

Photo: In an exchange, Israeli soldiers removed a coffin holding the body of a **Hezbollah** guerrilla from a truck at the Israel-Lebanon border. (Associated Press)

Map shows the location of Kham, Lebanon.

**Load-Date:** July 22, 1996

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End of Document

**WEEKEND WARRIORS JOIN LEBANON STRUGGLE / INTELLECTUALS  
HELP HEZBOLLAH BATTLE ISRAELIS.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
JUNE 9, 1997 Monday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1459 words

**Byline:** Jeffrey Fleishman, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

## **Body**

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Hachem Moh'd is a busy man: He owns an advertising business, studies for a fine-arts degree, and on weekends goes on "picnics" with a Kalashnikov rifle, joining other Hezbollah fighters in attacks against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon.

"I don't see a difference in my schooling or my fighting," said Moh'd, a thin man with wire-rim glasses. "In school, I work to get knowledge. On the fighting field, I work to get my country back."

Moh'd, 26, is one of many young intellectuals who have joined Hezbollah, also known as the Party of God, in its quest to drive Israeli forces from a nine-mile-wide "security zone" they have occupied since 1985. The weekend guerrillas are mathematicians, political scientists and computer programmers whose intense hatred of Israel was shaped by warfare that swept through their southern villages when they were children.

Tempered by strife, and driven by the belief that Israel has no right to exist, these young Hezbollah converts intertwine combat with the Koran. They are a growing breed of Hezbollah fighter - more educated and savvy than many of the impoverished men who make up the vanguard of a movement widely considered a terrorist organization.

The members of Lebanon's Generation X have developed a Hezbollah Homepage on the Internet and found a niche in a Shiite Muslim organization that encourages their careers while they fire rockets, lob mortar rounds, and stand watch along rocky ridges a few hundred yards from their enemy.

The influence of young intellectuals comes as Hezbollah is acquiring a more sophisticated arsenal, including Bulgarian-made Spigot missiles that can pierce the armor of Israeli tanks. Such new weapons - easily bought on the world market - have turned Hezbollah into a more lethal movement, one that Israeli officials have previously described as "small, hard to find, hard to punish."

## WEEKEND WARRIORS JOIN LEBANON STRUGGLE / INTELLECTUALS HELP HEZBOLLAH BATTLE ISRAELIS.

"This all shows the evolving sophistication of Hezbollah," said Ilana Kass, a former major with the Israeli Defense Forces and a professor at the National War College in Washington. "It's buying better weapons and recruiting young intellectuals who help its new strategy of appealing to the Western mind. These young people are much more dedicated; they were born into the movement."

Moh'd and his friends speak confidently of recent Hezbollah offensives, including a May 15 ambush that killed three Israeli soldiers and wounded eight others in southeast Lebanon. The attacks triggered the worst bloodshed in months as Israeli air and ground counterattacks killed three guerrillas.

The tug-of-war between Hezbollah and Israel has damaged many villages, especially in the "security zone" Israel carved out of southern Lebanon to protect civilians on its northern border from Hezbollah rockets. An agreement in April 1996 for Hezbollah to cease cross-border rocket attacks in exchange for Israel's halting bombing blitzes has been broken by both sides.

Hezbollah's fighting cells have become more efficient as the group has shifted from inaccurate Katyusha rockets to remote-controlled roadside bombs and other sophisticated weapons. Hezbollah's main benefactor is Iran, which trains guerrillas in the Bekaa region and sends tens of millions of dollars in aid. Israel recently accused Iran of funneling American-made Stinger antiaircraft missiles from Afghanistan to the guerrillas.

"Things have stepped up. It's not the old days of kids charging the front lines with Kalashnikovs," said Timur Goksel, spokesman for U.N. peacekeeping forces in the region, who has counted 92 Hezbollah attacks since April. "They have radio-controlled bombs, much better intelligence. . . . What is really going on is a war of wits."

Bullet for bullet, Hezbollah is outmatched by the Israeli army. Young Hezbollah fighters say their intent is to wear down Israel by an accumulation of small losses that take a toll on Israeli public opinion and eventually lead to a withdrawal.

"If I were an Israeli soldier," Goksel said, "I would be asking myself, what am I doing here? The resistance fighters are well-seasoned. They have strong religious resolve, and Israel rotates in new conscripts to battle them. It's a very dangerous equation."

Israel has not backed down. It is uneasy about Syria's 35,000 troops occupying Lebanon and worried about leaving its northern borders susceptible to Hezbollah onslaughts against Israeli civilians. In retaliation for Hezbollah rocket attacks, Israel has launched a number of air raids across Lebanon, including the "Grapes of Wrath" operation in April 1996, which killed about 150 Lebanese, most of them civilians. Israel blamed the casualties on Hezbollah for hiding its guerrillas among civilians.

So far this year, nine Israeli soldiers and 10 Hezbollah fighters have been killed. In 1996, 50 Hezbollah guerrillas were killed, and Israel lost 26 soldiers in southern Lebanon and had 26 civilians injured in rocket attacks on northern Israel. The war has moved to cyberspace as Israel tries to jam the Hezbollah Homepage, whose logo features a clenched fist holding a Kalashnikov and a fountain pen.

"The Israelis are being drained slowly," said Yusef Ali, 26, a mathematics student and Hezbollah fighter. "It's like a slow death, a prick here, a prick there. Every week or so an Israeli soldier is killed. We can't wipe them out all at once, just one by one."

That is the prevailing attitude in Qana, a village rimmed by tobacco fields that bore heavy losses during Grapes of Wrath. Leaning against a whitewashed, bullet-pocked wall, Ali, a Hezbollah fighter who would not give his last name, said: "Every time we give a martyr, we get stronger. It is simple. If Israel wants peace, we want our land."

Along a crooked dirt road of tiny shops, Hezbollah flags flapped over Qana. Near the site where Israeli artillery struck near a U.N. base and refugee center one year ago, killing civilians seeking sanctuary, a banner depicted an Israeli helicopter raining fire on women and children.

Young Hezbollah members said Israel must be wiped off the Middle East map.

## WEEKEND WARRIORS JOIN LEBANON STRUGGLE / INTELLECTUALS HELP HEZBOLLAH BATTLE ISRAELIS.

"Diplomacy to end this struggle is just a play directed by the Israelis," said Mariam Serhan, whose head was wrapped in a yellow scarf with a blue border. "They must get out of the lands of Lebanon and Palestine. America has large forests and open spaces. Why don't the Israelis move there or to Europe where they came from?"

One of a small number of women in Hezbollah, Serhan has received military training but spends most of her time as a Hezbollah university student leader. Serhan's father was a clothier in Nabatiyeh who sent his children to Lebanon's American schools. Before joining Hezbollah she dressed in Western fashions, she said, and went to Christmas midnight Mass at a Catholic church.

"In my childhood the Israelis came and bombed us," Serhan said. "I joined Hezbollah because they fight against this and teach the true Islamic way."

Hezbollah - which during the 1980s kidnapped Americans and killed 241 U.S. servicemen with a suicide truck bomb - rails against Washington's support of Israel. Young Hezbollah members interviewed delighted in spinning U.S. conspiracy theories for the Middle East.

"If America was occupied, what would you do?" said Yusef Ali, who provides cover gunfire for Hezbollah commandos. "President Clinton cries when he sees a dead child in Africa. But he sheds no tears for . . . children killed in Qana. American policy is wrong, out only for its own interests. It is the same as what you did to the American Indian."

But in phrasings clearly aimed to soften the image of a terrorist organization, Hezbollah members invited an American journalist to tea and made distinctions between the American government and the American people.

"We like Americans," said Serhan, choosing her words as carefully as an ambassador, "but your government is wrong."

Since 1985, Hezbollah - which the U.S. State Department considers a terrorist organization - has evolved from an underground guerrilla movement into a more traditional political party. It has nine members in the Lebanese parliament and sponsors schools, clinics and other social programs. With about 30,000 followers among Lebanon's 3.2 million people, Hezbollah is still mainly viewed as the military bulwark against Israel.

"Hezbollah has tried to change its image," said Moh'd, who recently produced a shiny brochure of wounded Hezbollah fighters on his Apple computer. "We had to do it for practical reasons so we could better represent the people. It's not simple to change an image. . . ."

"The resistance fighters come from all walks of life. They are engineers, Ph.D.s and other professionals. It's not just peasants anymore. Hezbollah allows them to be invisible so they can blend back into their homes and communities and have their lives."

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2002

## *Thousands flee Israeli assault Defiant Hezbollah steps up barrage*

THE AUSTRALIAN

April 15, 1996, Monday

Copyright 1996 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Length:** 702 words

### **Body**

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NEARLY 200,000 terrified refugees fled the Lebanese port of Tyre and surrounding villages yesterday after Israel threatened to rain destruction on southern Lebanon until Islamic guerillas stopped their attacks on Israeli towns.

The exodus came as the escalating border war between Israeli forces and pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters entered its fourth day, alarming world leaders who called on the parties to rein in their attacks.

Hezbollah launched its most sustained Katyusha rocket attacks since the start of the crisis six days ago, hitting areas all along Israel's border and forcing about 50,000 people to flee.

Israel responded, in what has been dubbed Operation Grapes of Wrath, with a vast series of raids by helicopter gunships and warplanes, not only on southern Lebanese towns accused of harbouring rocket launchers but also on the Lebanese capital.

Sunday Times, AFP, Reuters

Beirut's main power station was heavily damaged in a rocket attack, cutting electricity to parts of the capital.

Syria yesterday compared Israel with World War II Nazis, calling its attacks savage and urging the international community to help the Lebanese people. The fighting risks drawing in Syria, Israel's main Arab enemy, and unleashing another Middle East conflagration.

As the rocket attacks continued, the Israeli army reiterated warnings to residents of Tyre and 40 surrounding villages to leave or risk coming under attack. It imposed a deadline of 4.00pm AEST yesterday.

An Israeli warplane rocketed a village near Tyre less than an hour after the expiry of the deadline, witnesses said, and there were also reports of Israeli bombers striking the Christian village of Jamhur, near Beirut.

As the human toll mounted, an Israeli helicopter yesterday fired a rocket at an ambulance near Tyre for the second day running, wounding four people, an official with a Muslim relief group said.

The ambulance belonged to the Islamic Scouts, which also owned the ambulance destroyed earlier by an Israeli helicopter, killing six people from the same family, including four children.

The women and children killed in that attack brought the toll in the four-day offensive to 25 Lebanese dead and more than 100 wounded, most of them civilians.

Hezbollah guerillas last night sent five successive barrages of Katyusha rockets crashing into the eastern Galilee panhandle.



## Thousands flee Israeli assault Defiant Hezbollah steps up barrage

The Israeli army announced its aircraft had counter-attacked at the rocket launchers in the region of Jabal Kabir just north of the Israeli-occupied buffer zone and that pilots reported destroying their targets.

**Hezbollah** rocket attacks on the north have sent nine Israelis to hospital since Tuesday and forced residents to live in bomb shelters or flee south.

**Hezbollah** issued a statement warning it would turn northern Israel into "hell", and security forces said about 300 **Hezbollah** suicide bombers have travelled to south Lebanon to prepare for anti-Israeli operations.

The Prime Minister of Lebanon, Mr Rafik Hariri, rejected Israeli pressure to clamp down on **Hezbollah**, asserting "the core of the problem is not the **Hezbollah**, but rather the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon". Israel's Prime Minister, Mr Peres, yesterday ruled out an invasion of Lebanon despite the failure of air raids and artillery to halt **Hezbollah** attacks.

Mr Peres warned, however, that Israel's campaign would continue until **Hezbollah** ended attacks on Israel.

"If Kiryat Shimona cannot know peace, then 'Hezbollahland' will not be a safe place," he said, referring to the northern Israeli town that has borne the brunt of rocket attacks.

Australia's Foreign Minister, Mr Downer, called yesterday on all parties to exercise restraint and find a peaceful settlement.

"This latest outbreak of violence graphically demonstrates the need for Israel, Syria and Lebanon to work together in the search for a comprehensive settlement, one in which Israel is given firm guarantees of security for its northern border regions, and the rockets of **Hezbollah** will no longer be aimed at Israel," Mr Downer said.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, called on **Hezbollah** to end its attacks but reiterated the State Department's defence of Israel's retaliatory strikes.

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

## **Hezbollah fighters reclaim land; War with Syria possible**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

May 24, 2000 Wednesday Final Edition

Copyright 2000 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** CANADA & WORLD; Pg. D01; News

**Length:** 506 words

**Byline:** Nomi Morris

**Dateline:** METULLA;ISRAEL

### **Body**

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In a stunningly quick turn of events Islamic **Hezbollah** fighters yesterday took over almost all the land Israel had occupied for two decades in southern Lebanon prompting thousands of Lebanese refugees to flee into Israel.

Military contacts in the region said all of Israel's troops would be out by morning.

"As of today there is no longer a security zone in Lebanon," an Israeli newscaster announced last night, reporting on Israel's retreat from the strip of land it had maintained as a buffer against **Hezbollah** guerrillas, who moved into 20 southern Lebanese villages within 24 hours.

Knight-Ridder Newspapers

The South Lebanon Army, the proxy militia that Israel trained and financed as its ally in southern Lebanon, had surrendered. And only a few Israeli soldiers were left in the eastern part of the buffer zone, most of them virtually surrounded.

Israel's retreat from Lebanon is the closest thing to a military defeat that the Jewish state has suffered since its creation in 1948. **Hezbollah**, backed by Syria and Iran, is likely to try to capitalize on its military success against Israel by encouraging other Islamic militant groups to attempt to undermine efforts to negotiate peace between Israel and its Arab neighbours. In addition, Israel risks becoming embroiled in a direct conflict with Syria if it attacks Syrian targets in retaliation for **Hezbollah** attacks.

Late in the day, as hundreds of scared Lebanese villagers waited to cross at the Fatima Gate border crossing near Metulla, a sniper opened fire on Israeli soldiers inside Israel. The sniper fired over the heads of tired **women** and children, causing the first cross-border gunfight since Israel stepped up its long-planned withdrawal from southern Lebanon just days ago. No one was injured.

While helicopters and shelling could be heard near the border throughout the evening, it was not yet clear whether Israel would act on the threat made by army chief of staff General Shaul Mofaz earlier in the day. Mofaz threatened to strike Syrian-controlled targets in Lebanon if **Hezbollah** fired on Israeli soldiers or civilians during the army's retreat.

"It's the first time that I have understood that the current crisis could lead to a war with Syria," parliament member Tommy Lapid said after Mofaz spoke to the security and defence committee.

## Hezbollah fighters reclaim land; War with Syria possible

Syria, which is the main power broker in Lebanon, maintains 30,000 troops there and helps supply Hezbollah, which has been fighting to oust Israeli troops from the country since they invaded in 1982.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak announced yesterday that his promised pullback would be completed within days -- five weeks before his self-imposed July 7 deadline. But it appeared to be happening within hours.

On the Lebanese side of the border, villagers in al- Khayyam stormed into a prison abandoned by Israel and the South Lebanon Army, triumphantly releasing 140 inmates who had been there for years.

Throughout the day, Israel moved tanks to the eastern part of the Lebanese border to try to protect retreating Israeli soldiers.

## Graphic

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Photo: Mohamed Azakir, Reuters; Hezbollah fighters drive a tank that used to belong to the Israeli militia through the captured town of Hasbaya, Lebanon.

**Load-Date:** October 17, 2002

## **South Lebanese return to shelled homes: Going home to Hezbollah hotbed**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 28, 1996, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 612 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; LOS ANGELES TIMES; SOUTHAM NEWSPAPERS

**Dateline:** HAROUF, Lebanon

### **Body**

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Tin drums dripping syrup. Hulks of burned-out cars. Half a house. And the charred remains of a storeroom once filled with \$ 60,000 worth of cigarettes.

The scene was worse than anything Jihad Karaki had imagined while camping out in a Beirut mosque to escape Israel's 16-day bombardment of suspected Hezbollah strongholds in south Lebanon.

He had heard the family home and businesses - all part of the same compound - had been hit by Israeli artillery shells. But Karaki didn't know until he returned home yesterday morning that his pastry shop, car-repair business and the cigarette storehouse were in ruins.

"All I have earned has been destroyed," said the 40-year-old father of six.

While his pregnant wife and children sought to make what remained of the house habitable, Karaki exchanged warm greetings with neighbors and praised God they were all still alive. They consoled each other with defiant vows to rebuild their shattered lives and keep up the fight against the "Israeli occupiers" of their land.

The town of Harouf - known for its amateur poets, auto mechanics and Hezbollah fighters - will rise again, they pledged. Weekly gatherings of aspiring poets and their fans are set to resume again in about three weeks after a mourning period for the more than 150 Lebanese "martyrs" who died in the Israeli onslaught.

The Harouf returnees were among tens of thousands of men, women and children who flooded back to south Lebanon after a U.S.-brokered ceasefire to end the fighting between Israeli forces and Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas went into effect just before dawn. Up to 400,000 had fled farther north during the conflict.

On a smaller scale, a similar return was taking place in northern Israel yesterday. Israelis emerged from bomb shelters and began assessing the damage caused by the estimated 1,000 Katyusha rockets fired into Israel by the Shiite Muslim guerrillas since April 11, wounding about 50 civilians.

Both Israel and Hezbollah were claiming victory yesterday in the worst outbreak of Arab-Israeli fighting since Israel's 1982-83 invasion of Lebanon. But analysts and many others wondered if the written understanding reached by Israel, Lebanon and Syria to refrain from firing at civilians would stand the test of time.

## South Lebanese return to shelled homes: Going home to Hezbollah hotbed

In Harouf yesterday, they arrived in cars, vans and buses loaded with foam mattresses, water jugs and blankets after a tedious drive along the jammed coastal highway to Beirut, a road that only 24 hours earlier was under constant shelling by Israeli gunboats.

Most vehicles sported paper Lebanese flags emblazoned with the slogan: All the People with Hezbollah. They were distributed by Hezbollah volunteers, along with yellow leaflets celebrating the so-called Party of God's victory over the Israeli enemy. "All of us are Katyushas," yelled one driver as he pulled out of Beirut, referring to Hezbollah's now-famous rockets that guerrillas fire into northern Israel.

But the celebratory mood on the highway evaporated for many when they got close to their home villages, or rather what was left of them. In some cases, the roads were so cratered from Israeli bombs that families were forced to walk the last few kilometres. Many found their houses badly damaged or reduced to rubble. Some undoubtedly belonged to Hezbollah guerrillas. Some didn't. Others were spared any structural damage. But nobody had water or electricity.

The government and international aid agencies were only beginning to assess the damage caused by the fighting. Estimates of rebuilding costs run as high as \$ 500 million U.S. The government and the Hezbollah party have pledged to help foot the bill.

**Load-Date:** April 29, 1996

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End of Document

## *Hezbollah tells SLA soldiers: Kill an Israeli to save your own life*

The Times (London)

May 17, 2000, Wednesday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 524 words

**Byline:** Sam Kiley

### **Body**

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"KILL an Israeli, save your own life" is the message of the new Hezbollah campaign against Israel's surrogate army in south Lebanon. The Shia Muslim guerrilla movement backed by Syria and Iran has issued a warning that those who fail to surrender when the Israeli withdrawal is completed will be slaughtered.

The call from Sheikh Naim Ghassem came as Hezbollah continued its offensive against Israeli and South Lebanon Army positions, harrying the occupation forces into stepping up the pace of retreat from 22 years of the Lebanese quagmire. "Any traitor (SLA soldier) who kills an Israeli or his SLA officer and then flees to the liberated areas will be considered to have repented, and we will demand amnesty for him," Sheikh Ghassem, deputy secretary-general of Hezbollah (Party of God), said.

There was little evidence that his words had been heeded. In fact, the SLA was becoming increasingly desperate and brutal in the last days of its alliance with Israel.

Hezbollah has won enormous popular support in Lebanon, and six seats in parliament, for its campaign against Israeli occupation. With every day that passes, more Israeli positions are handed over to the SLA allies. Yesterday the fortress at Taibe, north of the Israeli occupied zone, and the strategically vital radar station overlooking al-Mansouri on the Lebanese coast, lowered the Star of David flag.

About 70 per cent of the Christian-led SLA are Shia Muslims, as are their Hezbollah foes. The Syrian and Iranian-backed "official resistance" to Israeli occupation is now trying to realise the fears of some senior Israeli officers that SLA fighters might turn their guns on Israeli soldiers.

The SLA has been told that it must hand back its artillery, tanks and armoured personnel carriers to Israel if the Israeli withdrawal is to be authenticated by the United Nations. SLA members have been told by the Lebanese Government to hand themselves over to government forces with the prospect of prosecution, which so far has resulted in light sentences. Failure to do so leaves them vulnerable to attacks by Hezbollah.

There are grave concerns in Israel and among UN observers that rogue SLA batteries might attack civilians to provoke a Hezbollah attack on Israel.

"That would lead to an escalation, and slow down or stop the Israeli withdrawal," a UN political officer said.

In Majdal Zun, women and children were wandering through the quiet streets when an Israeli shell slammed into houses near by, followed by many more. Although Hezbollah has recently launched Katyusha rockets against

Hezbollah tells SLA soldiers: Kill an Israeli to save your own life

Israeli border towns from the area around Majdal Zun and nearby al-Mansouri, there was no military activity to justify the bombardment.

On Sunday, SLA tanks had taken pot shots at the village, blasting a hole in the water tower. Then they sprayed it with heavy machinegun fire, smashing masonry and sending ricochets up the streets.

Several rounds narrowly missed Nepalese United Nations peacekeepers, whose compound had taken a direct hit from an Israeli shell only three days before. "This is as routine as breakfast, lunch and supper," complained the officer in charge of the base.

**Load-Date:** May 17, 2000

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End of Document

## **Israel bombs Hezbollah sites for 4th day: 28 killed since the violence started**

Hamilton Spectator (Ontario, Canada)

April 15, 1996 Monday Final Edition

Copyright 1996 Metroland Media Group Ltd

**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A10; News

**Length:** 539 words

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Israeli aircraft bombarded guerrilla strongholds in Beirut and southern Lebanon yesterday, sending hundreds of thousands of refugees streaming north.

**Hezbollah** guerrillas, meanwhile, vowed to turn northern Israel into a "fiery hell."

Undaunted by Israel's four-day-old aerial attacks, **Hezbollah** barraged northern Israel with rockets. One person was wounded and an empty school and other property were damaged.

CANADIAN PRESS

Three Lebanese civilians were killed and seven wounded in yesterday's raids, Lebanese security sources said.

Israel makes no apologies for the damage caused during its latest military offensive against the anti-Israeli guerrillas, including an attack Saturday on an ambulance in southern Lebanon that killed three **women** and three young sisters, among them a one-month-old baby. Israeli officials said civilians have been given plenty of warning to get out of the way of fire.

All told, 28 people have been killed and 105 injured on both sides since the violence began last week.

Israeli jet fighters knocked out a Beirut power relay station yesterday, cutting electricity to many parts of the capital and its suburbs. It was the first deliberate attack on an economic target since Israel launched its offensive against the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** on Thursday.

The Shiite Muslim **Hezbollah** opposes Arab-Israeli peacemaking and has been fighting for years to drive Israeli troops from the buffer zone they occupy in southern Lebanon. Daily skirmishes exploded last week into a major Israeli offensive meant to halt a recent wave of **Hezbollah** attacks on Israel.

About 190,000 panicked Lebanese residents fled the southern port city of Tyre and 41 surrounding villages yesterday after Israel warned it would attack the area to flush out guerrillas.

Israeli aircraft also struck near Tyre, hitting a civil defence ambulance and injuring four paramedics.

Some 400,000 refugees, about one-tenth of Lebanon's people, were headed north yesterday for the relative safety of Beirut. The mass exodus was reminiscent of the last major Israeli strike against **Hezbollah**, a week-long offensive in 1993 that killed 147 Lebanese, wounded about 500, and uprooted half a million people.



Israel bombs Hezbollah sites for 4th day: 28 killed since the violence started

The southern market town of Nabatiyeh and southeastern villages took the brunt yesterday of Israeli aircraft raids, which destroyed several houses belonging to Hezbollah commanders. With elections just six weeks away, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has hit hard at Hezbollah in an effort colored partly by a desire to prove he won't let peacemaking compromise Israel's security.

#### UPDATE

The issue: The mini-war been Israeli and Hezbollah guerrilla fighters.

What's new: Both sides intensify attacks. Hezbollah fires near constant barrage of Katushya rockets into northern Israel. Israel strikes across southern Lebanon and knocks out a power relay station in Beirut.

What it means: Neither side appears willing to budge, suggesting fighting could continue for some time. Up to 400,000 residents of south Lebanon have fled the major fighting zone after being told by Israel to clear out for their own safety.

What's next: A waiting game to see whether Lebanese PM Rafik Hariri's attempt to rally international support for a diplomatic solution bears results.

**Load-Date:** October 13, 2002

## **Israel, Hezbollah halt fire: Accord aimed at civilians**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 27, 1996, Saturday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 721 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWSPAPERS; REUTER

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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A ceasefire deal was reached yesterday in the brutal, bloody conflict between Israeli forces and Hezbollah guerrillas, paving the way for civilian life on both sides of the Israel-Lebanon border to begin returning to some normalcy today.

United Nations officers said the guns fell silent early today.

The last round was fired at almost exactly one minute before the 4 a.m. deadline, when a rocket hit a building in the Israeli border town of Kiryat Shemona.

The stone stairs were reduced to rubble, but no one seemed to be hurt.

"Here we thought we were just coming toward the end of this and we were expecting things to be quiet," a neighbor said, pointing to the damage. "And then this."

About half an hour earlier, Israeli gunners based in an occupied enclave in the south opened up on suspected guerrilla positions facing the zone, security sources said.

Yesterday's ceasefire accord establishes combat rules designed to prevent Lebanese and Israeli civilians from getting caught in the middle again of Hezbollah's continuing armed struggle to evict Israeli forces from a narrow strip of land the Jewish state occupies in south Lebanon.

In effect, the accord seeks to solve the problem of civilians getting hurt. But it does not spell an end to the frequent, often deadly clashes inside the security zone.

The hard-fought written agreement came 16 days after Israel launched its so-called Grapes of Wrath military offensive to crush the Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim group's ability to fire Katyusha rockets into northern Israel.

One Israeli soldier was killed, more than 80 Israelis were injured, and about 20,000 others were forced out of northern Israeli communities by the attacks.

In Lebanon, more than 150 people died and 400 were wounded, almost all of them civilians. Most were women and children. Up to 400,000 residents of southern Lebanon fled further north to escape the fighting, camping out in makeshift shelters or moving in with relatives and friends. If the ceasefire holds, thousands are expected to start flooding back to the battle-scarred south as early as today.

## Israel , Hezbollah halt fire: Accord aimed at civilians

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres insisted it was a self-defence operation. But the offensive was widely seen in Lebanon as a bid by Peres to enhance his reputation as a tough protector of Israeli security before the May 29 national elections in Israel.

The fighting was fierce and costly. Israeli shells slammed into a UN base sheltering hundreds of civilians last week, killing more than 100 people and injuring at least 200 others. The horror of the strike spurred international efforts, led by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, to arrange the ceasefire.

It was finally announced in Beirut and Jerusalem late yesterday afternoon after seven days of intense political haggling in Israel and Syria, the main powerbroker in Lebanon and Hezbollah's representative in the negotiations.

Its key provision prohibits Hezbollah from firing rockets or any other weapon into northern Israel or launching attacks on Israel's so-called security zone from civilian areas in southern Lebanon.

Israel, too, is barred from firing on civilians and civilian targets in Lebanon. But nothing in the accord rules out military actions taken in self-defence, a point Peres stressed. "If our forces are attacked, they will return fire," he said at a joint news conference with Christopher in Jerusalem.

The parties to the accord have agreed to set up a five-member committee, made up of representatives from Israel, Lebanon, Syria, France and the United States, to monitor compliance with the accord. Syria's agreement to participate on the committee was considered vital for symbolic and practical reasons. Aside from having considerable influence with Hezbollah, Syria has up to 40,000 troops on the ground in Lebanon. The monitoring committee grew out of a proposal made by France for ending the conflict.

The accord also establishes an international consultative committee to help with the reconstruction effort in Lebanon, which has born the brunt of Israel's military onslaught. The committee will be made up of Russia, the European Union and anybody else who wants to provide money or expertise to restore houses, businesses, power and water facilities damaged or destroyed by Israeli firepower.

**Load-Date:** April 29, 1996

## *Strikes on Hezbollah are aimed at Syria*

The Times (London)

May 6, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 864 words

**Byline:** Sam Kiley in Kiryat Shmona

### **Body**

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Israeli jets bombed Lebanese power stations and the road linking Beirut and Damascus yesterday for the second day in succession, in retaliation for Hezbollah rocket attacks on Israeli border towns in what was being seen as a foretaste of a conflict likely to worsen in the next few weeks.

The strikes on power stations supplying the Lebanese capital and Tripoli, the country's second largest city, shook civilians out of their beds and shut off power in the small hours yesterday. The attacks were intended to signal to Hezbollah and its backers in Syria that they should expect severe retaliation for any attacks on Israeli targets after Israel pulls its troops out of south Lebanon by July.

In Kiryat Shmona, where one soldier was killed and five civilians were seriously injured in two waves of Katyusha rocket attacks, President Weizman issued a warning that "we will plunge their (Hezbollah's) world into darkness" if there were any more strikes.

Israel has the overwhelming military advantage in the region. Syria has been warned through intermediaries that Israel would use its air power to destroy Syria's ability to support its 35,000 men in Lebanon, and even to bomb Damascus if Israel's promised withdrawal did not yield a peaceful border. But such warnings were cold comfort to civilians in Kiryat Shmona yesterday. Most fled the town as soon as the first wave of rockets came in, setting 15 cars ablaze, and punching holes through the walls of flats.

Those left behind in bunkers were mostly elderly immigrants from the former Soviet Union who complained that they felt "like the balls" in a deadly game of ping-pong. Wealthy Israelis moved from the dangerous area out of rocket range years ago and the Government has struggled to find people willing to live in the target zone.

"No one warned us what this place was like when we came here five years ago. No one told us it was dangerous; we just got cheap flats and a pension. We're hostages here," complained Michail Vebusevich, who came from Ukraine to find himself spending days in a bunker playing cards with an ear cocked for the sirens signalling the "all-clear".

Yesterday Israeli commentators added their voices to a growing chorus of analysts, including the British Institute of Strategic Studies, in saying that Ehud Barak, the Israeli Prime Minister, had committed a grave political and tactical error in committing himself to leaving Lebanon, even though he had avoided a peace accord with Syria which would have involved returning the Golan Heights to Damascus's rule. "A unilateral withdrawal in the absence of a wider peace is unlikely to end Israel's involvement in south Lebanon, much less stabilise the region," the think tank said.

## Strikes on Hezbollah are aimed at Syria

Senior Israeli military figures have feared for months that they would "end up rolling tanks into Damascus" at the end of a cycle of attacks and retaliation.

Mr Barak's office insisted yesterday that he would press ahead with the plans to pull Israel out of the Lebanese quagmire into which it plunged in 1982. One of his biggest challenges will be in keeping faith with the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army of about 2,500 men and their families. They have been promised safety in Israel, but they have been reluctant to leave.

Abraham Finer, who runs a bar frequented by SLA and Israeli soldiers about 100 yards from the fenced and mined border said that the SLA fighters were "very, very angry".

"I give this business about six months at the most, and then we'll be back fighting in Lebanon with many, many dead. It's a disaster," he said.

There was also speculation yesterday whether the SLA might have deliberately sparked the latest paroxysm of Lebanese violence when its artillery shelled a hamlet on the edge of the Israeli "security zone", a strip of land about ten miles wide established as a buffer against Hezbollah attacks. Two women, one in her 80s and the other in her 40s, were killed when a shell, fired without clearance from Israeli officers, blasted away their home. This shelling could not have come at a worse time for Mr Barak and his commanders. Only hours earlier an Israeli pilot had bombed another Lebanese village, wounding 14 including six children, among them a two-month-old baby, in what the air force said was an "accident". Whatever the explanation for the two breaches of the 1996 agreement, which was designed to prevent civilian casualties in south Lebanon, the two incidents were guaranteed to provoke a Hezbollah response.

Rome: Italian fighters have held secret joint air exercises with Israeli warplanes in Italy and in Israel in what is believed to be Israel's first such co-operation with a major West European air force, diplomatic sources said yesterday (John Phillips writes).

The Corriere della Sera newspaper of Milan quoted the sources as saying that Israeli F15 and F16 fighters took part in the manoeuvres "somewhere in Italy" six months ago, and that two months ago Italian Tornado and AMX aircraft flew to a base in southern Israel for four days of exercises, including bombing practice and war games.

## LINKS

[www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/Israeli](http://www.mfa.gov.il/mfa/Israeli) Ministry of Foreign Affairs

[www.lebanon.com/](http://www.lebanon.com/) Daily news and resources from the Lebanon

**Load-Date:** May 6, 2000

## **Hezbollah vows 'hell' in Israel as war spreads: Rocket barrages force Lebanese to flee homes**

The Ottawa Citizen

April 15, 1996, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / Front

**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWSPAPERS; WITH FILES FROM AP AND REUTER

**Dateline:** SMARYIA, Lebanon

### **Body**

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Israel will not stop its attacks on Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon until Hezbollah ends its rocket attacks on Israel, Prime Minister Shimon Peres says.

"If the Hezbollah ceases its attacks, we will cease ours," Peres said Sunday.

But Hezbollah has prepared squads of suicide bombers from a "brigade of martyrdom-lovers" to attack Israeli targets and avenge the offensive, leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said Sunday on television. Hezbollah said it would turn northern Israel into a "fiery hell," and the group's television station showed about 50 people with explosives strapped to their chests.

An estimated 400,000 residents of south Lebanon now have fled further north to escape the fighting. A major exodus occurred early Sunday after Israel warned the 100,000 residents of Tyre to clear out. Hundreds of vehicles jammed with men, women and children clogged the main coastal highway heading north to Sidon and Beirut.

The Shiite Muslim Hezbollah, backed by Iran, opposes Arab-Israeli peacemaking and has been fighting for years to drive Israeli troops from the buffer zone they have occupied in southern Lebanon since 1985. Daily skirmishes exploded last week into a major offensive when Israel said it wanted to stop a recent wave of Hezbollah attacks.

Also Sunday, Israeli jet fighters dodged Syrian and Lebanese anti-aircraft fire to hit a Beirut power relay station, leaving several neighborhoods without electricity. Israel said the strike was in retaliation for Hezbollah rocket attacks that knocked out power in the northern Israeli town of Kiryat Shemona.

The guerrillas launched their fiercest attack yet on Israel, firing more than 20 rocket barrages across the border in less than seven hours. No casualties were reported in Israel on the fourth day of hostilities, which have killed 28 people and injured about 100 on both sides of the border. Most of the casualties have been Lebanese. The toll on the Israeli side is 40 wounded and one soldier killed.

Israel makes no apologies for the damage caused during its offensive, saying civilians have had plenty of warning to get out of the way. Three Lebanese were reported killed and several wounded Sunday, and an attack Saturday on an ambulance killed three women and three young sisters, among them a one-month-old baby.

## Hezbollah vows 'hell' in Israel as war spreads: Rocket barrages force Lebanese to flee homes

There were no signs a diplomatic solution is near despite attempts by Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri to rally international support for a political settlement. During separate meetings Sunday with presidents Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Jacques Chirac of France, he warned continued Israeli attacks will only strengthen **Hezbollah**.

The United States has made clear, however, it backs Peres's stance that **Hezbollah** must first halt its rocket attacks. Peres's tough stance is widely seen as part of his effort to persuade Israelis before the May 29 election that he puts their security ahead of making peace with Israel's enemies.

Southam News, with files from AP and Reuter

Update

The issue: The mini-war between Israel and Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** guerrilla fighters based in Lebanon.

What's new: Both sides intensified attacks Sunday. Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Israel would stop its attacks when **Hezbollah** did so. **Hezbollah** vowed to carry on, attempting to derail Israel's peace with Palestinians. As many as 400,000 residents of south Lebanon have fled the fighting zone after being told by Israel to clear out.

What it means: Neither side appears willing to budge, suggesting the fighting could continue for some time.

What's next: Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri is trying to rally international support for a diplomatic solution.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 1996

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End of Document

**MIDDLE EAST: Israel keeps pounding south Lebanon: 400,000 flee attack on hotbed of Hezbollah**

The Ottawa Citizen

April 16, 1996, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A6

**Length:** 1080 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWSPAPERS

**Dateline:** HAROUF, Lebanon

## **Body**

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Israeli shells rained down Monday on this hotbed of **Hezbollah** activism, sending guerrillas and the town's few remaining civilians scrambling for cover.

"Down with Clinton, up with **Hezbollah**," said one young man brandishing an automatic rifle and pistol.

**Women** carrying babies and young children scurried to basement shelters to escape the bombardment. Others piled into cars and sped to Sidon, a port city 25 kilometres northwest of here which so far has been spared Israeli attack.

A half-dozen guerrillas, armed with cellular phones and walkie-talkies, crept along the main street and reported on the damage inflicted by the Israeli assaults. In between, they angrily denounced U.S. President Bill Clinton's administration for backing Israel's latest military offences into Lebanon and hounded the two journalists on the scene to take pictures of the smoldering buildings and a crying, bleeding woman hurt in the shelling attacks.

The pounding of Harouf was repeated across South Lebanon and in Beirut on the fifth day of Israel's newest campaign to crush the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** militia's ability to fire Katushya rockets into Northern Israel. **Hezbollah** fighters were undeterred by the Israeli onslaught, firing up to 50 rockets across the border from their bases in south and Southeastern Lebanon.

There were no firm casualty figures on either side, although no deaths were reported in Israel. At least 35 people have been killed and 133 wounded since hostilities between **Hezbollah** and Israel erupted anew last week after a rocket attack on Northern Israel. With the exception of one Israeli soldier, all the dead were Lebanese civilians.

Tentative diplomatic efforts to find a political solution, pushed by Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, have shown no signs of scoring a breakthrough. Hariri has appealed for speedy international action to help end the violence on the grounds that continued Israeli attacks will only strengthen **Hezbollah**'s support.

The election-bound Israeli prime minister, Shimon Peres, has refused to change course. Peres says the campaign, code-named Grapes of Wrath, won't be stopped before he is sure the **Hezbollah** rocket attacks on Israel have ended permanently. The pro-Israel Clinton administration has firmly supported Peres's tough stance so far, something Arab diplomats see as a major obstacle to finding a quick settlement.



## MIDDLE EAST: Israel keeps pounding south Lebanon : 400,000 flee attack on hotbed of Hezbollah

The punishing Israeli military offences seem aimed at forcing the Lebanese people to turn against Hezbollah, the militant militia group fighting to evict Israel from a narrow strip of land it occupies as a so-called security zone in South Lebanon.

No backlash evident

But there is little evidence of a backlash against Hezbollah. Many Lebanese accuse Israel of engaging in elective terrorism. "For five days nobody from Hezbollah is killed or hurt, only civilians," said Safa Sabeh, whose son was badly wounded Monday during a shelling attack on the town of Nabatiyeh. "My son is 17 years old -- a high school student. what did he do?"

Others applaud Hezbollah's assaults on the "enemy occupiers" and condemn the international community for giving Israel free reign to bomb and terrorize the Lebanese people. "Israel can do anything they want and nobody says a thing," said Ali Mohammed, a farmer who has sought refuge from the fighting in Sidon. Mohammed said he will never turn against Hezbollah. "How can you hate people who fight for your land?"

Israeli fighter aircraft also hit Hezbollah strongholds near Beirut airport on Monday and knocked out a power station in a southern suburb of the city, the second strike on a power plant in two days. The port city of Tyre in South Lebanon also suffered its first rocket hit. Most of the city's 100,000 residents had fled Sunday after warnings from Israel that strikes were imminent.

They joined up to 300,000 other people from South Lebanon who had already headed north to Sidon and Beirut, leaving most of the country's southern villages as virtual ghost towns.

Thousands are jammed into schools, mosques, stores and makeshift campsites on the streets, creating what UN and Lebanese government officials have started to call a refugee crisis. About 6,000 who have remained in the south are holed up at UN peacekeeping posts where they are being fed and sheltered.

Relief supplies from the European Union and Syria have started to arrive, including tonnes of sugar, tea, rice, milk and cheese to be distributed to the refugees.

Update

The issue: Renewed hostilities between Israeli and Iranian backed Hezbollah fighters who are seeking to evict Israeli forces from a narrow strip of land they occupy in southern Lebanon.

What's new: Israel has pounded Hezbollah targets across south Lebanon, including the port city of Tyre, and in Beirut, where it hit a power station. Hezbollah guerrillas fired as many as 50 Katyusha rockets into northern Israel, providing fresh evidence their firepower has not been destroyed by the Israeli assaults.

What it means: The mini-war has created a major refugee problem. Up to 400,000 residents of South Lebanon have fled their homes and moved north to makeshift shelters.

What's next: There is no end in sight to the fighting despite tentative diplomatic efforts to find a political solution.

Other developments

Exchange: Israeli jets began training flights at a Turkish air force base on Monday under a controversial military exchange accord. The agreement has been attacked by much of the Muslim world as a betrayal of solidarity against the Jewish state. Turkish military sources said eight Israeli F-16 trainer planes and their crews arrived at the Akinci base near Ankara on Sunday. Israeli technicians are to upgrade more than 50 Turkish F-4 fighter-bombers as part of the exchange agreement.

Welcome enemy: Israel agreed Monday to allow guerrilla leader Nayef Hawatmeh, once one of its biggest enemies, to return to Palestinian ruled areas. "Israel approved today the entry of Nayef Hawatmeh, general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine," said Jamil al-Tarifi, the Palestinian head of a liaison committee

MIDDLE EAST: Israel keeps pounding south Lebanon : 400,000 flee attack on hotbed of Hezbollah

with Israel. Hawatmeh, leader of the radical DFLP, will arrive for a meeting of the 450-member Palestinian parliament-in-exile to remove clauses from the 1964 PLO charter calling for Israel's destruction. The meeting, required under a peace deal with Israel, was scheduled for April 22, but may be delayed.

## Graphic

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Black & White Photo: -- /Reuter Photo/ GRIEF: A woman weeps after being told that two child relatives were killed Monday by an Israeli attack on the village of Henniye. Of 35 people killed in the renewal of fighting between Israel and Hezbollah, 34 have been Lebanese civilians.

**Load-Date:** April 17, 1996

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## **SHELLS HIT SHELTER, LEAVING 75 DEAD-ISRAELIS ACCUSE HEZBOLLAH OF HIDING BEHIND CIVILIANS**

Charleston Daily Mail (West Virginia)

April 19, 1996, Friday

Copyright 1996 Charleston Newspapers

**Section:** News; Pg. P3A

**Length:** 255 words

**Byline:** LOS ANGELES TIMES

### **Body**

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BEIRUT, Lebanon - Two powerful Israeli shells meant for Hezbollah

guerrillas slammed instead into a U.N. compound sheltering civilians,

exploding in a whirlwind of heat and shearing metal that killed more

than 75 people, many of them women and children, almost instantly.

As President Clinton urged an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon by all

parties, a shocked Israel expressed regret for the carnage and blamed

rocket-launching Hezbollah fighters for "hiding behind civilians."

The annihilating barrage Thursday at the U.N. peacekeeping compound in

the southern Lebanese town of Qana left mangled and burned bodies strewn

across the camp. More than 100 people were wounded, including at least

three seriously injured U.N. peacekeepers from Fiji.

By early today, 75 body bags had been sent to a hospital in Sidon, said

U.N. spokesman Mikael Lindvall, with many of them containing the remains

of two or three people. Hospital officials estimated the final death

toll would be more than 90, making it by far the bloodiest incident of

Israel's eight-day campaign against the Hezbollah.

More than 150 people have been killed since April 11, mostly Lebanese

civilians, including 11 people killed earlier Thursday when Israeli

SHELLS HIT SHELTER, LEAVING 75 DEAD-ISRAELIS ACCUSE HEZBOLLAH OF HIDING BEHIND  
CIVILIANS

planes rocketed a suspected Hezbollah apartment house in Nabatiyeh,  
about 15 miles northeast of Qana.

U.N. officials expressed outrage at the artillery barrage directed near  
an 18-year-old U.N. peacekeeper post well-known to the Israeli army.

"They know the position so very, very well," one official said. "I just  
cannot understand it."

**Load-Date:** April 23, 1996

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## **Hezbollah vows more attacks: Peres says raids will continue; Beirut left in darkness**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 16, 1996, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 968 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWS; KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

**Dateline:** HAROUF, Lebanon

### **Body**

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Israeli shells rained down yesterday on this hotbed of **Hezbollah** activism, sending guerrillas and the town's few remaining civilians scrambling for cover.

The pounding of Harouf was repeated across south Lebanon and in Beirut on the fifth day of Israel's latest campaign to crush the ability of the Iranian-backed **Hezbollah** militia to fire Katushya rockets into northern Israel.

**Hezbollah** retaliated with only a half-dozen salvos by late yesterday, but it threatened to attack Israeli interests around the world.

In an interview with Western reporters at a safe house in Beirut, Sheikh Naeem Qassem, **Hezbollah**'s deputy leader, said: "Let them take precautions and measures and let them know they are in danger anywhere and at any time... I feel great joy. The Katyushas will continue to fall, and with abundance, as long as our civilians are in danger. We will not tolerate that a child moan with pain or a woman be hurt without taking revenge."

The Israeli campaign has displaced an estimated 400,000 people from southern Lebanon - roughly one-tenth of the country's population - and killed about 35 people and wounded 133 others, most of them civilians, according to unofficial Lebanese counts.

Although Israel staged an assault for similar reasons in 1993, the current campaign is different in that it has included repeated airstrikes on **Hezbollah** strongholds in the capital itself, evoking grim memories of the Israeli invasion of 1982.

Fearing the effects of continued Israeli attacks on Lebanon's fragile recovery from 17 years of civil war, Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri travelled to Paris to appeal for help from French President Jacques Chirac, who sent his foreign minister to the region to try to broker a ceasefire.

But late yesterday, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres left no impression that he was in a hurry to wrap up the offensive.

"The campaign in Lebanon is not defined by time but by objectives," he said after meeting with French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette. "It will come to an end only when peace reigns in the north. We intend to achieve a long-term peace."

## Hezbollah vows more attacks: Peres says raids will continue; Beirut left in darkness

U.S. President Bill Clinton's administration has firmly supported Israel's tough stance, an action Arab diplomats see as a major obstacle to finding a quick settlement.

Israeli jets and helicopter gunships flew more than 200 sorties yesterday and knocked out a second power station near Beirut, causing severe power rationing throughout the capital. The power station, about five kilometres northeast of the city, sustained a direct hit.

The targeting of Beirut's electricity supply is especially disheartening to residents who had only just begun getting used to having electricity on a 24-hour-a-day basis. Last night, much of the city was in darkness.

The punishing Israeli military offences seem aimed at forcing the Lebanese people to turn against Hezbollah, which is fighting to evict Israel from a 15-km-wide strip of land it occupies as a so-called security zone in south Lebanon.

But there is little evidence of a backlash against Hezbollah, which has become increasingly popular as its volunteers organize shelters and food distribution.

Many Lebanese accuse Israel of engaging in elective terrorism and are angry at Washington's support for the raids.

"Down with Clinton, up with Hezbollah," one young man said in Harouf as he brandished an automatic rifle and pistol. Women carrying babies and young children scurried to basement shelters to escape the bombardment. Others piled into cars and sped to Sidon, a port city 25 km northwest of here that so far has been spared Israeli attack.

A half-dozen guerrillas, armed with cellular phones and walkie-talkies, crept along Harouf's main street and reported on the damage inflicted by the Israeli assaults. In between, they angrily denounced Clinton for backing Israel's latest military offences into Lebanon and hounded the two journalists on the scene to take pictures of the smoldering buildings and a crying, bleeding woman hurt in the shelling attacks.

"For five days, nobody from Hezbollah is killed or hurt, only civilians," said Safa Sabeh, whose son was badly wounded yesterday during a shelling attack on the town of Nabatiyeh. "My son is 17 years old - a high-school student - what did he do?" said Sabeh, 38.

Others applaud Hezbollah's assaults on the "enemy occupiers" and condemn the international community for giving Israel free reign to bomb and terrorize the Lebanese people.

"Israel can do anything they want and nobody says a thing," said Ali Mohammed, a farmer who has sought refuge from the fighting in Sidon. Mohammed said he will never turn against Hezbollah. "How can you hate people who fight for your land?"

In south Lebanon yesterday, Israeli jets pounded a cluster of 10 deserted villages. It also struck the town of Nabatiyeh, setting many buildings on fire, and hit rocket launches in the Wadi Qaissyeh valley near the village of Khirbet Silim.

The port city of Tyre also suffered its first rocket hit. Most of the city's 100,000 residents had fled Sunday after warnings from Israel that strikes were imminent.

They joined up to 300,000 other people from southern Lebanon who already had headed farther north to Sidon and Beirut, leaving most of the country's southern villages as virtual ghost towns.

Thousands are jammed into schools, mosques, stores and makeshift campsites on the streets, creating what UN and Lebanese government officials have started to call a refugee crisis. About 6,000 who have remained in the south are holed up at UN peacekeeping posts where they are being fed and sheltered. Relief supplies from the European Union and Syria have started to arrive, including tonnes of sugar, tea, rice, milk and cheese to be distributed to the refugees.

Hezbollah vows more attacks: Peres says raids will continue; Beirut left in darkness

## Graphic

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Photo: AP / A man from southern Lebanon sits on a chair as women of his family rest at a makeshift refugee camp set up by UN peacekeeping forces in Tyre to shelter residents fleeing Israel's attack against Hezbollah guerrillas.

**Load-Date:** April 17, 1996

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End of Document

## *Iran gains fundamental foothold in Sidon / Role of the Hezbollah Party in Lebanese politics*

The Guardian (London)

December 12, 1986

Copyright 1986 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Length:** 768 words

**Byline:** From JULIE FLINT

**Dateline:** SIDON

### **Body**

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Giant wall paintings of Ayatollah Khomeini, painstakingly executed in glorious Technicolor, have enlivened the walls of West Beirut for many months. Hezbollah, the Party of God, that began to take shape in Lebanon under full Iranian auspices four years ago, has smaller but equally omnipresent insignia - from posters and flags to the graffiti scrawled on the lift doors of the Information Ministry.

In the deep south of Lebanon, the Shi'ite heartland, a hoousa - Iranian religious school - has opened at siddiqune, east of Tyre. The black chador is increasingly common among women and headscarves are almost obligatory.

But it was something of a novelty this week when the strains of the Iranian anthem rang out above Sidon, midway between Beirut and the Israeli border and young men with the now familiar cropped hair and full beard cried: 'Victory to Khomeini.'

Sidon, a sunni Muslim town, is the focus of the latest camps war between Palestinians and Amal, the more moderate, secular arm of Shi'ite militancy in Lebanon. A 'no-go' area for syria, the arbiter of past camps wars that centred on Beirut, it is the site of the largest Palestinian concentration in Lebanon and has a small but relatively inactive fundamentalist movement.

This week it became the first Lebanese town to see Hezbollah assume the role of moderator - however briefly.

In the few hours before the effort collapsed under the weight of renewed fighting, Hezbollah ambulances transported the dead out of the contested village of Maghdousheh just to the east. The flags of Hezbollah and Iran were hoisted over the debris of battle and from his controlling office in Damascus, Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister, Hussein Sheikholeslam, acclaimed the brief disengagement as a defeat for 'the enemies of the Islamic nation.'

Riding high on its army the crisis into which they have catapulted the Administration, Iran has seized on the battles between two of its own sometime allies to attempt to win new influence in Lebanon - Tehran's hope of a second Islamic republic - and internationally.

'The Iranians are trying to carve out a very specific role to advance their own interests,' says a Palestinian official involved in the tortuous camps war negotiations. 'They have seen that by taking a handful of hostages they can win a lot of concessions. If they play a bigger role in south Lebanon, with all that that implies for the Arab-Israeli struggle, then how much more influence will they have with the important powers?' 'They also hoped to encourage Sunni integration in Sidon.'



## Iran gains fundamental foothold in Sidon / Role of the Hezbollah Party in Lebanese politics

This plan would, if adopted in anything like its present form, dramatically strengthen Tehran's hand in south Lebanon.

**Hezbollah** would take charge of Maghdousheh and in return guarantee the safety of Mieh Mieh and Ain Helwe, the two Palestinian camps below it. **Hezbollah** - or, in another draft of the plan, the ulemas, or religious official of Sidon - would also take control of the coast road that is the only land link between South Lebanon and the displaced Shi'ite masses of Beirut.

Two committees already formed 'under Iranian auspices to negotiate and enforce are composed exclusively of clergymen. The spokesman for the first is Sheikh Maher Hammoud, the most prominent of Sidon's fundamentalists. The second includes sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, the spiritual guide of **Hezbollah**, and Sheikh Said Shabaan, the militant fundamentalist leader of Tripoli who fought the Syrians there in 1983 in alliance with Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader.

In the short term, many Palestinians believe they have an interest in going along with the Iranian mediation. Although **Hezbollah** cadres have fought in the camp wars, the leadership has spoken out against the strife. **Hezbollah** is also, opposed to the total disarming of the Palestinians that Amal seeks.

In the longer term, however, there is a general belief that **Hezbollah** will prove at least as great a threat to the Palestinian presence in the south as its brothers in Amal.

**Hezbollah** has already warned the Salvation Front, the Damascus-based Palestinian alliance participating in the peace talks, 'that it will fight with Amal if the Iranian plan is not accepted in full,' one PLO official close to the negotiations claims.

The Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr Ali Vellayati, has agreed to meet a British representative in Tehran in Sunday to discuss the case of the British journalist and businessman, Roger Cooper, aged 51, who has been detained for the past year and reportedly charged with espionage. The Swedish Ambassador, who represents British interests in Iran, is also due to attend Sunday's meeting.

**Load-Date:** June 13, 2000

## *Their Future Hazy, Lebanon's Guerrillas Try Tourism, Politics*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

May 21, 1996, Tuesday

Copyright 1996 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL; Pg. 6

**Length:** 890 words

**Byline:** Mike Theodoulou, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BAALBEK, LEBANON

**Highlight:** Hizbullah readies for peace deal with Israel, but still woos suicide bombers

### **Body**

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For a town trying to coax back Western tourists after a 20-year hiatus, the first impressions here were not encouraging.

Syrian anti-aircraft gunners lounged in the fields and huge portraits of the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini glowered from lamp posts.

Yet Hizbullah, the guerrilla group that seeks an Iranian-style Islamic state in Lebanon, has joined the Tourism Ministry here in trying to entice foreigners to the majestic Roman ruins at Baalbek, a Hizbullah stronghold in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley.

Few Westerners dared to venture here during the country's 15-year civil war. But Hizbullah officials in Baalbek now present a much softer image. Over tea and cream cakes, Mohammed Sharaf al-Din, director of the Imam Khomeini Cultural Center, insists everyone is safe to return.

"All are welcome here, even Americans, although Clinton and [Defense Secretary William] Perry can stay at home," he says. The US government, however, still bars Americans from traveling to Lebanon and is unlikely to lift the ban until Hizbullah is disarmed.

Hizbullah's continuing "war of liberation" against Israeli forces, which occupy a nine-mile-wide strip of southern Lebanon as a self-declared security zone, has also created a climate of instability.

'They don't eat foreigners'

A Syrian tour guide showing a handful of Germans around the Roman temples of Jupiter, Venus, and Bacchus here complained that 80 percent of June's and July's bookings from Europe had been canceled after Israel's 17-day offensive against suspected Hizbullah positions in Lebanon last month.

He pointed to a hand-painted sign at the entrance to the temple complex that reads in English: "Hizbullah welcomes the tourist." The guide grumbled: "Hizbullah are not monsters; they don't eat foreigners like your newspapers write."

## Their Future Hazy, Lebanon 's Guerrillas Try Tourism, Politics

Despite fiery claims it will fight on until "Jerusalem is liberated," Hizbullah knows its days as a guerrilla group are numbered. It is busily preparing itself for the time when a peace treaty is eventually signed between Israel, Syria, and Lebanon.

Promoting tourism is part of Hizbullah's effort to reinvent itself as a legitimate political, social, and cultural organization. Baalbek is no mini-Tehran, and Hizbullah has relaxed its strict Islamic vigilance. Women in short skirts are as commonly seen on its dusty streets as are those swathed in black chadors.

Hizbullah's attempts to join the Lebanese mainstream began four years ago when its candidates won eight of 128 seats in the first post-war parliamentary elections.

It hopes to win more seats this summer. That could mean more attacks on Israeli forces in southern Lebanon, as Hizbullah tries to capitalize on its position as the only organization willing and able to challenge Israel's might.

Hizbullah viewed the US-brokered cease-fire as a victory. Militarily, it survived the Israeli offensive intact: Most of the 200 Lebanese who died during the Israeli campaign were civilians. Western defense analysts in Beirut said Hizbullah's claims that it lost just 14 fighters may be only slightly exaggerated.

"Even now Israelis admit they lost the last battle," says Mohammed Noun, a news presenter on Hizbullah's TV station, al-Manar.

The limited US-brokered agreement effectively gave the Hizbullah militants a license to attack Israeli forces inside Lebanon, while making it difficult for Israel to retaliate because Hizbullah operates among the civilian population. Hizbullah has an estimated hard core of just 600 highly motivated fighters, but it can mobilize thousands more.

A short but illustrious career?

"When parliamentary elections start in two month's time, I could become a politician. Then if fighting starts in the south, I'd be a fighter again. There is no distinction in Hizbullah between civilians, politicians, and fighters," says Mr. Sharaf al-Din, who used to work for the US oil company Aramco in Saudi Arabia. Smiling, the father of five said he would be happy to become a suicide bomber: "It's all Allah's will."

"There is a big difference between just dying and martyrdom," explains Mr. Noun, the news presenter for al-Manar, Hizbullah's main propaganda outlet. In a weekly broadcast, it features "martyrs" who have died fighting Israel.

Hizbullah's smooth welfare machine also wins support. Hizbullah operates well-equipped hospitals, funded mostly by Iran, in many of its strongholds in the Bekaa Valley and southern Lebanon.

Western diplomats in Beirut, however, said many press reports on Hizbullah's surging popularity after last month's Israeli offensive had been exaggerated. Lebanon's Francophile Christians, who once briefly allied themselves to Israel during the civil war, are alienated by Hizbullah's austere way of life and radical values.

"Even in the south, most people prefer Amal [the rival Shiite Muslim movement]," says a European envoy. "Certainly the Lebanese people were united in their sympathy for villagers in the south during the Israeli blitz, but that should not be confused with support for Hizbullah."

Even in Hizbullah strongholds that were damaged by Israeli attacks, it was not impossible to find villagers who quietly blamed the militant organization as much as Israel for their suffering. "Many of them know full well Hizbullah won't drive Israel from southern Lebanon. Only a peace treaty with Syria can do that," says the European diplomat.

## Graphic

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Their Future Hazy, Lebanon 's Guerrillas Try Tourism, Politics

PHOTO: BEIRUT: **Hizbullah** troops commemorate comrades who died in Israeli attacks last month. The terrorist group lost few fighters in the 17-day blitz and is claiming victory., JAMAL SAIDI/REUTERS

**Load-Date:** May 21, 1996

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End of Document

## *Beirut indicates it may try to rein in Hezbollah guerrillas*

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

August 3, 1993, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A4

**Length:** 591 words

**Byline:** PETER BAKOGEORGE; SOUTHAM NEWS; COX NEWS SERVICES

**Dateline:** NICOSIA

### **Body**

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Beirut is preparing to send its army into unpatrolled areas of south Lebanon, an indication it is finally trying to impose state control on a part of the country which has long been considered lawless.

The Lebanese government said yesterday the army has been told to prepare to move to the edge of a corridor running along south Lebanon which Israel occupies as a self-styled "security zone."

The deployment could mean Beirut will try to stop Hezbollah and other guerrillas from using southern villages to launch their rocket attacks against Israelis.

At the least, it is another sign the central government is expanding its authority throughout more of Lebanon, pushing farther into the background the years of the long civil war when it exercised little control. If it succeeds, it will become increasingly difficult for Israel to justify its occupation of the south.

In a statement released in Beirut, the government didn't say it intends to stop Hezbollah and other guerrillas from attacking into the security zone or from firing rockets into northern Israel settlements.

But the timing of the army's deployment - after Israel's week of intense bombing of suspected terrorist bases in the unpatrolled south - suggests it is meant to control guerrilla activity.

British radio reported yesterday that Lebanese army soldiers were patrolling in the village of Jibsheets, long a Hezbollah stronghold.

The Beirut government statement didn't say whether the army's move to the south was part of the ceasefire agreement which ended a week of Israeli attacks.

Nor did it say when the soldiers would be moved to villages abutting the security zone.

Although it comes after a week when Beirut seemed helpless in the face of the Israeli air, artillery and naval assault, the deployment is a sign of strength for the Lebanese government.

During the 16-year civil war, which ended in 1990, the government lost much of its authority to rival factions and warlords, and the national army became ineffective.

Beirut indicates it may try to rein in Hezbollah guerrillas

But in the past two years it has reorganized, begun fanning out to impose central government authority, and peacefully disarmed most of the militias that fought in the civil war.

**Hezbollah** was permitted to keep its weapons, which it said it needed to oppose the Israeli occupation of the south.

And the army, while it moved south from Beirut, didn't enter the hilly interior of south Lebanon.

The new moves announced yesterday have been welcomed by Israel, which has encouraged Beirut to stop guerrillas from using villages there as the staging grounds for their attacks.

If the army succeeds in taking control of southern villages and limiting guerrilla activity, pressure will mount on Israel to give up its occupation.

Israel has long claimed it had to stay in the south to keep the guerrillas out of rocket range of northern Israel communities.

It has never made a territorial claim on south Lebanon, but instead said its occupation is necessary because Beirut couldn't control the guerrilla activity there.

That argument would be weakened by a successful Lebanese army deployment there.

\* U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived yesterday in the Middle East with the substantial task of persuading Israel and its Arab neighbors to talk peace after the region's worst fighting in more than a decade.

"Decision time (on peace) is rapidly approaching," said Christopher after talks yesterday in Alexandria with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING: COX NEWS SERVICES

## Graphic

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AP/ **Women** wave flag as they prepare to return to their homes in Lebanon.

**Load-Date:** August 4, 1993

**LEBANON: HEZBOLLAH'S NEW FACE; Is it a new political maturity of a  
fundamentalist's rage?**

The Ottawa Citizen

June 15, 1992, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. D13

**Length:** 1224 words

**Byline:** ROBERT FISK; THE INDEPENDENT

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

## **Body**

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Pineapple juice and a plate of chocolate biscuits lay on the table that was marked by an attendance of intense young men. The **Hezbollah** insisted that I use their tape-recorder, not mine, to record the words of their astonishingly young leader, Hassan Nasrallah. It is, after all, only four months since the Israelis assassinated his predecessor, Sheikh Abbas Moussawi, along with his wife and five-year-old son.

But he showed none of the traditional **Hezbollah** characteristics. Nasrallah, 31, who is a "Sayed," regarded as a descendant of the Prophet, Mohammed, did not raise his voice in anger. He did not embark upon rhetorical speeches. He pointedly refused to discuss Western hostages. Instead, he coldly defined the **Hezbollah**'s objectives of driving Israel out of southern Lebanon - acknowledging the power of Israeli public opinion when heavy casualties were inflicted on the Israeli army - and candidly admitted that he was ready to sacrifice not only his own life but that of his wife and four children if the Israelis tried to assassinate him.

Was this, one wondered, a pragmatic **Hezbollah** that Nasrallah was leading, more in tune with President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani of Iran, anxious to show political maturity rather than the fundamentalist rage of a movement the Israelis and Americans have always identified as "terrorist"?

"We learned a truth from Imam Khomeini," he said, "that any country - if an army comes and occupies it, no matter how strong - if the people of this country rise up and are ready for sacrifice, they will achieve victory in the end. . . In Iran, they brought down the Shah; in Afghanistan, they made the Soviet army withdraw; in Lebanon, they made the Israeli army withdraw. What is important is that the West must realise that it should deal with the Arab and Islamic nations with respect. . . these people will respect those who respect them and will not be an enemy to anyone."

But if these remarks sounded analytical rather than impassioned - "the **Hezbollah** is as much political as it is military," Sheikh Nasrallah remarked at one point - there was no doubting the identity of his enemies. Only hours earlier, two Israelis had been wounded and two of Nasrallah's militiamen killed in a gun battle with Israeli troops in southern Lebanon. The **Hezbollah**'s "holy war" against Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon would continue, he said, despite the Lebanese Foreign Minister's appeal to the militia to "co-ordinate" its activities with the legal authorities. The Lebanese government was not doing enough to liberate its country. "It is using only diplomatic and political channels, but these means have not liberated a single inch of occupied Arab land," Nasrallah complained.

## LEBANON : HEZBOLLAH'S NEW FACE; Is it a new political maturity of a fundamentalist's rage?

Israeli deaths at the hands of the Hezbollah between 1982 and 1985 "made the Jewish people put pressure on their government to withdraw most of their invasion troops from Lebanon."

One could not but be reminded of other Israeli casualties - those killed in the suicide bombing of the Israeli embassy in Buenos Aires on March 17, for example. What had been Nasrallah's reaction to the news? Islamic Jihad had claimed the bombing in retaliation for Moussawi's assassination. Nasrallah's response was phrased with great care. "From the very first day, we said that the killing of Sayed Abbas Moussawi was not only an issue that concerned Hezbollah or the Lebanese but one that concerned Muslims everywhere - which made Muslims throughout the world angry. . . Do these angry Muslims consider this revenge enough?"

Here there was a momentary pause that might have been a warning, although Nasrallah did not suggest the Hizbollah had been involved. "I do not know. From the beginning, we said that we do not deal with the Israeli enemy on the basis of revenge but on the principle that there is a war going on. And we will fight this battle in every way."

In an outer office, a functionary had produced photographs of Batoul and Dina Nassour, the two Lebanese Shia children killed with their parents in their home at Jibchit by Israeli missiles two weeks ago. The Hezbollah had copied family snapshots of the children, along with pictures of their battered corpses after the Israeli raid. It was a matter apparently much on Nasrallah's mind. And was it any surprise that the Americans had demanded the disarming of the Hezbollah, he asked?

"The United States gives arms to Israel. It gives Israel technology. It finances the Israeli economy. It aids Jewish emigration into Palestine. It annulled the anti-Zionist clause at the UN. It allows Israeli planes to bombard homes containing women and children inside Lebanon. But America's response to these crimes is to call for 'restraint.' It asks those who slaughter the children to show self-restraint while it demands that those who resist the Israelis, the Hezbollah, should lay down their arms. . . ."

His voice takes on an edge of heavy sarcasm: "The family in Jibchit whose house was destroyed, of course, their death was their own fault, not the fault of the man who fired the missiles. It was the fault of the people who stayed on their land. How is it possible for the West to gain the confidence of the people of the developing world when such things happen? If a Jewish girl had been killed on a settlement in Palestine, there would have been an outcry in the West. . . ."

Nasrallah's life story is a classic Shia biography. Son of a poor vegetable seller driven from his east Beirut home at the start of the civil war, he says he was inspired by the sermons at a mosque near Karantina, later travelling to the Iraqi holy city of Najaf to study theology until he was expelled by President Saddam Hussein. He met Ayatollah Khomeini - "You felt only his presence when you were with him," he said, "because time and place became immaterial" - and helped to found the Hezbollah in 1982, when he was 21 years.

The Hezbollah still opposes the Middle East peace talks - America's role is biased, Nasrallah said, adding that five rounds of bilateral talks have brought no success for the Arabs. He wants the West to demand the unconditional release of Abdul-Karim Obeid, the Hezbollah cleric kidnapped by the Israelis in 1989, "just as the West demanded the unconditional release of the Western hostages." He claimed to know nothing of the German captives who are likely to be freed today - even though their reported captor, Abdul-Hadi Hamadi, is a Hezbollah official. Hamadi's two brothers, imprisoned in Germany on murder and firearms convictions, "should be dealt with on a humanitarian basis".

Nasrallah was almost resigned about Moussawi's assassination. "It wasn't a surprise," he said. "For a long time we had expected this to happen. It's only natural that a person should feel pain at such a loss. But mentally, on a rational level, we are always prepared to receive news of this sort. Moshe Arens (the Israeli Defence Minister) threatens Hezbollah leaders every day, even if attacking them results in the killing of civilians. . . I have a wife and four children, three boys and a girl. They are twelve, eleven, six and two. It's normal for any person to fear for the lives of his family if he is fighting a 'terrorist' enemy. But we are ready to sacrifice not only ourselves but also our family, exactly like Sheikh Abbas did."



## Graphic

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Hassan Nasrallah, **Hezbollah** leader

**Load-Date:** June 15, 1992

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## **75 KILLED BY ISRAELI 'MISTAKE'; SHELLS AIMED AT HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS MISS TARGET, HIT REFUGEES AT CAMP**

St. Louis Post-Dispatch (Missouri)

April 19, 1996, Friday, THREE STAR Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 1A

**Length:** 985 words

**Dateline:** QANA, LEBANON

### **Body**

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Israel admitted an "unfortunate mistake" Thursday after its shells killed at least 75 Lebanese who had taken refuge at a U.N. camp.

The civilian carnage was the worst since Israel began its drive against Hezbollah guerrillas in southern Lebanon eight days ago. Israel wants to stop the guerrillas from firing rockets into northern Israel.

While expressing regret for the civilians' deaths, Israel defended its campaign and said the shells that hit the civilians had been aimed at Hezbollah rocket launchers.

President Bill Clinton, on a visit to Russia, joined in the world outcry against the killings and called for a cease-fire. He ordered Secretary of State Warren Christopher to the region to mediate.

Israel said it would accept a cease-fire if others agreed to it, a move that would leave Israel short of its goal of ending the threat from Hezbollah.

The United Nations said that shortly before the Israeli shells landed, Hezbollah guerrillas about 300 yards from the U.N. compound had fired two Katyusha rockets and eight mortar rounds at the Israelis. The Israeli shells apparently were in retaliation for that fire, but missed their target.

Hezbollah's press office in Beirut denied firing rockets from Qana. But the Shiite Muslim fundamentalists have been launching the rockets for days from all over the region southeast of Tyre.

Timur Goksel, spokesman for the 4,500-strong U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon, confirmed that 75 people died in the Qana attack.

The Israeli foreign minister, Ehud Barak, called the attack on the base an "unfortunate mistake."

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said, "I'm pained by every person, every woman, every child, who is being killed," But he said Israel had "no choice but to defend its citizens," and he accused the Iranian-backed guerrillas of Hezbollah of hiding behind civilians.

Lebanese leaders called the Israeli shelling "the mother of all atrocities" and a new page in "the annals of terror."

## 75 KILLED BY ISRAELI 'MISTAKE'; SHELLS AIMED AT HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS MISS TARGET, HIT REFUGEES AT CAMP

Unlike the hundreds of thousands of Lebanese who fled north in recent days after Israeli warnings, the 6,000 refugees at U.N. bases had elected to stay in the south, believing they were safe among the U.N. troops. About 500 refugees were at the U.N. base outside Qana, eight miles southeast of the port city of Tyre.

Refugee children were playing outside, watched by their parents from a hut, when the first of five 155-mm howitzer shells slammed into the base at 3 p.m. local time.

As the smoke cleared from the compound, dozens of victims lay on the ground in pools of blood, their bodies cut to pieces by shrapnel. Some bodies were headless. Peacekeepers, still wearing flak jackets and blue helmets, broke down in tears as they covered the dead with blankets.

**Women** wailed and beat their chests as they stood over the bodies. Men slapped their palms to their foreheads in disbelief, and some shouted: "Death to Israel! Death to America!"

More than a hundred people were wounded, including four soldiers from the Fijian force at Qana, Goksel reported.

Badly wounded people were rushed to a hospital, where angry civilians attacked three **Hezbollah** members, beating them with sticks and chairs and accusing them of being the source of Lebanon's misery.

The shelling took place after Peres and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat announced Thursday that they would resume their peacemaking and begin talks on a final settlement. There was no word if those talks were still planned.

Israel's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak, said he saw no mistake of judgment in the attack. "We fought **Hezbollah** there, and when they fire on us we will fire on them to defend ourselves," he said.

### Campaign In Lebanon

The guerrillas have been fighting since 1985 to drive Israeli troops from the border enclave they occupy in southern Lebanon. Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, has stayed out of the latest conflict.

Israel began its recent offensive of air and artillery attacks eight days ago to silence **Hezbollah** rocket fire on northern Israel. Israeli warplanes and helicopter gunships have ranged as far north as Beirut to strike at **Hezbollah** strongholds.

**Hezbollah** has fired 250 Katyusha rockets at northern Israel during the offensive, Israel TV reported Thursday.

Before the attack on the base, Israeli warplanes flattened an apartment building in the village of Nabatiyeh Fawqah, 20 miles north of Qana. Eleven people, including a mother and seven children, were killed.

In northern Israel, an army spokeswoman said several Katyusha rockets damaged an Israeli settlement, wounding a woman. Fifty people have been wounded in Katyusha attacks over the past eight days.

**Hezbollah** said in a statement in Beirut that it attacked four settlements in northern Israel to avenge the attack on Nabatiyeh Fawqah.

Before the attack on Qana, 59 people had been killed and 199 wounded in Israel's eight-day offensive, most of them Lebanese civilians, according to figures from Lebanese and Israeli authorities.

After the attack on the U.N. base, convoys of Israeli tanks rolled through the northern border town of Kiryat Shemona toward Lebanon.

Israeli Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said "a lot of tanks were entering southern Lebanon now," but it was not immediately clear if any tanks actually crossed the border. Reporters at the scene said many of the tanks turned back to Israel.

### World Condemnation

## 75 KILLED BY ISRAELI 'MISTAKE'; SHELLS AIMED AT HEZBOLLAH GUERRILLAS MISS TARGET, HIT REFUGEES AT CAMP

Condemnation of the attack poured in from around the world. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said through his spokesman that he was "shocked and horrified."

French President Jacques Chirac, saying the spiral of violence was "sadly predictable and unacceptable," called for an immediate cease-fire. British Prime Minister John Major regretted "the dreadful loss of life."

Jordan's King Hussein, a close ally of Israel in the peace process and a friend of Peres, condemned the attack as "criminal." It was his harshest criticism of Israel since the two countries signed a peace treaty in 1994.

### Graphic

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PHOTO; Photos by AP (1) ABOVE: An Israeli gunner covers his ears Thursday as a self-propelled 155mm howitzer fires at **Hezbollah** targets across the border in Lebanon. (2) LEFT: Refugees react to the shelling of the U.N. camp at Qana, Lebanon, where 500 Lebanese had sought shelter.

**Load-Date:** April 19, 1996

**HEZBOLLAH BACKS BAN ON ATTACKING CIVILIANS< A LEADER SAID THE  
GUERRILLAS WOULD STOP IF< ISRAEL WENT BACK TO A 1993  
UNDERSTANDING.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
APRIL 21, 1996 Sunday D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly . com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1236 words

**Byline:** Alan Sipress, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

## **Body**

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As Western and Middle Eastern envoys worked to negotiate a cease-fire in Lebanon yesterday, a ranking **Hezbollah** leader said his group supported an unconditional return to a previous accord with Israel under which attacks on civilians were banned.

Sheikh Khoudr Nouredin, a member of **Hezbollah**'s political council, said his guerrillas would end their rocket attacks on northern Israel if Israel demonstrated that it would abide by the terms of that 1993 understanding.

However, the **Hezbollah** official said his guerrillas would continue to attack Israeli military targets as long as Israel occupies land in the southernmost part of Lebanon.

Since Israel began a punishing artillery and air barrage in that area 10 days ago, about 150 Lebanese villagers - nearly all of them civilians - have been killed and hundreds more have been wounded. At least 75 civilians were killed Thursday when Israeli shells smashed into a U.N. compound where about 500 refugees had sought sanctuary.

**Hezbollah**'s rocketing of northern Israel, which preceded the recent Israeli attacks, has injured several dozen residents there.

Civilian casualties were exactly what the 1993 understanding was designed to prevent when it was brokered by the United States following a previous Israeli offensive. Under the agreement, neither side was to attack civilians, but both sides were free to attack the other's military targets.

"We would like to go back to the agreement," Nouredin said, speaking in the group's offices in the Haret Hareyk suburb south of Beirut. "We don't need any other conditions."

## HEZBOLLAH BACKS BAN ON ATTACKING CIVILIANS< A LEADER SAID THE GUERRILLAS WOULD STOP IF< ISRAEL WENT BACK TO A 1993 UNDERSTANDING.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher traveled to Damascus last night to present a cease-fire proposal to Syrian President Hafez al-Assad. Christopher's proposal would expand on the 1993 agreement.

Christopher told Assad the fighting must stop in order to reopen stalled peace talks between Israel and Syria. "He indicated he had a strong interest in a cease-fire and that they were working to achieve it," Christopher said.

Syria is essential to any deal, because it maintains 35,000 troops in Lebanon. Top European diplomats, as well as Iran's foreign minister and Hezbollah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, also converged on Syria yesterday in the strongest bid yet to end the conflict.

Christopher's 2 1/2-hour meeting with Assad produced no timetable for a cease-fire. And although Christopher credited Syria's leaders with being "actively engaged" with the Lebanese-based guerrillas, he also told reporters it was not clear what Hezbollah wanted in return for halting its shelling of Israel.

### 'THE RIGHT TO RETALIATE'

On the next stage of his shuttle diplomacy, Christopher was scheduled to leave today for Israel.

Regardless of whether a new understanding can be worked out, Nouredin said Hezbollah plans to respond to the bombing of the U.N. base and to Israel's rocketing the same day of an apartment building in which a woman and seven children died.

"We reserve for ourselves the right to retaliate for the massacres," he said. "We do not consider this revenge. We consider this necessary for putting limits on Israel's behavior."

He would not say whether this meant Hezbollah would launch cross-border assaults or attacks on Israeli targets abroad.

Nouredin - wearing the white turban, brown cape and full black beard of a Muslim Shiite cleric - made his comments in Hezbollah's public affairs office across the street from a hair salon and patisserie in a lower-middle-class suburb of Beirut. The building was not far from the group's headquarters in the suburb of Bir Abed, which was rocketed by Israeli aircraft on the first day of the strikes.

Since then, Hezbollah cadres have maintained a high profile.

Islamic activists in yellow aprons solicit contributions, like volunteers for the Salvation Army, for relief aid on Beirut's traffic-crammed streets.

### BLARING ANTHEMS

Hezbollah cars festooned with yellow flags cruise the streets, blaring anthems from loudspeakers on the roofs. Large plastic boxes mounted on the cars are heavy with cash donations, some from owners of chic boutiques and women in modern Western attire.

Over the last decade, Hezbollah has expanded its operations in Lebanon beyond guerrilla warfare and terrorist acts. The organization, like many other Islamic movements in the Middle East, runs a far-reaching network of hospitals, clinics, orphanages and schools. By providing crucial services in long-neglected Shiite neighborhoods, these institutions have put Hezbollah in good favor with many of Lebanon's poorest citizens.

The organization has been transforming itself into a more traditional political party as well. Hezbollah deputies were elected to eight seats in Lebanon's parliament, making it the largest party in a 128-member chamber dominated by independents. Four other non-Shiite deputies also are aligned with Hezbollah.

Israel's bombing of civilians has earned Hezbollah even broader sympathy with the Lebanese public.

## HEZBOLLAH BACKS BAN ON ATTACKING CIVILIANS< A LEADER SAID THE GUERRILLAS WOULD STOP IF< ISRAEL WENT BACK TO A 1993 UNDERSTANDING.

It is widely cheered among the Lebanese because it is seen as the only force resisting Israel's 14-year occupation of southernmost Lebanon, which Israel says it needs as a security zone against cross-border attacks.

French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette, one of the European diplomats now in Damascus, is pushing a cease-fire proposal that includes an Israeli withdrawal from the security zone in southern Lebanon.

Christopher met with de Charette yesterday. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said later: "We appreciate the support of the Europeans, but there is no joint U.S.-French or U.S.-European plan."

For its part, Israel has been pressing for a cease-fire agreement that would protect its soldiers in the occupied zone against Hezbollah's increasingly effective attacks, which have included roadside bombs and ambushes. Israel has grown ever more frustrated with these operations since the winter. In fact, these attacks on Israeli military targets in Lebanon, rather than the infrequent firing of Katyusha rockets into northern Israel, may have been the main impetus for Israel's current offensive.

The official aim of Israel's campaign is to uproot the Hezbollah fighters. Under one cease-fire proposal backed by Israel, the guerrilla fighters would be disarmed by Lebanese government troops.

Noureddin rejected that idea, stressing yesterday that Hezbollah would continue to attack Israeli military targets in southern Lebanon until Israel's occupation of the area ends. He expressed confidence that the Lebanese government of Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri would support Hezbollah's armed campaign.

"It is inconceivable the Lebanese government will try to stop the resistance as long as some of Lebanon is occupied," Noureddin said. "We won't accept to live like animals. We prefer to die for our dignity."

Ultimately, Hezbollah's conduct may be determined less by its own leadership than by Syria and Iran. Hezbollah makes no effort to disguise its allegiance to Iran, which provides weapons and training for the guerrillas.

Israel's negotiations with Syria play into the situation because that country effectively dictates Lebanese foreign policy.

But it remains unclear whether Hezbollah would lay down its arms even then, because the group objects to Israel's very existence. Noureddin left open the possibility that Hezbollah could coexist with Israel if the occupation in southern Lebanon ended.

"When the time comes, we'll talk about what decision we would take," he said.

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2002

## *Air attacks escalate between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas*

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

May 5, 2000 Friday Final Edition

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**Section:** FRONT; Pg. A07; News

**Length:** 500 words

**Dateline:** KIRYAT SHEMONA;ISRAEL

### **Body**

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KIRYAT SHEMONA, ISRAEL -- Children playing soccer and adults buying bread scattered in panic today as Lebanese guerrillas fired rockets for a second day at this Israeli border city, where people had just emerged from a night in the bomb shelters.

One person was slightly hurt in another northern town.

The Shiite Muslim group Hezbollah claimed responsibility, saying the attack was in retaliation for overnight Israeli bombing raids on guerrilla strongholds and Lebanese power installations.

Associated Press

Soldier killed

A day earlier, Hezbollah had unleashed its fiercest rocket attack in nearly a year on Israel's north, killing an Israeli soldier and wounding 26 other people. That rocket barrage came hours after two Lebanese women were killed in shelling by Israel's allied militia in south Lebanon.

The sharp exchange of retaliatory fire raised fears of escalated fighting once Israel withdraws its troops from the buffer zone it set up 15 years ago in south Lebanon. Israel said the planned troop pullout by July 7 would not be delayed, but promised to hit back hard in response to any attacks on its northern towns.

In today's attacks, rockets fell in the town of Shlomi, a poverty-stricken border community near Israel's Mediterranean coast, injuring one person. Moments later, a sustained barrage targeted Kiryat Shemona, the biggest town on the Israel-Lebanon border, which was the main target of Thursday's rocket attacks.

All over the north, residents who had just emerged after a night in underground shelters were hastily ordered back into the shelters.

In Kiryat Shemona, the midmorning attack came as the streets were crowded with people shopping for the Jewish Sabbath, beginning at sundown. Children were outside playing football, and long lines had formed at bakeries when the heavy boom of rocket fire was heard, scattering customers.

Plumes of white smoke arose from rocket craters, and several fires broke out. The deputy mayor, Yitzhak Kakon, said four homes, two supermarkets and 15 cars were hit in the latest salvos, which continued for more than an hour.



## Air attacks escalate between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas

In Lebanon, security officials speaking on customary condition of anonymity said some Katyushas were launched from the coastal area of Mansouri and that a few landed on the Lebanese side of the border near a United Nations observation post. No peacekeepers were hurt.

### Power plants hit

The overnight Israeli strikes on power installations in Beirut and northern Lebanon plunged large areas into darkness and carved a crater into the Beirut-Damascus highway, severing the main traffic artery between the Lebanese and Syrian capitals.

The targets and the timing of the attacks were chosen to minimize civilian casualties, Maj.-Gen. Giora Eiland, chief of Israeli military operations, told a news briefing in Jerusalem.

Witnesses said at least three air-to-surface missile hits shook people out of bed in a 2:30 a.m. attack at the Bsalem power station, one of two major stations supplying the capital of 1.2 million with electricity.

**Load-Date:** October 10, 2002

## ISRAELI SHELLS KILL 90 AT U.N. BASE< CIVILIANS NEAR SITE OF HEZBOLLAH

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
APRIL 19, 1996 Friday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1182 words

**Byline:** FROM INQUIRER WIRE SERVICES, Inquirer staff writer Alan Sipress contributed to this article.

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Israeli artillery shells yesterday slammed into a United Nations peacekeepers' compound in southern Lebanon where about 400 Lebanese refugees had sought sanctuary, killing at least 90 civilians and wounding dozens more.

Most of the dead were women and children who had fled Israel's punishing eight-day bombardment of southern Lebanese villages, believing they would be safe in the midst of U.N. peacekeepers. Four U.N. troops from Fiji were wounded, three seriously, in the shelling of the base at Qana, about six miles southeast of Tyre.

"It's a massacre," said Timur Goksel, a spokesman for the U.N. force in southern Lebanon. "The numbers are frightening."

The United Nations had complained over the last week that Israeli artillery and aircraft had attacked their positions and their relief convoys trying to reach villages cut off by the offensive.

The Israeli military said the barrage was in response to the firing of Katyusha rockets and mortars into northern Israel by Hezbollah guerrillas positioned several hundred yards from the U.N. base. The United Nations confirmed the Hezbollah attack, saying it came 15 minutes before the Israeli artillery struck.

Hezbollah denied that it launched any rockets from near the U.N. base.

The bloodbath prompted President Clinton yesterday to shift his position on the conflict. While he has previously expressed sympathy for the Israeli offensive, Clinton called for an immediate cease-fire and dispatched Secretary of State Warren Christopher to the Middle East in an effort to arrange a truce.

Last night, Israel's army radio reported that Israel had agreed to a cease-fire on condition that Syria and Lebanon promise to restrain Hezbollah.

## ISRAELI SHELLS KILL 90 AT U.N. BASE&lt; CIVILIANS NEAR SITE OF HEZBOLLAH

In its response early this morning, Hezbollah did not entirely reject the proposal. But the group said it first wanted the reinstatement of a 1993 pact, mediated by Christopher, that barred both parties from targeting civilians.

Before the attack on the U.N. base yesterday, four Israeli jets fired missiles at an apartment building near the southern Lebanon village of Nabatiyet al-Fawqa, killing a woman, six of her children and two other relatives. One of the children was 4 days old, neighbors said.

Israel said the air attack came shortly after guerrillas fired mortars at an Israeli army post from a nearby hill.

In Qana, at least five Israeli 155mm artillery shells smashed into a pair of thatched huts that the U.N. troops, assigned from Fiji, had erected inside a courtyard to evoke their South Pacific home. The shelters burst into flames.

The Israeli army chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak, said the United Nations was warned of impending artillery barrages just before the attack. A U.N. source quoted by the Associated Press said the Israeli warning came at 2:16 p.m. - three minutes after the first direct hit was reported at the U.N. compound.

Survivors were overcome by the magnitude of the killing. Grown men staggered around the blood-soaked compound, weeping uncontrollably. Wailing women threw themselves onto the burned and mangled corpses of relatives. As they weaved among rows of bodies shrouded with blankets, stepping over scattered body parts, even some veteran U.N. soldiers were in tears.

"My white rubber shoes have turned red from the blood," said Hassan Siklawi, a Lebanese who works with the United Nations as a liaison officer. "I had to walk over bodies that covered the walkways at the base."

Relief workers and ordinary citizens rushed many of the victims to nearby hospitals even as Israeli jets continued to rocket the immediate area. Scores of U.N. troops in their trademark blue helmets and vests helped with the evacuation.

But doctors, operating on benches and tabletops, were unable to keep up with the flood of victims. Many of the injured, some missing arms and legs, were kept waiting as they bled in the corridors, writhing in pain. The mission was further complicated by dwindling medical supplies, due in part to Israeli harassment and bombardment in recent days of ambulances and relief trucks operated by the United Nations, Red Cross and other humanitarian agencies attempting to re-provision hospitals.

"Everyone died. There is no one left there," screamed a young man amid the bedlam of the hospital wards at Najem Hospital in Tyre. "They had no heads and no feet."

Many young victims were carried to the hospital in zippered orange sacks, sometimes two and three children in each one. Every pulse was checked before a new death toll was tallied.

This latest tragedy demonstrates how disproportionate the violence has become as Israel presses its campaign - nicknamed Operation Grapes of Wrath - to uproot the Hezbollah guerrillas. About 160 people have been killed during the eight-day operation, most of them Lebanese civilians. Hundreds more have been wounded.

No Israeli has died, according to latest reports. Several dozen Israeli citizens have been wounded by Hezbollah rocket attacks.

About 400,000 southern Lebanese have fled their homes in the last week. An estimated 6,000 have sought shelter with the United Nations, including those taken in at Qana. In Israel, fewer than 20,000 residents have left their homes.

Gen. Shahak, the Israeli chief of staff, said Israel had not made a mistake of judgment by shelling the base. Speaking at the same Tel Aviv news conference, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres justified the attack as a legitimate response to Hezbollah rocketing only 15 minutes earlier.

## ISRAELI SHELLS KILL 90 AT U.N. BASE&lt; CIVILIANS NEAR SITE OF HEZBOLLAH

"I regret that civilians were killed. The sole guilty party, still on the ground, is Hezbollah, and if the Syrians and the Lebanese won't prevent it they will bring disaster on Lebanon," Peres said.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri responded angrily to Peres' comments.

"I thought Mr. Peres would have the courage to say they made a mistake, a terrible mistake, by killing children, women and innocent people," Hariri said. "I was really shocked and surprised by what he said."

It was not the first time the U.N. force - formally called the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) - has been attacked by Israeli forces. More than 200 UNIFIL peacekeepers have been killed since 1978, some of them by Israeli fire during battles with Palestinian or Shiite Muslim guerrillas.

UNIFIL, made up of 4,570 troops from nine nations, was established in 1978 to help restore the authority of the Lebanese government over the south of the country after an Israeli incursion that year in pursuit of Palestinian guerrillas.

News of yesterday's strike at the U.N. base provoked condemnation by world leaders. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali "learned with shock and horror" of the killings and dispatched a senior military officer to Lebanon to conduct an investigation, according to a U.N. spokesman.

Israel was also condemned by Jordan's King Hussein, who has emerged as its closest Arab friend after the 1994 peace treaty between the two countries. The king demanded an end to the Israeli bombardment, and the Jordanian prime minister summoned the Israeli ambassador in Amman to lodge an official protest to what he called "a massacre of innocent civilians."

## Graphic

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PHOTO AND MAP;

PHOTO (2)

1. The bodies of Shiite Muslim refugees lie covered by blankets at the headquarters of the Fijian U.N. battalion in Qana, Lebanon. "My white rubber shoes have turned red from the blood," a liaison officer for the United Nations said of the site hit yesterday by Israeli artillery. (Associated Press)

2. A wounded man and his children await treatment at a hospital in Tyre, Lebanon. The Israeli military said the barrage was in response to Hezbollah's firing of Katyusha rockets and mortars into northern Israel. (Reuters, NAJALA ABOU JAHJAH)

MAP (1)

1. Attacks In the Region (The Philadelphia Inquirer)

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2002

**Soldiers killed in southern Lebanon; Peres says Hezbollah will pay for attacking army, SLA allies**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

March 21, 1996, Thursday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. B15

**Length:** 582 words

**Byline:** CAROL MORELLO; KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS; REUTER

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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The chances of Israel launching a major military strike in southern Lebanon increased yesterday, with the killing of two more soldiers by Islamic guerrillas.

The deaths came in two separate incidents, both within a stretch of southern Lebanon that Israel maintains as a security zone to curb guerrilla attacks on Israeli settlements along its northern border.

An Israeli officer was killed and seven soldiers were wounded when a youth rigged with explosives blew himself up near a passing Israeli army convoy in the village of Tabieh in southern Lebanon. In a second incident, a roadside bomb took the life of a Lebanese soldier in the South Lebanon Army (SLA), a militia armed and financed by Israel and considered traitorous by the Lebanese government.

In all, six Israeli soldiers have been killed this month in attacks by Hezbollah guerrillas who say they are fighting to liberate their country from Israeli occupation.

So far, the unwritten rules of the game are that things will not get out of hand so long as Hezbollah refrains from shelling towns in northern Israel and Israel doesn't fire mortars at Lebanese villages north of the security zone that runs 14 to 24 kilometres deep into Lebanon. Each side has accused the other of violating this unofficial agreement.

In February and March, Hezbollah attacks on Israeli and SLA troops have reached their highest level since Israel declared the security zone in 1985. The mayor of Kiryat Shmona, the largest Israeli town near the northern border, has urged the army to strike back at Hezbollah to avenge Israeli casualties, even at the risk that his town would again become the target of Hezbollah Katyusha rockets.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has warned that Hezbollah will pay for its attacks on the Israeli army and its SLA allies. The United States and Egypt both have counseled restraint, but Peres cited an air of expectancy as a prime reason why Israel has not retaliated yet. Dozens of news crews have massed along the northern border this week expecting a military operation.

- Israel yesterday demolished houses belonging to families of Palestinian Muslim militants for their roles in bombing attacks on Israel.

Soldiers killed in southern Lebanon ; Peres says Hezbollah will pay for attacking army, SLA allies

Hundreds of Israeli soldiers descended on Beit Hanina in East Jerusalem, as troops bulldozed the home of Muhyi el-Deen al-Sharif, suspected of plotting suicide attacks against Israel. The Sharif family was surrounded by police in a courtyard.

Witnesses said troops also blew up the family home of Abdel Majid Dudin in El-Bruj near Hebron on the West Bank. Palestinian sources said Dudin was involved in planning the bombing of a city bus in Jerusalem in August. Dudin was sentenced to 10-12 years in jail by the Palestinian Authority and is now serving the term in Jericho.

Last night, the Israeli army said it sealed the home in the village Abu Dis near Jerusalem of Iman Abdel Majid Ashur Sider, a Palestinian militant involved in attacks against Israel in 1994.

Earlier yesterday, Israeli troops clashed with angry residents of the al-Fawwar refugee camp on the West Bank of the Jordan River after soldiers blew up the house of Ibrahim Sarahneh, an Islamic militant who killed one person in a suicide attack in Ashkelon on Feb. 25.

"This is collective punishment which does not solve the problems of Jews or Arabs and does not serve the peace process," said Fawwar resident Adnan Ghatasheh.

Israel resumed its policy of wrecking homes after the wave of suicide bombings.

## Graphic

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AFP / Palestinian women sit on their belongings, praying and crying, after Israeli police destroyed the house of their family in Beit Hanina. The house belonged to Muhyi el-Deen al-Sharif, whom Israel calls the new master bomber for Hamas.

**Load-Date:** March 22, 1996

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End of Document

**Attacks halted, for now;  
Israel, Hezbollah end two days of retaliatory strikes**

Windsor Star (Ontario)

May 6, 2000 Saturday Final Edition

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**Section:** News; Pg. A15; News

**Length:** 443 words

**Byline:** The Canadian Press

**Dateline:** Beirut

## **Body**

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After two days of tit-for-tat attacks -- the worst in nearly a year -- in which an Israeli soldier and two Lebanese civilians were killed, Lebanese guerrillas and Israel both said Friday they would hold their fire.

The separate announcements came after Israeli warplanes left a deep crater in the highway from Beirut to the Syrian capital of Damascus Friday and knocked out power stations in the Beirut suburb of Bsaleem and in the northern port city of Tripoli.

But each side warned they would not tolerate attacks on civilians.  
CP

Soon after Israel announced it would not retaliate for the latest **Hezbollah** rocket attack on northern Israel, the guerrillas said a halt to attacks on Lebanon was the key to sparing Israeli settlements fresh violence.

"If it wants to spare its northern settlements the danger of the Katyusha rockets, then it has to restrain its army from any aggression and also has to restrain its agent militia," **Hezbollah** said.

Israel's army allowed residents of northern Israel to leave bomb shelters, hours after the security cabinet decided not to retaliate.

Shouting for joy, residents dragged blankets and mattresses out of bomb shelters back to their homes to celebrate the Jewish Sabbath which began at sunset Friday.

The latest round of strikes began Thursday when two Lebanese **women** were killed in shelling by Israel's allied militia in southern Lebanon.

**Hezbollah** responded with its fierce rocket attack on Israel's northern border, killing a soldier and wounding 26 other people.

A Canadian soldier stationed with the UN Disengagement Observer Force on the Lebanese border witnessed Thursday's attack.

State of panic

Attacks halted, for now; Israel , Hezbollah end two days of retaliatory strikes

"I had just gone there for a day trip and all of a sudden there was the sound of concussions in the background and the people in the mall were quickly in a state of panic and there was a lot of confusion in the air," Capt. Neville Rabadi, an engineer from Combat Training Centre Gaagetown, N.B., told CTV news.

A defence department spokesman in Ottawa said Rabadi is one of 190 Canadians stationed at Camp Zouani on the Israeli side of the border about 40 km from Kiryat Shemona.

Canadians have been part of the UN force since 1974.

It was set up to monitor the disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces.

Fighting continued Friday, with Israel bombing major Lebanese cities and Shiite Muslim guerrillas sending more rockets into northern Israel. Israel briefly responded before deciding during a closed-door, high-level meeting not to retaliate.

There were no reports of fatalities on either side Friday, though two Lebanese and an Israeli were reported injured Friday.

## Graphic

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Civilians remove rubble from a car close to the destroyed power-generating plant near the village of Der-Ammar near the northern port city of Tripoli Friday. Israeli warplanes attacked power installations in Beirut and northern Lebanon and struck in the east, in retaliation for rocket attacks on northern Israel. AP photo: Mahmoud Tawil

**Load-Date:** March 29, 2002



## *Amal-Hezbollah deal brings villagers a fragile peace: The bitterness left by battles between south Lebanon's Shi'ite factions*

The Guardian (London)

February 2, 1989

Copyright 1989 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Length:** 643 words

**Byline:** By JULIE FLINT

### **Body**

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A few miles outside the small, stone-built village of Kfar Kila, at the point where the mountain road crosses over a deep gorge known locally as Death Valley, a lone shell crashed somewhere behind us and the driver pulled from his pocket a verse from the Koran.

'I bring this special for this very dangerous mission,' he said sombrely, in explanation for what was an unprecedented outbreak of piety. And then, gesturing towards the Hezbollah-controlled villages above Kfar Kila and the Israeli-controlled villages only a hop and a skip away: 'For every bad.'

But it was the inter-Shi'ite 'bad' that concerned him. Kfar Kila, a picturesque Shi'ite village in the Iklim el-Touffah region 50 miles south of Beirut, was the kick-off point for a month of fighting that killed 140 and left thousands homeless before Hezbollah and the Syrian-backed Amal signed a 'definitive' peace agreement in Damascus on Tuesday.

His concern grew at our first encounter with a group of Amal fighters leaving Kfar Kila after a night, they claimed, of 'heavy fighting' started by Hezbollah.

'The leaders can make this agreement but not the fighters,' said a youth whose cousin was one of five men killed in Kfar Kila the night that Hezbollah attacked it.

'I'm willing to talk to the Israelis. Israel came here and didn't do this. And Israel is my enemy, no Hezbollah. But if I see the man who killed my cousin, I will kill him. If anyone from Hezbollah comes past my checkpoint, I will kill him. There has been too much blood for peace.'

Inside Kfar Kila, however, it was quiet and stayed quiet. A caged canary sang in the branches of a medlar tree. An old woman swept the main - the only - street with a dustpan and brush. Relatives stood around the graves of the five dead men and of two women who died - of grief, they said.

'We will not allow the killers to come back,' said 30-year-old man still hobbling from a gunshot wound, 'and we do not want their kind of Islam. But I hope peace will be possible. The majority of the people want it. You can't fight Hezbollah for ever because it is your brother, your cousin and your father. This war serves only Israel.'

The Damascus ceasefire has now held, completely and fully, for two days. But the full agreement has yet to be implemented. Prisoners have yet to be released, withdrawals effected and Amal's siege of Hezbollah's forward base in the Iklim el-Touffah mountains lifted.

Amal-Hezbollah deal brings villagers a fragile peace: The bitterness left by battles between south Lebanon 's Shi'ite factions

In many places, the lines drawn in Damascus are so fine as to be almost invisible, ensuring future problems. But most observers believe there will be peace, at least until a clutch of new initiatives - Lebanese, Palestinian and pan-Arab - have clarified the local and regional panorama.

Syria and Iran, their 'strategic alliance' threatened by their proxies' enmity, are both insisting on the agreement - Syria to quieten its Lebanese backyard at a time of Arab debate on Lebanon and Iran to demonstrate its new status as a state respected by and respecting others.

Amal has won recognition as the controller of south Lebanon. Hezbollah, thrown out of the south last April and unable to get back since, has one foot back on the ground. Promised the right of return to south Lebanon and gently pressured by Iran, which has in recent months decreased its financial flow to Lebanon, Hezbollah appears to be headed for a period of 'Lebanisation,' of eschewing its former excesses in favour of working within the local political framework.

A member of Hezbollah's top council, Haji Abu Han, has said the party would not today sanction the kidnapping of a man like Colonel William Higgins, the American Marine Colonel seized in south Lebanon a year ago.

'In the past,' he said, 'our only concern was to fight Israel. We gave little importance to purely Lebanese problems. We are now planning to draw up a programme of political action for the next state.'

**Load-Date:** June 13, 2000

## **Lebanese unite to share grief, anger: But Israel continues its attacks against Hezbollah**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 23, 1996, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 720 words

**Byline:** JOHN DANISZEWSKI; LOS ANGELES TIMES; WASHINGTON POST; AP; REUTER

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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At precisely noon yesterday, this city of 1.2 million came to a halt. Cars stopped in the road. People stood outside shuttered stores. Church bells rang.

A nation that is hardly a nation felt a unity it has rarely known - Christian and Muslim alike shared grief and anger at the hostilities with Israel that have claimed approximately 150 lives in 12 days.

The national day of mourning proclaimed by the government was a catharsis for Lebanon's 4 million people, who otherwise feel they have very little control of the conflict on their soil between pro-Iranian **Hezbollah** guerrillas and the Israeli army.

The two sides did not miss a beat yesterday even as U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher shuttled between Jerusalem and Damascus, Syria, in search of a ceasefire agreement.

Israeli gunboats fired missiles at traffic on the main coastal highway for a fifth day, in effect cutting the country in two.

The use of gunboats, which Israel says is to prevent supply convoys from reaching **Hezbollah** guerrillas, kept families separated and impeded the movement of food and other humanitarian supplies. Among the many travellers forced to turn back was a group of 30 parliamentarians trying to visit the survivors of an Israeli attack on the south Lebanon village of Qana.

Livid, parliament member Habib Sadia said it was outrageous that Israel was blocking Lebanese citizens from moving through their own territory.

Late in the day, Israeli warplanes staged a lightning raid against a stronghold of Palestinian militants 16 kilometres south of Beirut. The fighter-bombers fired eight rockets into bases belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command in the coastal hills of Naameh, in the first bombing raid in the Beirut area in five days.

Israeli ships offshore at Naameh also fired artillery against the Palestinian militants, who, according to Lebanese news reports, had recently given some Katyusha rockets to **Hezbollah**.

Lebanese unite to share grief, anger: But Israel continues its attacks against Hezbollah

In south Lebanon, the main arena of the fighting between Israel and Hezbollah, United Nations observers counted 12 Israeli air raids against targets in Lebanon, 1,000 Israeli artillery rounds landing, and 40 Katyusha missile launches by Hezbollah into northern Israel, said UN spokesman Mikael Lindvall.

Christopher pressed ahead with efforts to broker a ceasefire, meeting again with Syrian President Hafez Assad to present a peace proposal.

Following his talks with Assad, Christopher was to fly to Israel to meet with Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

But Syria and Lebanon appeared yesterday to be rallying around key aspects of a French ceasefire plan for Lebanon, complicating efforts by the United States and Israel to persuade all parties that the U.S. proposal offers the best prospects for a lasting truce.

A day after Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres called on all parties to work through the United States as the sole mediating channel, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez said his country believes the French initiative is "very realistic" and contains several points that should serve as foundations of an eventual resolution.

The French plan proposes that a comprehensive peace agreement between Lebanon and Israel - in which Israeli troops would completely withdraw in exchange for security guarantees - should be reached by the end of the year.

For a country wracked by 15 years of civil war and the Israeli invasion of the early 1980s, the outbreak of fighting since April 11 has been a resumption of Lebanon's worst nightmares. "You want the truth? We don't really want a ceasefire. We want a complete solution," said Hussein Miske, 24, angered at being prevented from travelling because of the naval firing on the road.

As part of the national mourning observances, scenes of violence and destruction - devastated houses, an ambulance rocketed by a helicopter gunship, the wailing of survivors and the mangled bodies left by the artillery bombardment of a UN compound in Qana, where at least 75 civilians were killed - played all day on television.

In this grim atmosphere, outside the gates of the American University of Beirut, about 300 students blocked the street, displayed Lebanese flags and sang a national hymn in one of many demonstrations of solidarity for the conflict's victims.

## Graphic

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Photo: AP / Lebanese man sits with his children on main Beirut street yesterday as traffic comes to a halt around them to observe a minute of silence.

Photo: AFP / Girl holds photo depicting victims of Israeli assault as 300 women rally at Lebanese embassy in Amman, Jordan.

**Load-Date:** April 24, 1996

**Follow Hezbollah lead, Palestinians are urged: 'If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price': Nasrallah**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 27, 2000, Saturday, FINAL

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**Section:** News; A17

**Length:** 826 words

**Dateline:** BINT JBEIL, Lebanon

## **Body**

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**Hezbollah's** triumphant leader warned Israel yesterday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30, 000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea - that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276: the total of **Hezbollah** guerrillas killed in the fighting.

Draped from the podium was **Hezbollah's** logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "**Hezbollah** will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. **Hezbollah's** yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colourful head scarves of **women** and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising **Hezbollah**. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march yesterday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "**Hezbollah** is the victor." Others chanted: "**Hezbollah** is brave, moving forward."

Follow Hezbollah lead, Palestinians are urged: 'If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon , it will pay a high price': Nasrallah

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow Hezbollah's example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere."

"In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry, but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments at a minimum to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

Israel completed its troop pullout from Lebanon before dawn Wednesday, six weeks ahead of its self-imposed July 7 deadline. Israeli-allied militiamen dropped their weapons and fled in the face of advancing guerrillas and their supporters.

Earlier yesterday, Prime Minister Salim Hoss urged militiamen among the more than 6,000 Lebanese who fled to Israel during the withdrawal to return home and surrender. Militiamen are considered traitors subject to prison terms or, in extreme cases, death sentences.

Nasrallah said militiamen "must be punished to the extreme so they will be an example for the future."

About 1,500 militiamen and others affiliated with the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army militia have turned themselves in to Lebanese authorities. Thus far, 400 have been ordered to stand trial.

UN teams, meanwhile, fanned out in south Lebanon to ensure Israel has withdrawn completely and the SLA has been dismantled. These are formalities to deploying a peacekeeping force along the Lebanon-Israel border.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said yesterday in New York that he expects to have the certification of Israel's withdrawal "in the next few days."

Lebanese police also were settling in at southern Christian villages, a move intended to provide some security after reports of looting by armed Shiite guerrillas. The SLA was Christian-led, though a majority of its men were Muslim.

Underlining the difficulties facing government security forces, several policemen in the village of Bourj el-Moulouk tried to stop guerrillas from stealing five trucks yesterday. But police backed off when three carloads of gunmen arrived, and the guerrillas took the vehicles.

At the border fence yesterday, families came to see the Israeli side and a crowd of about 100 threw stones and firebombs, starting a bush fire that was put out by Israeli soldiers. In the past two days, civilians have thrown firebombs, glass bottles, fruits and insults at a group of Israeli soldiers guarding their side of the frontier.

## Graphic

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P Photo: THOMAS COEX, AFP / Lebanon's Hezbollah militia head Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah addresses a crowd, flanked by bodyguards, during a "victory" rally in the border town of Bint Jbeil yesterday.

**Load-Date:** May 28, 2000

## **DID TURKISH ARMY KILL THE FEMINIST KONCA KURIS?**

The Independent (London)

September 2, 2000, Saturday

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**Section:** FOREIGN NEWS; Pg. 13

**Length:** 785 words

**Byline:** Justin Huggler In Batman

### **Body**

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KONCA KURIS was a loving mother with five children. She also dared to challenge Islamic orthodox teachings on women, and insisted that women's rights had a place in Islam. In January, her rotting body was dug up out of the ground, disfigured beyond recognition.

Kuris was abducted two years ago, tortured for 38 days, murdered and buried in a shallow grave. Her killers made a video of the torture sessions. So who killed Konca Kuris?

The answer leads to another grave, newly dug in south-east Turkey this year - a grave no one dares even go near. It leads to a terror group calling itself the "Army of God", which committed hundreds of "executions" in which the killers were never caught, even when the police were witnesses. It leads to a looming political crisis, which has pitted the head of the military against elected MPs. And it leads to Islamic terrorists supported, trained, and maybe armed by security forces.

Kuris was among several Islamists who abruptly disappeared. Police could find no trace of them, until, acting on a tip-off, they raided a house in Istanbul. It was a safe house used by the Kurdish group Hizbullah, the Army of God.

Turkey's Hizbullah is not related to the Lebanese group of the same name. It is committed to Islamic revolution in Anatolia. In the police raid, the leader of the group, Huseyin Velioglu, was shot dead. He was buried in his home town of Batman, in the Kurdish south-east. Militants captured in the raid revealed that the organisation killed Kuris and the other Islamists.

Police have since captured a large number of Hizbullah militants, and several of the most prominent are on trial. The government has used the spectre of them to justify a purge of hundreds of state employees for alleged links with Islamic groups it is trying to force through. On the surface, Turkey is dealing with Hizbullah. But that is not the whole story.

People are afraid to walk too close to Velioglu's grave. But people here are used to fear: Batman is notorious for "mystery killings". Between 1992 and 1996, it had 363 unsolved murders.

"I am a witness," said Murat Aydin, a local Kurd. "I saw Mehmet Sincar killed." Sincar, a pro-Kurdish MP, was shot dead in the main square of Batman at 4pm in 1993. His murderer was never caught. "There were police and soldiers all around that day," Mr Aydin said. "They just ignored the killing."

## DID TURKISH ARMY KILL THE FEMINIST KONCA KURIS?

Most of the "mystery killings" of Batman were like that. But no one in Batman is in any doubt as to who the killers were. "It was Hizbullah," Mr Aydin said. "We all knew who they were." In Batman, they call them contra-guerrillas. And they say they worked hand in hand with Turkish security forces.

Hizbullah emerged in 1985, a year after the Kurdish rebellion started in earnest. The rebel Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), led by Abdullah Ocalan, was Marxist and atheist. The Islamic extremists of Hizbullah vowed to wipe it out. Turkish security forces desperately trying to contain the Kurdish rebellion stood to gain from factional fighting. Everybody in Turkey knows they turned a blind eye to Hizbullah. But how far did it go?

Troubled by the allegations coming out of Batman, the parliament sent a commission to investigate and in 1997 published a damning report, concluding that security forces had supported Hizbullah.

Fikri Saglar, a former MP who served on the forum, said: "The police chief in Batman told us on the record he knew who the Hizbullah militants were. But he said he could do nothing because the army was protecting them. He also told us the army had given Hiz- bullah militants some training."

The armed forces are the most powerful institution in the country. When Kuris's murder was uncovered in January, the former president Suleyman Demirel conceded some "forces belonging to the state" may have formed links with Hizbullah, but insisted they acted "illegitimately". Mr Saglar says, for the situation to continue in the face of the parliamentary report, those acting "illegitimately" must have been at a high level within the state.

Plenty of questions remain. Earlier this year news emerged that in 1994 the governor of Batman spent \$ 500,000 on guns - the guns disappeared but Hizbullah stores have been discovered full of guns. Are they the same ones? Why did Hizbullah suddenly turn on Islamist figures in the past 12 months. And why have the security forces chosen now to wipe out the Army of God? The PKK is defeated, and the militants are of no more use to security forces.

Mr Aydin believes he knows. "Now Turkey wants to join the (European Union), and they have all these unsolved murders to account for," he said. "So they shut down Hizbullah, blame the killings on them, and the whole case is closed."

## Graphic

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Konca Kuris, 38, left, was abducted, tortured and murdered by; Hizbullah in 1998. Her funeral, right, took place after police were led to her shallow grave in January

**Load-Date:** September 2, 2000



## *Shiite Muslims capture center stage in Lebanon*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

October 5, 1984, Friday

COPYRIGHT 1984 THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE PUBLISHING SOCIETY

**Section:** Pg. 1

**Length:** 1132 words

**Byline:** By Robin Wright, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** Beirut

### **Body**

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The drab scarfs and conservative dress that only recently became common for women here are being replaced by full black body drapes, or chadors.

New posters plastered on buildings boast of the coming "Islamic revolution." Black banners, strung across boulevards and alleys and wrapped around statues and mosques, call for people to "sacrifice with your life and your blood."

Lebanon is experiencing a rise of Shia Islam - a Muslim consciousness that borders on the kind of revolutionary zeal so far witnessed only in Iran.

A mere two years ago the various Shiite groups were background players in the Lebanese trauma. Now, they are at center stage.

The 10-day Shiite religious festival of Ashoura, which ends today, has made the trend highly visible: the parades of covered women and children hoisting large portraits of their "martyred" menfolk, the nightly rallies and speeches advocating stricter adherence to the faith, the rhetoric of the somber street decorations, and the attacks on places that sell alcohol.

Coming shortly after the Sept. 20 bombing of the US Embassy annex, for which Shiite extremists are the prime suspects, the manifestations have heightened sectarian sensitivities - and fears.

Although by far the largest Lebanese sect, the Shiites have only recently begun to challenge the Maronite Christians and Sunni Muslims for prominence - politically, socially, and militarily.

And now, a new strain of Shiite militancy has cast doubts on hopes for national reconciliation in Lebanon.

Until this year, the majority of Shiites followed the leadership of Nabih Berri, the moderate chief of the Amal ("hope" in Arabic) party. But over the past few months, the fundamentalist Hizbullah, or "Party of God," has gained a foothold in Beirut and begun to threaten Amal and Mr. Berri's commitment to help rebuild a nation for both Christians and Muslims.

## Shiite Muslims capture center stage in Lebanon

"We are an Islamic revolution. Hizbullah talks to the people about the real Islamic religion. Iran was a big influence on us," explains a young bearded cadre of Hizbullah whose nom de guerre is "Hamze" (not to be confused with the Amal military commander by the same name).

"Our slogan is 'death to America in the Islamic world'... We are going to strike the US as long as our people continue to be killed in the (Israeli-occupied) south," he said with the enthusiastic agreement of several other Hizbullah members.

But he denied knowledge about the annex bombing or the group Islamic Jihad, saying only that "a good Muslim" was responsible for the attack. He added, "The fire of Islam will burn the US like it is burning Israel... Our goal is to die for Islam. We love to die for Islam, like the kamikazes."

Amal is deeply concerned about the new movement. "They want a 100 percent Islamic state which we believe impossible," said Amal's deputy leader, Col. Akef Haidar. "Amal is an Islamic movement, but like our prophet we tolerate other (religious) communities. We want a real democracy where all people have rights."

Colonel Haidar conceded that the fundamentalist pull has hurt Amal. "Berri is losing on the ground. Things are going badly with the new government," in which Mr. Berri is a cabinet minister.

"Hizbullah is becoming stronger and stronger. We are expecting Hizbullah to grow because we are too moderate as a movement," Haidar said.

And he went as far as to predict that, without significant reforms that give majority Muslims a greater say in the government dominated by minority Christians, Hizbullah and other extremists would eventually gain the upper hand. "Hizbullah is waiting to take over when others fail," he said.

Originally sponsored by Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guards, who were dispatched to eastern Lebanon during the 1982 Israeli invasion, Hizbullah has mushroomed.

Over the past two years it has grown from a small core of radical clerics and students based in Baalbek in eastern Lebanon to a major movement with branches in Beirut and south Lebanon. Many of the militant expressions of Ashoura, the change in dress codes, attacks on bars, and the threatening banners are considered the direct result of Hizbullah's growing influence.

Yet little is known about the movement, including the identity of its leaders.

"Khomeini is our big chief," said Hamze, referring to the Iranian leader. "He gives the orders to our chiefs, who give them to us. We don't have a precise chief, but a committee."

Colonel Haidar explained: "There is no Hizbullah in the sense of a political party with some organization or structure." He claimed not to know its chief organizers, but estimated that there were roughly 5,000 Hizbullah fighters in Beirut.

Colonel Haidar and Hamze both said that Hizbullah has absorbed several Shiite groups, such as the militant Islamic Amal, Al Dawa ("The Call"), Jundallah ("Soldiers of God"), and the Islamic Students Union. "Hizbullah is not one party but four or five, a kind of Islamic front, very rigid and very strong," Colonel Haidar commented.

"There is not an open system of recruitment," said Fuad Khouri, a Shiite expert at American University of Beirut. "That's part of the mystery. You volunteer for it. Membership is fluid. You are in it and not in it."

"Every good Muslim is a member of Hizbullah," said Abdullah, a Hizbullah member and organizer of an Ashoura parade of children in the west Beirut suburb of Bir Abid.

"When a man believes in God, he is a member. There are no cards."

## Shiite Muslims capture center stage in Lebanon

Reflecting the movement's militancy, he added: "The future is for the Muslims. The Soviet Union and the US want to take over the earth. With Imam Khomeini, we can succeed to take these forces out, to destroy these forces."

"The birth of **Hizbullah** in Lebanon is part of the overall Islamic challenge," said Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, a Shiite cleric who regularly denies reports that he is a leader of the movement, while admitting his teachings have been a major influence.

The most popular of his many books, "Islam and the Logic of Force," can be found throughout the Arab world.

"The new Islamic generation," he said, "has now begun to carry Islam far from the traditions which held that Islam was just as a way of knowledge. **Hizbullah** is an organization born from Islamic concepts that are trying to face political reality."

Sheikh Fadlallah has condemned the three attacks on American targets over the past 18 months.

This summer he went on nationwide television to urge that foreigners not be kidnapped or harassed. And at a **Hizbullah** rally for Ashoura this week, at which he was the main speaker, he appealed for moderation and tolerance.

At the same time, Fadlallah said in a recent interview, "when it is necessary I approve of violence. Every person needs to defend himself. If a man needs to use violent ways, he must use it."

## Graphic

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Photo, Shiite leader Berri holding Shiite girls: his moderate style is losing support,UPI

Letters:  
*Getting rid of Hezbollah is the key to Mideast peace*

The Atlanta Journal and Constitution

April 26, 1996, Friday,

JOURNAL EDITION

Copyright 1996 The Atlanta Constitution

**Section:** EDITORIAL; Pg. 19A

**Length:** 860 words

**Byline:** Marc M. Kalmann, Sharpsburg

## **Body**

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The Editors: The cry by a reader for President Clinton's denouncement of "Israeli brutality" is naive.

Like the letter writer, who is from Lebanon, I, too, have lived the war. I have a brother in Kfar Saba, a sister in Jerusalem and other family members in a kibbutz near Kiryat Sh'mona. It matters not where, we all have lived the war a especially the family in Kiryat Sh'mona.

These kibbutzniks spend many hours in bomb shelters, hoping they are safe for another day from rocket attacks by Lebanon, shelled by Irani- Syrian-Lebanese supported and sustained by Hezbollah.

How did I miss reading the letter writer's condemnation of the terroristic bomb attacks on civilian buses, killing and maiming Jews, Arabs and Christians alike?

Unfortunately, as long as the Hezbollah continues to hide behind women's skirts, children's schools and United Nations buildings in Lebanon, shelling day after day, the kibbutzniks will continue to hide in shelters, and the Israeli army will continue retaliation.

The letter writer wants to end these atrocities, and so do we.

The letter writer should spend her energy and dollars toward the deportation of the Hezbollah out of Lebanon. She should ask Syrian President Hafez Assad to denounce the atrocities by the Hamas and Hezbollah, then perhaps the Lebanese people can get on with their lives.

My family has supported a Palestinian, a Lebanese and an Israeli homeland for 20 years. Write letters for peace, not denouncement.

Taxing problem

Ben Blackburn, Jasper

The Editors: Many thanks to the letter writer who pointed out that it is the relentless burden of taxes that lowers the living standard of all Americans. Reducing taxes on all incomes would do more to stimulate the economy and

## Letters; Getting rid of Hezbollah is the key to Mideast peace

improve the lives of Americans than raising the minimum wage. The unspoken secret behind the minimum wage is that the only beneficiary from an increase will be the government.

An increase in the minimum wage will result in all workers demanding, and receiving, wage increases to maintain the difference between their pay and the minimum wage. Prices will be raised to reflect the higher cost of production.

The dollar will fall in value as the result of the inflation which follows, and workers' purchasing power will be no greater after these adjustments have worked their way through the system. With everyone earning more dollars, they will be paying higher taxes on the same real income.

That a majority of the public favors an increase in the minimum wage is testimony to their ignorance of economic reality. We should expect our congressmen to know better.

Blackburn represented Georgia's 4th District in Congress from 1967 to 1975.

No justification

Erik M. Friendly, Atlanta

The Editors: The article "Two sentenced in crime spree" includes the statement, "On July 11, Justin Markie, 22, and Jeremy Petree, 19, picked up a 25-year-old homosexual man in the parking lot of the Tara movie theater." I can find no justification in the article for including the victim's sexual orientation, as there seems to be no connection to it and his unfortunate victimization.

None of the other victims' sexual orientations is given, including that of the two other male victims a one of whom is married a who are accused of sexually molesting the two criminals.

It seems the description of the first victim as a homosexual is another gratuitous use of the classification by the newspaper to sensationalize the crime, titillate the reader and propagate the vile notion that gay people are somehow very different from other people and their sexuality in some way relates to their victimization at the hands of criminals.

Victim blamed

Margaret and William Crook, Graham, Ala.

The Editors: We were horrified that a jury awarded a huge sum in damages to a man who assaulted another man and received injuries when the victim defended himself. We are writing our legislators to pass a law that criminals cannot sue for damages for injuries they received while committing a crime.

We understand the victim, Bernard Goetz, will not appeal this verdict against him. We all should do something to appeal this decision so it is overturned and will not set a precedent for the rest of us, should we be attacked. Do people realize what a decision like this could do to those who have to defend themselves from predators? Why should we have to pay thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend ourselves yet again from criminals who have already attacked us once? Why should we have to pay them damages when we only defended ourselves from their attack?

GOP is learning

Paul Brady, College Park

The Editors: I read with encouragement reports that environmental groups are springing up around the country within the Republican Party. The rhetoric used by those who consider the environment unimportant is disturbing; they laugh about people wanting to save bugs and snails and owls.

## Letters; Getting rid of Hezbollah is the key to Mideast peace

Every organism on the planet relies on some other organism for its survival. We can't possibly know what effect we're having when we remove a species from the hierarchy.

As for trees, the logging industry needs desperately to diversify, just as the defense industry has had to after the Cold War.

**Load-Date:** July 17, 1996

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**Rockets injure 19 in Israeli towns: Hezbollah attack seen as revenge for assassination of leading Lebanese guerrilla**

The Ottawa Citizen

August 26, 1998, Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A11

**Length:** 388 words

**Byline:** ALIK MAOR; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** KIRYAT SHEMONA, Israel

## **Body**

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Katyusha rockets slammed into northern Israeli towns last night, injuring at least 19 people, after a top Lebanese guerrilla leader was killed by an Israeli helicopter that ambushed his car in south Lebanon.

Along the northern border, Israeli residents dashed for shelters after the rockets took them by surprise. "People are in panic, in panic and fear. There are the wails of women and children," resident Samir Sulidan told Israel radio.

The barrage fell only hours after an Israeli helicopter gunship fired a rocket of its own, killing guerrilla commander Hossam al-Amin, reportedly the second-in-command of the military faction of the Shiite Muslim guerrilla group Amal, as he drove along a south Lebanese coastal road not far from the Israeli border. A spokesman for Amal in Lebanon acknowledged the killing, but declined to give Mr. al-Amin's rank.

The larger, Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group issued a statement in Beirut claiming responsibility for the attack against Israel.

The statement, carried on guerrilla radio Al-Noor, said the attack was meant as a "deterrent to the enemy." The statement made no mention of the dead Amal commander.

Guerrilla groups have been waging a long war against Israeli troops who have been stationed in south Lebanon since 1985 to prevent cross-border attacks on Israel's north.

Both sides have suffered heavy casualties in the fighting, but rocket attacks such as yesterday's are rare and have the potential to escalate the conflict. After a series of rocket attacks in 1996, Israel launched a 17-day air strike against guerrilla targets in which more than 100 Lebanese civilians were killed.

Five hours before the rockets fell last night, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai warned both Amal and Hezbollah not to take retaliatory action. "We reserve the right and have legitimate cause to act as long as we need to against leaders of terrorism and terrorism itself wherever it is found," he said.

Six years ago, in February 1992, Israel killed another guerrilla leader in much the same way. Then, an Israeli helicopter ambushed a car in south Lebanon and killed Hezbollah leader Sheik Abbas Musawi, his wife and five-year-old son. A month later, the group bombed the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, killing 29 people and wounding dozens.

Rockets injure 19 in Israeli towns: Hezbollah attack seen as revenge for assassination of leading Lebanese guerrilla

**Load-Date:** August 27, 1998

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**LEBANESE ARMY SEALS TOWN IN SEARCH OF CLERIC / IT IS LOOKING FOR SHEIKH SOBHI TUFALI, WHO ONCE LED HEZBOLLAH. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CLASHES.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

FEBRUARY 1, 1998 Sunday D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A07

**Length:** 387 words

**Byline:** Sultan Sleiman, REUTERS

**Dateline:** BRITEL, Lebanon

## **Body**

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The Lebanese army yesterday sealed off a village in search of fiery anti-Western cleric Sheikh Sobhi Tufaili after routing his forces in clashes in which at least 50 people were killed or wounded.

Tanks and armored personnel carriers mounted with machine guns took up positions off the main road to Britel, the home village of Tufaili, who led the Muslim fundamentalist group Hezbollah in the 1980s when it was accused of kidnapping Westerners.

Journalists, who had been following events since the Shiite Muslim cleric triggered the violence by seizing a Hezbollah school in nearby Baalbek on Friday, were ordered to leave as the army prepared for a siege. Britel residents were allowed to leave, but no one was allowed to enter the village.

An army statement ordered the closure of all offices in Lebanon run by Tufaili, a veteran political activist who was expelled from Hezbollah a week ago after deepening differences with the Iranian-backed group's current, more moderate leadership.

State television said late Friday that there were 50 dead and wounded in the clashes in Baalbek, 45 miles east of Beirut. The television last night quoted the army as saying that two army officers and a soldier were among the dead.

A spokesman for Tufaili said at least 18 of his supporters were killed, including three women.

Khodr Tlays, a former parliament member who was Tufaili's right-hand man, died in the fighting. Tlays also was from Britel, and residents there vowed revenge.

The army said after retaking the school at dawn yesterday that four bodies were found inside. In addition, a civilian woman who was hit by shrapnel in the leg bled to death.

LEBANESE ARMY SEALS TOWN IN SEARCH OF CLERIC / IT IS LOOKING FOR SHEIKH SOBHI TUFALI, WHO ONCE LED HEZBOLLAH. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL CLASHES.

It said troops took up positions on hills overlooking Britel, beside the snow-covered mountains at the eastern edge of the Bekaa Valley, where Tufaili was thought to be holed up after fleeing the Baalbek school. The Syrian border lies on the other side of the low mountains.

**Hezbollah**, which has a military arm fighting Israeli occupation troops in South Lebanon, expelled Tufaili on the grounds that he was seeking to split the party.

Tufaili, 49, led **Hezbollah** at the end of Lebanon's 1980s, when Western governments said it directed shadowy groups that carried out kidnappings and attacked foreign targets, including a 1983 suicide bombing in Beirut that killed 241 U.S. servicemen.

**Load-Date:** October 24, 2002

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End of Document

## **Turkish Terror Victim Espoused a Tolerant Islam**

The New York Times

January 26, 2000, Wednesday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company

**Distribution:** Foreign Desk

**Section:** Section A; ; Section A; Page 3; Column 1; Foreign Desk ; Column 1;

**Length:** 761 words

**Byline:** By STEPHEN KINZER

By STEPHEN KINZER

**Dateline:** ISTANBUL, Jan. 25

### **Body**

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With Turkey in shock over the discovery of dozens of savagely tortured bodies beneath the hide-outs of a religious terror group, much of the outrage and grief has been focused on the case of the only female victim.

The woman, Konca Kuris, was often described as a Muslim feminist. In books, articles, lectures and television appearances, she had described Islam as a religion that guarantees women's rights, and asserted that male commentators over the centuries had twisted its essence in ways that led to the oppression of women.

In July 1998, Ms. Kuris was kidnapped from the street in front of her home in the Mediterranean city of Mersin. There were no clues to her fate until her burned and disfigured body was exhumed on Saturday from a shallow grave in Konya, 220 miles northwest of Mersin.

Her body was one of 33 that have been found so far at properties used by Hizbullah, or the Party of God, a group dedicated to overthrowing the secular Turkish state and establishing an Islamic republic in its place. Police investigators are searching for more bodies.

Hizbullah is not believed to be connected to the similarly named group that has fought against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. Both groups, however, proclaim loyalty to a fundamentalist interpretation of Islam.

According to press reports, the police team that uncovered Ms. Kuris's body also found a videotape containing scenes of torture sessions she endured over a period of weeks. During one of the sessions, her captors are said to have accused her of seeking to become Turkey's version of Salman Rushdie or Taslima Nasrin, writers whom some Muslims consider heretics deserving of death.

"She had a great influence on Turkish women," said Ayse Onal, who has written several books on feminism in Turkey. "She showed that it's possible to be completely modern and still be faithful to Islam. That's why she was killed. Hizbullah, which is a very sick and deeply violent group, could not tolerate her point of view."

Ms. Kuris was the only intellectual among the Hizbullah victims found so far. Most of the others are believed to have been Kurdish businessmen from war-torn provinces in the southeast.

## Turkish Terror Victim Espoused a Tolerant Islam

After the first bodies were found last week, several politicians, news commentators and others charged that the Turkish military had collaborated with Hizbullah in the early 1990's, encouraging its death squads to kill Kurds considered favorable to the cause of Kurdish nationalism.

President Suleyman Demirel rejected that charge, but appeared to agree that some government agents or agencies might have had connections to Hizbullah.

"The state does not commit murders or order murders to be carried out," Mr. Demirel told reporters in Ankara on Sunday. "There may be forces belonging to the state that act illegitimately, but they are committing a crime."

Military commanders issued a statement denying that they or their predecessors had sponsored or aided Hizbullah.

"The general staff is closely following operations against the Hizbullah terror organization and shares the public's justified outrage at the horrors that have recently been uncovered," the commanders said. "Directly linking this merciless murder network to the Turkish armed forces is a senseless and illogical slander."

Turkey is arguably the world's most secular Muslim country, and many people here, especially women, considered Ms. Kuris an exemplar of their tolerant brand of Islam.

Born in 1960, she was married at 17 and had five children. At a young age she became interested in Islam, but quit the first religious sect she joined after being asked to wash its leaders' clothes. Later she made a trip to Iran with a Hizbullah delegation, but returned disillusioned with the organization because, she said, it supported a brand of Islam that was hostile to women.

After reading the Koran and various works of commentary, she began challenging religious orthodoxy, asserting that Islam does not require women to cover their hair with scarves and does not require the separation of the sexes at funerals or in schools.

She also urged that public prayers be offered in Turkish rather than the traditional Arabic.

"Konca used her mind, her emotions and her conscience to interpret God's message," said Gonul Tufekci, a lawyer who is prominent in Islamic feminist circles here. "This approach challenges the ideology that tries to use Islam as a tool to keep women down. It is based on the concept of an open mind. This concept is repugnant not only to groups like Hizbullah, but to many institutions in this part of the world."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

## Graphic

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Photo: Mourners in Mersin, Turkey, prayed Sunday at the funeral of Konca Kuris, a Turkish writer often described as a Muslim feminist, whose body was one of 33 found last week at the hide-outs of a religious terrorist group. (Reuters)

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2000

**GUERRILLA BOMBERS HEAT UP ISRAEL'S WAR IN SOUTH LEBANON<  
HEZBOLLAH HAS SPRUNG AMBUSHES, KILLING FIVE SOLDIERS< THIS  
MONTH. AN ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION IS PREDICTED.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MARCH 20, 1996 Wednesday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A05

**Length:** 885 words

**Byline:** Carol Morello, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** WADI BURIK, Lebanon

## **Body**

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Israel's war with Islamic guerrilla bombers has heated up on a second front - inside Lebanon.

The long-simmering war in South Lebanon, where Israel declared a security zone nine to 15 miles deep more than a decade ago, has sprung to life again.

Five Israeli soldiers died in the zone this month and 23 were wounded in a series of precision attacks by Hezbollah fighters, who planted bombs camouflaged as rocks and lured soldiers into ambushes.

In recent days, both Israelis and Lebanese have predicted an imminent Israeli military operation in Lebanon. Yesterday afternoon, Prime Minister Shimon Peres announced that Israel would not strike against Hezbollah in the immediate future. Israel has 1,200 troops based in Lebanon.

Israeli reporters rushed to the northern border Monday night, and residents of nearby Kiryat Shmona slept in their bomb shelters. They anticipated an Israeli attack - and return fire by Hezbollah's Katyusha rockets. Israeli analysts writing in yesterday's newspapers urged the government to strike back at Hezbollah for the bombings, while from Beirut came reports of Israeli troop movements into Lebanon.

But as yesterday morning dawned in southern Lebanon, not an explosion was heard along the wildflower-strewn hillsides and plains filled with banana groves.

The immediate cause for all the tension on Israel's northern border was a March 4 attack on Israeli soldiers, in which four soldiers died, and another attack a few days later in which a fifth soldier died.

Normally, the attacks would have dominated the news, but they were overshadowed by the double-barreled shock of a March 3 suicide bombing on a Jerusalem bus and a suicide bombing the next day at a Tel Aviv shopping mall.

## GUERRILLA BOMBERS HEAT UP ISRAEL 'S WAR IN SOUTH LEBANON< HEZBOLLAH HAS SPRUNG AMBUSHES, KILLING FIVE SOLDIERS< THIS MONTH. AN ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION IS PRE....

In the March 4 attack, Hezbollah fighters apparently fired potshots at Israeli troops to lure them deeper into the security zone. The ploy worked, and at the very spot where the soldiers grouped for a short field briefing, a pre-planted bomb exploded.

Almost all the Israeli casualties have been from exploding roadside bombs, either fashioned crudely from empty cans filled with nails and TNT or from kitschy fabric lamp bases that are virtually indistinguishable from the rocks jutting out of the red earth.

Military observers with the United Nations say they believe Hezbollah was likely aided by soldiers in the South Lebanon Army, an Israeli creation that the Lebanese government considers traitorous. Many members of the SLA fear being abandoned if Israeli negotiates a withdrawal of its own forces.

U.N. peacekeepers say they have noticed that SLA troops appear to be extraordinarily cautious while patrolling. Mortar shells lobbed back and forth between guerrillas and SLA redoubts often fall just short of their targets, suggesting a deliberate misaiming.

The SLA has been plagued by about 200 desertions over the last two years, and there are virtually no recruits. Area villages are populated by women, children and the elderly; the fighting-age youths have been shipped away so recruiters can't find them.

In peace negotiations with Syria and its proxy state, Lebanon, Israel has demanded that its 3,000 SLA allies be integrated into the regular Lebanese army. Already, a list is said to be circulating in southern Lebanon containing the names of about 100 SLA officers whom the Lebanese believe have tortured and kidnapped their people, and who are therefore marked for assassination if Israel does not ultimately shelter them inside Israel. The rest of the SLA members are expected to be allowed back into Lebanese society; they may be laying the groundwork for that day by their decidedly unaggressive behavior.

"As the peace process has moved along, the mood in the security zone has changed," said Timur Goksel, a spokesman for U.N. forces in Lebanon. He said the SLA soldiers "have realized they might have to become Lebanese again. They're worried about their future."

In February, 90 Hezbollah attacks were recorded against Israeli and SLA forces. Through 1994, 60 attacks were a more typical monthly average. The attacks increased during 1995 but then slacked off late in the year while Syria and Israel were engaged in peace negotiations.

As recently as January, the Lebanese were beginning to talk about a day when a peace pact might be signed and Israeli troops would withdraw from Lebanon. Now, all optimism has vanished.

In Tyre, a seacoast city just north of the security zone, Sheik Ali Yassin said Hezbollah would not stop attacking Israeli soldiers and their SLA allies until the Israelis pulled back.

"If they want to live in peace, let them withdraw from our land," said Yassin, a Muslim cleric whose mosque is attended by Hezbollah supporters. "We want to liberate our land. How can they call us terrorists?"

So the backburner war continues, with all the inherent tensions along both sides of the border.

Israeli soldiers move their tanks and soldiers into place behind dark screens of smoke bombs. U.N. peacekeepers post themselves in civilian villages, knowing full well that some of the villagers walk from their homes and fire their Katyushas into Israel.

Asked who was winning the war, Markku Haapasalo, commander of Finish peacekeepers with the United Nations, replied, "Nobody."

"Everybody loses," he said. "It is so complicated, it will take at least 20 to 50 years to sort out."

GUERRILLA BOMBERS HEAT UP ISRAEL 'S WAR IN SOUTH LEBANON< HEZBOLLAH HAS SPRUNG  
AMBUSHES, KILLING FIVE SOLDIERS< THIS MONTH. AN ISRAELI MILITARY OPERATION IS PRE....

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2002

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End of Document

## *Syria flexes muscle against Iran*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

February 26, 1987, Thursday

Copyright 1987 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 9

**Length:** 938 words

**Byline:** Mary Curtius, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** Beirut

**Highlight:** Crackdown on Beirut pro-Iranians may damage Syria-Iran alliance

### **Body**

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If Iran's leaders ever had doubts about who Syrian President Hafez Assad believes should be the chief power broker in Lebanon, those doubts died on west Beirut's streets this week, according to observers here.

Yesterday, the wail of women in mourning rose from a Shiite Muslim cemetery. Thousands reportedly gathered in a pelting rain to bury 18 Shiite fighters who were among some 22 killed Tuesday night in a shootout with Syrian troops. The fighters were members of Hizbullah, the radical group closely linked to Syria's ally Iran. (Shortly after the funeral, a car bomb exploded in south Beirut, wounding 12 people, Reuters reports. At press time, it was unclear who was responsible.)

The immediate impact of the killings was to underscore Syria's commitment to reasserting its authority in west Beirut, where Muslim militias have ruled since 1984 and where an array of forces recently united against the Syrian-backed Shiite Amal militia. Tuesday's clash also heightened expectations that Syria may yet deploy its troops in the Shiite-dominated southern suburbs and possibly free 26 foreign hostages believed held by Hizbullah and other radical groups.

But, observers here say, the battle between Syrian troops and the Iranian-backed Hizbullah also could have regional implications.

In defiance of most of the Arab world, Syria has supported Iran through its 6 years of war with Iraq. Iran has paid for Syrian support with oil and cash. The relationship worked because both Syria and Iran regard Iraq as an enemy.

The Syrian-Iranian alliance, however, has always been more shaky when it came to Lebanon. Syria has grown increasingly alarmed by Iran's links to Hizbullah, which has made deep inroads in the Shiite community and directly challenged the Syrian-backed Amal.

Iran and Syria's goals in Lebanon are fundamentally at odds, Arab analysts point out. Iranian leaders see Lebanon as the only Arab country where their brand of "Islamic revolution" has gained a substantial following - mostly among impoverished Shiites in rural south Lebanon who have resisted Israeli occupation there and among the several hundred thousand Shiite squatters in and near west Beirut. Hizbullah speaks of establishing the second Islamic Republic here, an attractive dream to Shiites who never benefitted from Christian-dominated Lebanese governments and who have been radicalized by 12 years of civil war and invasions.



## Syria flexes muscle against Iran

If the Iranian goal were ever achieved, the secular Alawite-dominated regime ruling Syria would be directly threatened, analysts here say. Syria has problems with its own Sunni Islamic fundamentalist opposition - the Muslim Brotherhood. Assad has no need for fundamentalists in Syria to be inspired by an Arab nation next door being swept up by the Islamic revolution.

In addition, Assad has spent more than 10 years trying to piece together a workable coalition in Lebanon that would both reconstitute the splintered state and protect Syrian interests. Assad viewed Hizbullah's challenge to Amal and its alliance with Yasser Arafat's mainstream Palestine Liberation Organization - which Assad wants to crush - as serious challenges to Syrian authority, according to analysts.

The Tuesday night clash served notice to Iran that Syria is determined to eliminate all militias and impose order. Syrian Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kenaan issued another warning to the militias Wednesday.

"They are all the same to us," Brigadier Kenaan said. "We are the legal authority. We have repeatedly warned gunmen to withdraw and leave their weapons and positions while our forces were being deployed."

What remains to be seen is how Tehran will react to Syria's violent assertion of its prerogatives in Lebanon. Western analysts in the region have been saying for months that the Syrian alliance is less important to Tehran now than in the early years of the war. In recent months, Iran has seemed to gain the upper hand in its bloody war with Iraq. The US-Iran arms scandal also revealed that Iran had managed to open up many routes of supply for weapons from East and West Europe, the United States, and Israel.

The choice for the Iranian regime may eventually come down to either continuing its alliance with Syria or continuing its fomenting of revolution in Lebanon. Conservative Arab regimes who fear an Iranian victory over Iraq and the subsequent spread of radical Islam throughout the Arab world will be watching closely for any signs that the Syrian-Iranian alliance is cracking.

The Syrians said Tuesday night's clash occurred because Hizbullah fighters opened fire on Syrians who earlier in the day took over Hizbullah headquarters in Basta, a central west Beirut neighborhood. The Syrians had occupied the headquarters of Amal and the Druze militia without incident. But Hizbullah reportedly defiantly burned its headquarters before the Syrians arrived. Hizbullah called the shootings "a massacre," and ordered its estimated 1,200 fighters in the Shiite-dominated southern suburbs of Beirut on full alert.

The 7,000 Syrian troops who arrived in west Beirut Sunday with a mandate from Assad to curb the anarchical Muslim militias have not yet deployed in the tightly packed, heavily populated suburbs.

The Syrians reportedly did seal off Basta. Troops were seen checking identity cards of pedestrians and motorists, and refusing to let traffic travel in or out.

Analysts here say it is unlikely that the outmanned, out-gunned Hizbullah would take on Syria's troops. But no one here has forgotten that it was radical Shiite car-bombers who took their toll first on US and French troops in Beirut in 1984 and then on Israelis in south Lebanon.

## Graphic

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Picture, West Beirut: Young Lebanese walks by Syrian soldier carrying Soviet-made rifle. Map, Beirut, highlighting Muslim and Christian sections, Green Line, and several camps, JOAN FORBES -- STAFF

## *Israeli forces kill leader of Hezbollah*

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

February 17, 1992, Monday, City Edition

Times Publishing Company

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 1A

**Length:** 1172 words

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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Israeli forces killed the leader of the pro-Iranian Party of God in Lebanon on Sunday in a lightning strike by helicopter gunships that also killed his wife, son and at least four bodyguards.

The dramatic raid on a motorcade carrying the Shiite Moslem leader, Sheik Abbas Musawi, kept this part of the Middle East locked in a new cycle of violence that was likely to cast a pall on U.S.-brokered peace talks scheduled to resume in Washington next week.

Nevertheless, there was no sign that any of the parties were thinking about withdrawing from the talks.

About the time that the Israelis swooped down on Musawi's convoy, Syria and Lebanon announced in Damascus that they would go to Washington "to give peace a new chance."

New York Times; Associated Press Israel and a joint team of Jordanians and Palestinians also are planning to attend despite heightened tensions after a weekend of bloodshed.

It began late Friday with Arab guerrillas slipping into an Israeli army camp and killing three soldiers with axes, knives and a pitchfork.

Senior Israeli officials said the attack was the work of the mainstream Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Early Sunday, Israel retaliated with air strikes on two Palestinian refugee camps at Ain Hilwe and Rashidiye in southern Lebanon that killed four people, including two children, and wounded nearly a dozen others.

Despite the closeness of the timing, the attack on Musawi, 16 hours after the attack on the Israeli soldiers, may not have been related to the other incidents.

## Israeli forces kill leader of Hezbollah

By its very nature, it seemed to have required careful planning, making it unlikely, in the view of some military experts, that it would have been cobbled together in a hurry.

According to reports from Lebanon, two Israeli helicopters descended on a seven-vehicle convoy carrying the 39-year-old sheik and his family after they left a rally in the southern Lebanese town of Jibchit. Rockets blew apart the Mercedes-Benz carrying the sheik and two Range-Rovers carrying bodyguards.

A spokesman for the Party of God said the sheik, his wife, Siham, and their 6-year-old son, Hussein, were burned to death in the car.

**Hezbollah**, or Party of God, was considered the umbrella group for the Shiite Moslem holders of Western hostages in Lebanon. Musawi was considered a moderate in the fundamentalist group and played a key role in the freeing of Western hostages last year.

At the rally in Jibchit just before the attack, Musawi denounced the Arab-Israeli peace talks and accused the United States of being power mad, Reuters reported.

"America wants to control the fountains of water, exactly as it controlled the oil fountains," he said. "America wants to dominate everything."

In Jerusalem, Israeli army spokesmen confirmed only Musawi's death, but they did not dispute reports that others had also been killed or accounts on Israeli television that the raiders had fired automatic weapons at survivors who ran from their vehicles in an effort to escape.

From Israel's vantage, the assassination of Musawi was a settlement of old scores for countless raids on its soldiers in Lebanon and in Israel by **Hezbollah**, which is committed to waging a holy war against Israel and to attacking Western interests.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens denounced the party Sunday night as a "murderous, terrorist organization," and he said Sheik Musawi, elected secretary general of the pro-Iranian group in 1990, was "a man with lots of blood on his hands.

"We can assume the fact he was killed was not entirely coincidental," Arens said when asked if the ambush was aimed at assassinating Sheik Musawi.

Arens sought to connect the raid in Lebanon to the deaths of the three Israeli soldiers by saying: "It's a message to all terrorist organizations: Whoever opens an account with us will have the account closed by us.

"This is true for all the bands, all the terrorist organizations, all the leaders," he said. On the Arabs' side, Israel was denounced for its raids Sunday.

The Party of God issued a statement in Beirut calling the attack on Musawi "a vengeful, cowardly assault."

## Israeli forces kill leader of Hezbollah

From her home in the West Bank town of Ramallah, Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, deplored the retaliatory strike on the refugee camps. "To use the air force and state policy to kill women and children, that's not terrorism?" Ashrawi said.

"But it demonstrates again that this has to stop," she said, "and the only way it will stop is to have a peace settlement."

In Tunis, Tunisia, Reuters quoted a PLO spokesman, Ahmed Abderrahman, as saying three Palestinians presumed responsible for the bloody attack on the Israeli soldiers had exercised "their legitimate right to resist against the Israeli army of occupation." Theirs was "a resistance act, like the French resistance against Nazi occupation," he said.

Some Israeli press commentators, while expressing outrage over the dead-of-night raid on the soldiers as most of them slept in a lightly guarded bivouac area, also drew a distinction between this assault and recent terrorist acts against civilian settlers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

As the three slain soldiers were buried Sunday, newspaper editorials and political figures focused on the apparently lax security at the camp. Government culpability, as well as that of the guerrillas, was a recurring theme in many commentaries.

Only a few soldiers were on hand at the outpost, which lay in Israel proper, a few miles from the West Bank's northern boundary.

Many of them were recent immigrants who had been in the army only a few weeks and who, in the words of a senior officer quoted by an Israeli newspaper, "barely knew how to tie their shoelaces."

At his weekly Cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said that negligence was possibly involved and that the Israeli public was waiting for the outcome of an inquiry to see "the lessons to be learned from this grave occurrence."

Almost inevitably, the incident had a domestic political context as Israel's two major parties, Likud and Labor, prepared to choose their leaders this week for June 23 parliamentary elections.

Normally, an attack of this sort could be expected to benefit a security-minded man like Shamir. But even the appearance of military laxness could hurt him, and therefore, some political commentators said, the swift retaliatory raids against the Palestinian camps may have had a political as much as a tactical component.

In Washington, the State Department on Sunday withheld comment on events in the Middle East, urging "maximum restraint."

## Israeli forces kill leader of Hezbollah

In response to questions, spokesman Richard Boucher said: "We are concerned at the rising cycle of violence in the Middle East in recent days. We regret the loss of lives in Israel and Lebanon in recent days and urge all concerned to exercise maximum restraint."

Information from AP was used in this report.

## Graphic

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BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, Reuters; Sheik Abbas MusawiA civilian inspects the car in which Musawi was killed in southern Lebanon.

**Load-Date:** November 4, 1992

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End of Document

## **LEBANON: UNENDING CONFLICT; Israelis, Hezbollah step up violence with a new fervor**

The Ottawa Citizen

November 18, 1991, Monday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A6

**Length:** 926 words

**Byline:** PETER BAKOGEORGE; SOUTHAM NEWS

**Dateline:** FRUN

### **Body**

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The village road empties in seconds, the frightened **women** and children disappearing through the narrow, twisting lanes as first one shell, then another, then another, explode against a nearby hillside.

"They're teasing us," says Kamel Hassan Yaffer, drawing tensely on a cigarette as he squints across the craggy, dusty valley.

From just two kilometres away, where they command the high ground atop the Litani River valley, militiamen of the Israeli-controlled South Lebanon Army (SLA) have sent another message.

"This shelling is to frighten the terrorists, to frighten the locals. Even to frighten us," says a Finnish soldier, patrolling this increasingly dangerous part of south Lebanon with the United Nations peacekeeping force.

Frun is 10 km from the international border with Israel, but in reality Lebanon ends just across that valley.

The shots came from the edge of Israel's self-declared "security zone," a five- to 15-kilometre-wide strip of land the Jewish state occupies to protect its northern regions from terrorist attack.

The zone and the area around it have become dangerous territory. Along with the hatred, occupation, resistance and terrorism, there is a lot of firepower and a willingness to use it.

Since the summer, UN troops have noticed a dramatic change in the type of attacks on the Israelis and their allies in the security zone; and a corresponding shift in the way Israel is retaliating.

Even by the standards of this war-scarred and dangerous area, the bloodshed and destruction of the past few weeks has been remarkable.

According to one UN expert, **Hezbollah**, the pro-Iran, Lebanese guerrilla force, is attacking Israeli and SLA troops with a new fervor.

"These are much more sophisticated attacks," the UN observer says. "There is the roadside placement of large bombs and radio-controlled detonations."

## LEBANON : UNENDING CONFLICT; Israelis, Hezbollah step up violence with a new fervor

In two attacks last month, roadside bombs in the security zone killed six Israeli soldiers and wounded 11 others.

The Israelis, too, have shifted their method of retaliation by going outside the security zone and into the villages. "They blow up houses they say are being used by Hezbollah," the UN observer says.

"This has really scared the people," says Timur Goksel, spokesman for United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL). "Before there was lots of shelling, but they (Israelis and SLA) usually stayed away from the villages.

"Now there's panic."

Israel and the SLA have made several attacks both inside and outside the security zone in past weeks.

On the same day the shells landed near here, Israel also used helicopters to attack a refugee camp outside the zone, destroying a house allegedly used by a radical Palestinian faction, and also a bridge outside the zone.

Just two days earlier other attacks inside and outside the security zone had injured at least 10 people, and the next day three children were killed during shelling of a village outside the zone, according to the UN.

There were other events, including the death of at least one guerrilla as he tried to plant an anti-tank bomb along a roadside.

Yet a UN officer would describe the week as "relatively calm."

That assessment changed a day later after a clash between the SLA and peacekeepers left one soldier dead on each side. The UN and Israel are still trying to determine how that battle came about.

Israel says it needs to control terrorists who operate from south Lebanon, because the Beirut government and its army aren't capable of doing the job.

But ironically, it may be the success Beirut has had in disarming some militias which is contributing to the new level of violence here.

Goksel believes Hezbollah has been able to increase its campaign against Israel because it no longer has to squabble with rival militias, which have been disarmed.

Whatever the reasons, it's the new level of conflict -- the almost daily doses of rifle, mortar and artillery fire -- which has created the phenomenon of Lebanese fleeing north.

"We've never seen an exodus like this before," Goksel says.

About 1,000 people, more than half of Frun's villagers, have left here since August when a major attack destroyed 28 houses and killed one local.

Since then, say the people here and the UN patrols, there has been shelling every week. It almost always falls short of the village, so the people of Frun believe it's a terror tactic and a warning they'll pay if they harbor anti-Israel terrorists.

"But there are no (terrorists) in the village," Yaffer says. "They (the SLA) know there's no reason for this shelling, because if the (terrorists) were here, they'd be firing back."

Some here say there is a reason.

In a land where conspiracy theories abound, many Lebanese believe Israel is fighting a phony "war against terrorism" as cover for its theft of fresh water from south Lebanon's abundant rivers.

UN soldiers say they've heard all the stories, but found no proof Israel is taking water.

## LEBANON : UNENDING CONFLICT; Israelis, Hezbollah step up violence with a new fervor

Their commanders don't care about the theories, but they're becoming increasingly worried about where the new level of violence will lead.

"This year was pretty calm, up until July," says Col. Martti Hossi, commander of the Finnish contingent in UNIFIL. "Then we started to get lots of activity. And just before Madrid (the opening of Middle East peace talks) it increased again."

He says all the elements exist for the war-hardened people of south Lebanon -- including the Israeli occupiers -- to take the violence to yet another level.

(SNN) 16:26et 17-11-91

## Graphic

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Knight-Ridder Tribune News/ (Map locates Lebanon)

**Load-Date:** November 18, 1991



**ISRAEL-ALLIED FORCES FLEE OR SURRENDER FEW REMAINED AS  
HEZBOLLAH SWEEP INTO THE LEBANESE BUFFER-ZONE VILLAGES  
VACATED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MAY 24, 2000 Wednesday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1171 words

**Byline:** Nomi Morris, KNIGHT RIDDER NEWS SERVICE

**Dateline:** METULLA, Israel

## **Body**

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In a stunningly quick turn of events, Israeli troops evacuated their remaining positions in south Lebanon before dawn today and Islamic Hezbollah fighters took over the land Israel had occupied for two decades, prompting thousands of Lebanese refugees to flee into Israel.

The final pullout began with departing Israeli troops blowing up most remaining positions after Prime Minister Ehud Barak early today ordered the evacuation. Barak initially planned to begin the pullback several days from now. However, his hand was forced when the South Lebanon Army militia, Israel's ally, rapidly disintegrated.

As Hezbollah guerrillas moved into 20 Lebanese villages within 24 hours, SLA soldiers surrendered or fled. The SLA was trained and financed by Israel to help protect its northern border.

By 5 a.m. today, all Israeli outposts in Lebanon had been dismantled, Israeli military officials said. The last Israeli troops were making their way across the border, ending a 22-year occupation.

Yesterday, homeward-bound Israeli soldiers honked jeep horns and kissed the ground after crossing the frontier into Israel, where hundreds of frightened SLA militiamen and their families converged in search of asylum.

Despite the retreat, fighting continued. Israel sent Merkava battle tanks to protect its retreating troops. Israeli air force jets rocketed guerrilla positions and destroyed unneeded roads into its old enclave.

As hundreds of Lebanese villagers waited to cross at the Fatima Gate border crossing near Metulla, a sniper opened fire on Israeli soldiers inside Israel. The sniper fired over the heads of tired women and children, sparking the first cross-border gunfight since Israel stepped up its long-planned withdrawal from southern Lebanon just days ago. No one was injured in that exchange of gunfire.

## ISRAEL -ALLIED FORCES FLEE OR SURRENDER FEW REMAINED AS HEZBOLLAH SWEEP INTO THE LEBANESE BUFFER-ZONE VILLAGES VACATED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS.

However, a Lebanese driver working with the British Broadcasting Corp. was killed when a shell landed beside his car near the border, BBC Middle East correspondent Jeremy Bowen said. It was not immediately known who fired the shell.

While helicopters and shelling could be heard near the border last evening, Israel did not act on a threat made earlier in the day by Gen. Shaul Mofaz, the army chief of staff. Mofaz had threatened to strike Syrian-controlled targets in Lebanon if Hezbollah fired on Israeli soldiers or civilians during the retreat.

Syria, which is the main power broker in Lebanon, maintains 30,000 troops there and helps supply the Iran-backed Hezbollah militia, which had been fighting to oust Israeli troops from the country since they invaded in 1978.

The Israeli departure, which Barak earlier had said would come by July 7, is designed to comply with a long-standing U.N. resolution calling for Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. Israeli officials said the continued presence of Israeli troops in the buffer zone legitimized attacks against Israel as an occupying force.

By moving to the Israeli side of the internationally recognized border, Israel is "regaining control of the initiative," Foreign Affairs Minister David Levy said yesterday. There, "if our security is threatened by anyone . . . we will act in accordance with the right to national self-defense accorded by international law. . . ."

On the Lebanese side of the border, villagers in Khiam stormed into a prison abandoned by the SLA, triumphantly releasing 140 inmates who had been held there for years. Just 24 hours earlier the fate of the prison was an open question.

Along the western part of the border, flatbed trucks carried tanks and armored personnel out of Lebanon.

Kiryat Shemona, the largest Israeli town in the north, was almost empty of its 25,000 residents; most fled south to avoid any Hezbollah rocket attacks, and the few who remained were in bomb shelters.

Yesterday began with news that in the middle of the night 200 Israeli soldiers had left the Bint Jebail village that had served as the Israeli army headquarters of the western sector of the security zone. Their SLA comrades fled to nearby villages.

"In the end we were there with just a few rations and mattresses waiting for the order to leave, which came suddenly," said Nir Sopher, 20, an Israeli tank mechanic who was resting near the Tzurit base after spending two months in Lebanon. "You know we forgot to clear out the commissary. It was hilarious. At the last minute everyone was grabbing chocolate bars."

About 10 miles farther west at the Biranit crossing, SLA fighters still in uniform were hustled onto buses with their wives and children to be processed at a resort on the northern shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Similar scenes were taking place at Rosh Hanikra on the Mediterranean coast and the Fatima Gate near the Good Fence, so named because thousands of Lebanese workers had for decades used it to cross into Israel for work each day. Yesterday, they abandoned their cars in a line more than a mile long, and waited for hours in the sun as Israeli soldiers conducted security checks in an attempt to prevent Hezbollah guerrillas from sneaking into Israel with the refugees.

"This is inhumane," said Ronit Antler, a resident of the Israeli border town of Metulla who came to try to help refugees huddled on the Lebanon side of a long barbed-wire fence. "This reminds me of the Holocaust. How could it be happening?"

An estimated 3,000 refugees were transported to a tent village on the Sea of Galilee that, less than two months ago, had housed pilgrims who came to see Pope John Paul II.

The mostly Christian Lebanese, who fled with just a few bags, found themselves eating chicken schnitzel and listening to Madonna on loudspeakers as Israeli officials slowly registered them for tourist visas and social benefits.

## ISRAEL -ALLIED FORCES FLEE OR SURRENDER FEW REMAINED AS HEZBOLLAH SWEEP INTO THE LEBANESE BUFFER-ZONE VILLAGES VACATED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS.

Interior Minister Natan Sharansky said refugees were to be given apartments in Israel. Education Minister Yossi Sarid promised spots for their children in schools and summer camps.

But guilt and anger abounded as Israel grappled with a refugee crisis that many felt was caused by abandonment of comrades-in-arms whom Israel financed and trained.

"For 25 years we've been working with the Israelis. Of course I'm mad. What am I doing here?" said a bewildered Ezad Gadban, an SLA lieutenant who had fled the village of Mis el-Jabel on Monday. "Israel left us alone there."

Israel had planned on absorbing some SLA families. But the scale and the pace of the influx were a shock. Barak had hoped to forge accords with Lebanon and Syria. And when that initiative crumbled in late March he hoped that the United Nations and the Lebanese army would fill the vacuum - not Hezbollah, which had threatened to imprison or kill any southern Lebanese who had collaborated with Israel.

In New York, the U.N. Security Council endorsed a U.N. plan to verify Israel's withdrawal and to help establish Beirut's authority over South Lebanon.

Several U.S. officials expressed support for Israel's withdrawal from South Lebanon and urged Syria and Lebanon to play their part in keeping the region quiet.

\* This article contains information from the Associated Press.

## Graphic

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MAP AND CHART

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2002

**ISRAEL HITS LEBANON AFTER ROCKET ATTACK THE RETALIATION FOR  
YESTERDAY'S HEZBOLLAH STRIKE MAY COMPLICATE ISRAEL'S  
WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
MAY 5, 2000 Friday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A02

**Length:** 645 words

**Byline:** Karin Laub, ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** KIRYAT SHEMONA, Israel

## **Body**

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Lebanese Shiite Muslim guerrillas unleashed their fiercest rocket attack in nearly a year on northern Israel yesterday, killing an Israeli soldier, wounding 26 other people, and raising fears of more attacks once Israel withdraws from southern Lebanon this summer.

Prime Minister Ehud Barak quickly warned of possible retaliation, and Israeli warplanes launched air strikes early today against two Lebanese power stations and a guerrilla stronghold in the Bekaa Valley, witnesses said.

At least five missiles exploded near northern Beirut's Bsaleem power station, knocking out energy to large parts of the city. A plant near Tripoli also was hit and lost power, the witnesses said.

Israeli officials acknowledged the attacks, which were similar to air strikes in early February after the Hezbollah guerrillas killed six Israeli soldiers in southern Lebanon. There was no word on casualties in today's strike.

Barak had said any response to yesterday's attack on northern Israeli would be harsh and sustained. He indicated that residents along the border might have to spend a long time in bomb shelters.

During a visit to the border city of Kiryat Shemona, Barak said Israel could not tolerate rocket attacks on its cities. "When we enter shelters and start the cycle of responses in the wake of such grave incidents, we need stamina," he said.

The stepped-up fighting poses a difficult problem for Barak. He has ordered his army to pull out of a border strip inside southern Lebanon, occupied since 1985, and was hoping to keep the cross-border conflict on a low flame as his self-imposed July 7 deadline for a withdrawal nears.

Some analysts fear that retaliation will only fuel the conflict and make it harder for Israeli to withdraw.

## ISRAEL HITS LEBANON AFTER ROCKET ATTACK THE RETALIATION FOR YESTERDAY'S HEZBOLLAH STRIKE MAY COMPLICATE ISRAEL 'S WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON .

Barak also has been trying to make peace with Syria, the main power in Lebanon, which demands that Israel return the Golan Heights, which Israeli forces captured in the 1967 Mideast war. Those talks have broken down, and some analysts believe Syria may try to use attacks by the guerrillas to put pressure on Israel.

Barak flew to the border after a meeting of his security cabinet, where retaliation for the rocket attack was discussed.

During his after-midnight tour of Kiryat Shemona, Barak told reporters that Israel must respond when "the other side dared to fire rockets and hurt civilians." He said the barrage gave additional proof that the presence of Israeli soldiers inside Lebanon does not prevent rocket attacks.

One soldier was killed and another was wounded when a Hezbollah rocket hit a military vehicle at the entrance to a base on the Israeli side of the border, the military said.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it came in response to "continuing aggression on villages" in southern Lebanon by Israel and its allies. Two Lebanese women were killed in shelling earlier yesterday, which Israel said was carried out by its allied militia, the South Lebanese Army.

Barak was in Israel, meeting with U.S. mediator Dennis Ross to try to move along peace negotiations with the Palestinians, when they were interrupted with word of the attack last night. In Washington, the State Department expressed concern and said it regretted any loss of life.

After the guerrillas fired rockets into northern Israel, artillery fire could be heard from the Israeli side of the border. Later, the army reported air strikes against "terrorist targets" in southern Lebanon.

Lebanese security sources reported up to half a dozen Israeli air strikes in southern Lebanon near the village of Soltaniyeh, about 10 miles north of the Israeli border, from where the rockets were believed to have been fired.

The Israeli military said 26 people were wounded in the rocket attack. Most suffered from shock. Others had cuts. Five were admitted to hospitals.

The rocket attack was the most serious since June 24, when two civilians were killed.

## Graphic

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PHOTO AND MAP;

PHOTO

An Israeli man talks to a relative by telephone in Kiryat Shemona as he is treated for wounds received in a Hezbollah rocket attack yesterday. (HAIM AZULAI, Reuters)

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2002

**FOR SOME LEBANESE, A TIME TO FEAR THOSE WHO WORK IN ISRAEL  
FEAR HEZBOLLAH'S REVENGE WHEN THE TROOPS GO HOME.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
FEBRUARY 7, 2000 Monday SF EDITION

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**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1058 words

**Byline:** Barbara Demick, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** METULLA, Israel

## **Body**

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Georgette has one of the world's most unlikely morning commutes, a 30-minute journey that takes her straight across the last front line in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The 28-year-old waitress, who asked that her last name not be published, wakes up at 4 a.m. each day in her home village of Qlaia in southern Lebanon.

She drives herself to the Israeli border. A flash of her documents, and shortly thereafter she is putting up the coffee at a snack bar on the Israeli side of the border.

"I feel very comfortable in Israel. Like Israel is a part of me," said Georgette, who with her nearly accentless Hebrew, freckles, and mop of curly red hair is often mistaken for Israeli.

For Georgette and 2,600 other Lebanese working in Israel, it is a precarious and somewhat schizophrenic existence. All are family members or retired soldiers of the South Lebanese Army, the Israeli-sponsored militia that has battled the Iranian- and Syrian-backed Hezbollah since the early 1980s.

The permits to work in Israel are a vital perk for the soldiers, since there is little other way for their families to earn a livelihood in the wasteland of their homeland.

But this way of life looks as if it is ending, sooner rather than later.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has pledged to withdraw all Israeli troops from southern Lebanon by July, regardless of whether there is a broader peace treaty with Syria and Lebanon.

The Israeli-backed militias are suffering heavy losses on the ground. Fighting on Friday forced the SLA to retreat from a stronghold in a village called Sejoud, the second such withdrawal in the last month.

FOR SOME LEBANESE, A TIME TO FEAR THOSE WHO WORK IN ISRAEL FEAR HEZBOLLAH'S  
REVENGE WHEN THE TROOPS GO HOME.

Two weeks ago, the militia's second-in-command, Col. Aql Hashem, was killed by a bomb brazenly planted by Hezbollah guerrillas in front of his home.

"Hezbollah would kill us all if they could," said Georgette, as she sucked hard on a Marlboro one recent morning at the snack bar at the Metulla border crossing where many of her customers are Israeli soldiers.

Nervously, Georgette recalled how a Hezbollah suicide bomber drove into her village a few days after Christmas and blew himself up next to an Israeli convoy. Thirteen people, mostly Lebanese children, were injured.

"Sooner or later, we're going to have to run away," she said. "Where to? We don't know. Anywhere safe where we have a bed and roof over our heads."

The fear is that anyone sympathetic to Israel will be accused of treason and collaboration, imprisoned or worse, if Israel withdraws.

The fates of families such as Georgette's are deeply entangled with the future of the Israeli presence.

Georgette, a Maronite Christian, has three brothers who are fighters in the South Lebanon Army. Her father was an officer of sufficient rank that the Israelis allowed him to be hospitalized free of charge in Haifa when he was suffering from the lung cancer that led to his death two years ago.

Georgette dropped out of school when she was 12 because of the war and started working in Israel at 16.

"They stole my childhood," she said. "I was a little girl when the war took my life away. I never dreamed I would end up working in a place like this, but there was no choice."

Georgette earns \$600 a month at the snack bar, much more than she could in Lebanon, but far less than the Israeli minimum wage.

Most of the Lebanese working in Israel commute to work through a military checkpoint cut in the tangle of barbed wire at Metulla, the northernmost town in Israel.

The border crossing is a tourist attraction with an overlook of the Lebanese hills, signposts featuring intertwined Lebanese and Israeli flags boasting of the good neighborly relations.

The main action is in the parking lot where men in black leather jackets loiter, waiting for buses to take them to work.

They are all retired fighters, or fighters' family members, and they make up the janitorial staff in many of Tel Aviv's hospitals and luxury hotels.

Other Lebanese, mostly women, work in textile factories in northern Israel.

Chatting as they waited for the bus, the Lebanese men said they believed that the top commanders of the South Lebanon Army, unlike the rank and file, would get asylum, either in Israel or elsewhere. For example, Gen. Antoine Lahad, the SLA's top commander, is believed to have arranged asylum in France.

Nevertheless, the men all said they would prefer to stay in Lebanon, with the hope that they would be treated decently if the Lebanese army establishes order in the 440-square-mile self-proclaimed security zone now occupied by Israel.

"Our problem is not with the Lebanese government, but with Hezbollah," said a 32-year-old former soldier who gave his name as Daher.

"It's not that we don't want peace," said Mohammed Atui, 27, who works in a hospital. "For 30 years, that's what we have been hungering for. But it is hard to believe in our hearts that it will happen and that it will be real peace."

FOR SOME LEBANESE, A TIME TO FEAR THOSE WHO WORK IN ISRAEL FEAR HEZBOLLAH'S  
REVENGE WHEN THE TROOPS GO HOME.

Israeli officials have repeatedly promised that any peace treaty would take into account the future of their allies in the long fight in southern Lebanon.

"We don't abandon our allies," Deputy Defense Minister Ephraim Sneh said in a telephone interview.

He said Israel probably would not offer the retired fighters asylum but would establish conditions in southern Lebanon so that they could remain in their homes.

"Why asylum?" he said. "They didn't fight all these years with us to become refugees."

The best precedent is what happened in June, when the SLA retreated from the town of Jezzine.

Some 300 fighters submitted themselves to the mercy of the Lebanese government, according to Timur Goksel, a U.N. spokesman in southern Lebanon.

"Nobody was killed," Goksel said. "Some went to prison for collaboration, but many of them are already out. That is a good sign."

That is not reassuring enough, however, to many of the Lebanese and their backers. In December, Zvi Rish, an Israeli human-rights lawyer, filed a petition with the Israeli Supreme Court asking for political asylum in Israel for not only the 2,000 current fighters, but up to 17,000 family members.

Rish said that the assassination of the SLA's Hashem was an indication of what could happen to others.

"If there was any doubt before, now it is clear that Hezbollah is determined to slaughter them," Rish said. "Given the history of south Lebanon, no peace treaty, no agreement and no force will be able to guarantee the safety of these people."

## Graphic

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PHOTO

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2002



**SOLDIER BURIED AS FEARS INTENSIFY ON ISRAELI BORDER ISRAEL  
WILL LEAVE LEBANON DESPITE HEZBOLLAH ATTACKS. SOME THINK  
THAT WILL MAKE NORTHERN ISRAEL VULNERABLE.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
MAY 6, 2000 Saturday D EDITION

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**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A02

**Length:** 592 words

**Byline:** Michael Matza, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

**Dateline:** ELYAKHIN, Israel

## **Body**

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On a sun-drenched street surrounded by citrus groves, grown men wept yesterday, linking arms, voices keening. **Women** wailed and pounded fists against their foreheads. A young girl swooned.

As mourners buried Shaked Ozeri, an Israeli soldier killed in a **Hezbollah** rocket attack on northern Israel, Israelis wondered if this was a harbinger - or the end of a nightmarish era.

A wave of artillery and rocket duels between Israel and Lebanese guerrillas over the last two days has intensified fears along the border that Israel's planned withdrawal from Lebanon will leave Israeli residents there more vulnerable to attack.

"It's not so simple just to pull out," said Elitzur Eisner. As a medical volunteer with Magen David, an organization similar to the Red Cross, Eisner handed out water to more than 800 mourners at Ozeri's funeral yesterday. Many of them followed the casket on foot in a procession led by a jeep surrounded by soldiers in green uniforms and chartreuse berets.

Ozeri was killed and 26 people, mostly civilians, were injured during Thursday's rocket attack by **Hezbollah** guerrillas on the Israeli border town of Kiryat Shemona. The latest round of retaliatory strikes - the worst in nearly a year - began Thursday after two Lebanese **women** were killed in shelling by Israel's allied militia in southern Lebanon.

Israel responded to the **Hezbollah** attack by bombing major Lebanese cities, and the guerrillas sent more rockets into northern Israel yesterday, although no one was killed in that attack.

At Ozeri's funeral yesterday, a prominent member of Prime Minister Ehud Barak's government told mourners that the government was committed to going ahead with its withdrawal from Lebanon.

## SOLDIER BURIED AS FEARS INTENSIFY ON ISRAELI BORDER ISRAEL WILL LEAVE LEBANON DESPITE HEZBOLLAH ATTACKS. SOME THINK THAT WILL MAKE NORTHERN ISRAEL VULNERABLE.

"You came to these lands to seed in joy and not to harvest in sorrow, but that is the difficult story of this country," Internal Security Minister Shlomo Ben Ami said. "The government has come to the decision to stop the cycle of bloodshed, and to bring back the boys. But as we know, it's not going to be easy."

People here knew Ozeri, 24, as the dark-haired, youngest son of their neighbors Joseph, a municipal worker, and Shoshanna, a cook at a yeshiva, in this rural community of 2,200, where cars share the roads with an occasional donkey-drawn cart, and many of the residents are of Yemenite origin.

He was Shaked, the friendly boy next door, who went into the army at 18, finished one tour of duty and reenlisted at 21, trying time and again to earn a spot in officer-training school. Two weeks ago, he learned he had finally been accepted.

"He was always interested in my kids, always helpful," said neighbor Zehava Malichi. "He loved the army, and never complained about being in Lebanon."

At the cemetery, Ozeri's father led the mourners' kaddish, the prayer for the dead. A military rabbi read psalms. The head of the regional government council expressed his hope that on the eve of leaving Lebanon, he would never again have to stand in front of a family in similar circumstances.

"Oh, Shaked, Shaked, where are you?" Ozeri's sister Kinneret cried.

A commander who coordinates military funerals removed the Israeli flag from atop the plain pine coffin, rolled it in a Jewish prayer shawl, and presented the solemn keepsake to the family. Members of Ozeri's artillery unit lowered the coffin into the grave and shoveled furiously. Six minutes later, the ground was closed.

On a cue from the commander, seven soldiers shouldered their rifles and fired three volleys of seven shots - a 21-gun salute.

Michael Matza's e-mail address is [foreign@phillynews.com](mailto:foreign@phillynews.com)

## Graphic

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PHOTO;

PHOTO

An Israeli soldier weeps during a funeral in Elyakhin, Israel, for Shaked Ozeri, who died Thursday in a **Hezbollah** rocket attack on northern Israel. (LEFTERIS PITARAKIS, Associated Press)

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2002

## *Lebanese irony: how economic woes aid Shiite radicals' fortunes*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

December 17, 1987, Thursday

Copyright 1987 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 7

**Length:** 980 words

**Byline:** Jim Muir, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Series:** Lebanon. Part 2 of a 2-part series

**Dateline:** Beirut

**Highlight:** Iran's generous funding is helping Hizbullah buy popularity among Lebanese Muslims. Shiites, in particular, have been hard hit by a rapid economic downturn. And radical groups are stepping in to provide social and other services - at little or no cost.

### **Body**

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Lebanon's economic crisis has created new opportunities for Iranian-backed fundamentalists to increase their influence within the country's largest and poorest community, the Shiite Muslims.

After years of resilience in the face of civil war, Lebanon's economy has sagged increasingly since 1985.

Shiite sources say the radical Hizbullah (Party of God), through clever use of Iranian funds, has won support by providing the Shiite community with a wide variety of social, financial, and other aid.

Estimates vary on how much financing a "state within a state" costs Tehran. One well-placed Shiite source says the Iranians are spending \$1.5 million a month on social services alone. The total cost of funding Islamic radical groups has been estimated by other sources at between \$3 million and \$5 million monthly; yet other sources put the figure at more than twice that.

Hizbullah and other Islamic radical groups, as well as some 2,000 to 3,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards, have had a solid base in the mainly Shiite Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon since 1982. In Baalbek, provincial capital of the Syrian-controlled Bekaa, the Islamic groups, helped by Iranian doctors, have been operating the 24-bed "Imam Khomeini Hospital" and providing other social services for some time.

But recent months have seen a considerable expansion of such "hearts and minds" activities in other areas where Shiites predominate - notably in southern Lebanon and Beirut's southern slums.

"They have definitely made inroads in the south," says one well-placed Lebanese Shiite source. "They are very smart, and they know how to use their money. For example, they have bought a deep-bore drill, and are going around the villages, drilling artesian wells for people who would not otherwise be able to afford it.

"They have also bought tractors, and they offer to till land and plant crops in exchange for half the yield, so they are expanding rural production," he adds.

## Lebanese irony: how economic woes aid Shiite radicals' fortunes

Analysts see Iran's investment in **Hizbullah** and other radical groups as a source of pressure on Syria - the main power broker in Lebanon - to remain a true ally with Iran against Iraq. The activities also provide Tehran a way to burnish its Islamic revolutionary credentials by sponsoring radicals' attacks on Israeli or Israeli-backed forces in south Lebanon. Last week, the pro-Iranian Islamic Resistance claimed responsibility for a guerrilla attack on an Israeli patrol boat off southern Lebanon. One Israeli sailor was killed.

Arab nations, which banded together against Iran at their summit meeting in Amman last month, are also concerned at the spread of Iranian influence. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, interviewed by a Lebanese Christian radio station last week, said that an Iranian success in Lebanon could lead to sectarian disintegration throughout the Arab world.

Ample funds have allowed **Hizbullah** to buy popularity at the expense of the larger but poorer mainstream movement, Amal. According to one Amal source, his group is annoyed at **Hizbullah** tactics but "can't do anything about it as they just don't have the money." Other Shiite sources, however, say that Amal - which is allied to Syria - still remains the biggest and most organized vehicle for Shiite political aspirations.

At present, Syrian troops controlling the Bekaa Valley and west Beirut tolerate the activities of the Iranian-backed radicals. But observers believe that, should it come to a showdown - perhaps in the event of a Syrian break with Iran - it might now be even more difficult for Syria to root out fundamentalists without colliding with the Shiite community as a whole.

The economic crisis has meant that many Shiite families - which tend to be large - can no longer afford even to buy pencils and exercise-books for children in school. "So the **Hizbullah** has approached needy parents and is spending about 40 million Lebanese pounds (about \$80,000) paying the childrens' school fees," another Shiite source says. The children are given free exercise books, with pictures of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini on the front.

In the southern suburbs of Beirut, **Hizbullah** and its Iranian backers have sponsored a new "Islamic cooperative" supermarket to supply goods to the community at the lowest possible prices. They have also established Al-Hawrah, an "Islamic" maternity hospital staffed by **women**, which visitors praise for its cleanliness and efficiency - and its low fees. The Bank of Iran, run on the no-interest principles of Islamic banking, has opened a branch there too.

**Hizbullah** repair teams turn up to mend war-damaged houses free of charge. They have also bought trucks and bulldozers, and taken on the task of clearing away massive garbage piles from the streets.

Tehran has also been seeking to expand its influence among the country's mainly urban Sunni Muslim population.

Sheikh Saeed Shaaban, head of the Islamic Unification Movement, a fundamentalist Sunni group based in the northern city of Tripoli, has just returned from a lengthy visit to Iran, where he took part in an anti-Saudi conference on the holy places of Islam, and attended a meeting of "**Hizbullah** cells in the Islamic world" held at Tehran University. He was allowed to take home eight Lebanese prisoners-of-war captured while fighting for Iraq.

Some pro-Iranian Muslim groups have advocated the establishment of an Islamic state in Lebanon despite the country's large Christian communities. One such group, the Islamic Society, nominated four Shiite clerics to run in next year's elections for president - traditionally a Maronite Christian preserve.

Many Christians regard the growth of Iranian influence with dismay, and believe coexistence with the Islamic radicals is impossible. But Ayatollah Khomeini and his Lebanese followers are bitterly denounced by many Muslims, too.

Second of two consecutive articles on Lebanon's economic hardships.

## Graphic

Map, Lebanon/Israel border, highlighting Israeli 'security zone', JOAN FORBES - STAFF

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End of Document

## *Hostage issue figures in complex talks to halt Beirut violence*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

May 23, 1988, Monday

Copyright 1988 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 11

**Length:** 845 words

**Byline:** Jim Muir, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** Nicosia, Cyprus

**Highlight:** Some indicate hostage release would precede Syrian deployment

### **Body**

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The fate of 18 foreign hostages in Lebanon - including nine Americans - is in the balance, as Syria ponders whether and how to restore order in the embattled southern suburbs of Beirut.

Many of the hostages are believed to be held by the Iranian-backed Hizbullah or affiliated groups. Hizbullah fighters have won control of 80 percent of the area in battles with Amal, a rival, Syrian-backed mainstream Shiite movement.

The violence entered its 17th day yesterday. Six people died as the two groups exchanged mortar fire.

For more than a week, some 7,000 Syrian troops have been poised at the entrances to the suburbs, awaiting the command to impose a security plan.

But their deployment was delayed, as intensive discussions took place between Syrian, Iranian, and Lebanese officials in Beirut and Damascus over terms and conditions for the Syrian move.

The plight of the hostages was high on the agenda in a lengthy meeting in Damascus on Saturday between President Hafez Assad and Vernon Walters, US ambassador to the United Nations.

Both Syrian and Iranian officials have publicly linked a resolution of the inter-Shiite battles with the hostage issue. It is also believed to be a major element in the complex, behind-the-scenes negotiations.

Asked about the fate of the hostages, a senior Iranian envoy in Beirut, Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Muhammad Besharati, said last week: "I think that if we are able to end the current state of war ... the other question will be solved also."

The main spokesman for the Syrian troops in Lebanon, intelligence chief Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kenaan, said Thursday that his forces were sure to go into the suburbs sooner or later. "When they do, I hope there will be no hostages left, either in the suburbs or elsewhere," he added.

After his meeting with President Assad, Mr. Walters said he had not tried to influence Syria's decision on moving into the suburbs.

## Hostage issue figures in complex talks to halt Beirut violence

"I'm sure that President Assad, as a military man, is very aware of the possible dangers and advantages of such an action, and I did not attempt to influence his decision in one way or another," he said. "The Syrians can make their own decision in this matter, since they know the situation better than we do."

Mr. Assad was reported to have assured that he would do all he could to bring about the release of the hostages.

Iranian envoys initially resisted the idea of a Syrian deployment. But as the clashes continued and Shiite community and religious leaders issued further appeals for Syrian intervention, Iranian officials apparently accepted the principle, while arguing over the terms.

Beirut political sources say the plan the Syrians want to apply would be similar to that imposed in West Beirut early last year after violent street battles between Amal and the Druze militia. Armed irregulars would be banned from the streets, but political parties - including Hizbullah - would be allowed to pursue their political activities.

While some Hizbullah leaders have indicated they are not opposed to the deployment in principle, it is not yet clear whether they are ready to accept the curb that it would represent on their presence in what is now their last independent stronghold in Lebanon.

Last month, Amal drove Hizbullah out of most of its positions in the south of the country. Hizbullah has bases in the eastern Bekaa Valley, but the area is controlled by Syrian troops.

The Syrians are clearly reluctant to battle their way into the suburbs. But some well-placed sources believe they will do so as a last resort if a political solution cannot be reached.

"I think they are determined, and they cannot afford not to do it," said a senior Muslim politician in an interview. "It's a matter of timing and preparation. I'm sure they would prefer to go in peacefully, but if no agreement is reached, they would have to do it in any case."

If it should come to a last-resort confrontation, the Syrians would have to reckon on taking significant casualties in subduing the 2,000 to 3,000 heavily armed Hizbullah fighters, stiffened by some 300 Iranian Revolutionary Guards who are believed to be in the suburbs.

In such a situation, Syria might also risk losing its strategic alliance with Iran, based on their mutual hostility to Iraq. While that alliance has frequently been strained - often over tactical differences in Lebanon - both sides have so far tried to avoid a break.

But political sources in Beirut point to several strong reasons why Syria must act to control the situation in the suburbs.

Hizbullah's control of much of the area has put the radicals directly in contact with the Palestinian refugee camp of Borj el Barajneh, where Palestine Liberation Organization loyalists are hostile to both Amal and the Syrians. In recent fighting, followers of Yasser Arafat have wrested positions from the Syrian-backed breakaway PLO faction headed by Abu Musa.

The Syrians are also trying, with US diplomatic help, to stabilize Lebanon and win sufficient understanding between its estranged Christian and Muslim communities for presidential elections to be held in August.

## Graphic

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Picture, Syrian soldiers at a Beirut checkpoint inspect Muslim women's shopping bags, AP

## Hostage issue figures in complex talks to halt Beirut violence

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## *Israelis See One Side of War*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

April 19, 1996, Friday

Copyright 1996 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** THE WORLD; Pg. 1

**Length:** 832 words

**Byline:** By John Battersby, Staff writer of The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

**Highlight:** As Lebanese civilian casualties mount, media coverage may change

### **Body**

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A GULF-war-style media campaign by the Israeli military in its offensive against *Hizbullah* guerrillas in Lebanon has provided Prime Minister Shimon Peres with a much-needed image makeover before May 29 elections here.

But the Israeli public - largely supportive of Israel's nine-day campaign to force a *Hizbullah* cease-fire - is beginning to question the increasing number of Lebanese civilian casualties.

Yesterday, Israeli forces attacked the headquarters of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), killing about 70 Lebanese refugees and wounding more than 120 others, a UN spokesman said. Earlier, Israeli planes rocketed a house near Nabatiyeh, killing 11 people including a woman, her four-day-old daughter, and six other children.

Just prior to the Israeli attacks, *Hizbullah* guerrillas had launched rockets at Israel from about 400 yards away from the UN headquarters, a UN spokesman said.

Israel's deputy defense minister, Ori Orr, said details were sketchy, but said, "if innocent people were killed, we are very sorry, and it is a very grave error."

Like American coverage of the Gulf war, the omnipresent coverage here of Israel's military offensive on the two main state-owned television channels has juxtaposed military target maps with video replays of Israeli planes and artillery precision in hitting their targets.

"This is the Gulf war, plus five years of technology," says Alon Liel, a senior aide in Peres's office. "The combination of unbelievable intelligence and pinpoint high-tech accuracy has enabled the Israeli military to destroy one floor of a 10-story building and then it is backed up with a film showing the hit."

The media have stressed that the artillery fire and bombing is not directed at Lebanese civilians and that they have been repeatedly warned to leave the south.

But Israeli viewers have seen little coverage of the hundreds of thousands of fleeing Lebanese civilians.

Amnon Barkai, a producer at Israel's Channel 1 television - one of the two state-owned channels - says the network had received agency coverage of the attack on Nabatiyeh and would be using it in its news broadcast last night.

## Israelis See One Side of War

But Mr. Barkai's channel did not use graphic coverage shown internationally last week of Israeli planes rocketing an ambulance carrying women and children in southern Lebanon.

Just like 'Desert Storm'

"We didn't show it because we don't put such awful things on television in Israel," Barkai says. But the station frequently shows gruesome details of Israeli victims of Islamic suicide bombings.

Many here are comparing the Israeli media blitz to US coverage of Operation Desert Storm. Some commentators have even dubbed the military-media campaign "Weisskopf" - a play on the commander of Gulf war forces, US Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf - and the gray hair, weiss (white) and schwarz (black), of Israeli Chief of Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and Air Force Chief Herzl.

According to military and media analysts, Israel has never seen such a high-powered military effort to give the public a blow-by-blow account of the daily bombardment of Lebanese villages and Hizbullah targets.

Daily television coverage shows Israeli soldiers, sometimes bleary-eyed and exhausted, pounding southern Lebanese villages with heavy artillery.

These images are interspersed with a confident Peres, wearing military garb and flanked by generals, addressing press conferences or visiting the front.

The largely uncritical television coverage is more or less matched by radio and populist newspapers like Yediot Ahranot.

The daily Haaretz has been more critical in its coverage, raising the problems that lie ahead if a diplomatic solution is not soon achieved. It even suggested in a front-page commentary yesterday that Syria - which has the ability to rein in the Hizbullah - was winning points by remaining silent.

Good campaign footage

Although the Israeli media has had little commentary linking the offensive to the building of Peres's pre-election image as "Mr. Security," some Israeli newspapers have played back foreign coverage that makes the connection.

"The Israeli offensive is playing very well for Peres ... this has reinforced his image as an experienced statesman who can be fully trusted with the country's security," says Jerusalem Report editor Hirsh Goodman.

"The war has been fought as much according to how it will be perceived by the Israeli public as how it will affect the Hizbullah," Mr. Goodman says. "But ... Peres has also done all the right things from a military point of view.

Israel's media blitz might start running into difficulties soon.

"What I see is an increasingly desperate effort by the Israeli military and media to show they are making progress against the Hizbullah when, in fact, there is very little real progress," says Martin van Creveld, a military historian at Hebrew University .

"I have no doubt that Peres's immediate objective ... is to win the elections, but he has to emerge with some kind of diplomatic achievement," Mr. van Creveld adds.

**Load-Date:** April 19, 1996

## *Following Khomeini's edict*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

June 24, 1985, Monday

Copyright 1985 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 9

**Length:** 1048 words

**Byline:** By Robin Wright, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Series:** Second in a four-part series on Shiites

**Highlight:** Lebanon's Shiite groups, which vary in strength and militancy, ultimately look to Iran for guidance

### **Body**

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Ayatollah Khomeini has made it to Hamra Street, the ragtag shopping boulevard that in Beirut's heyday was compared to Paris's Champs Elysees.

The stern visage of the Iranian leader peers down from billboards and shop windows and street light posts.

The display is one of sign of how most Shiite Muslims in Lebanon and elsewhere look to Iran, the only major nation ruled by Shiites, for religious and political guidance - since religion and politics are inseparable in Islam. But they follow Khomeini's edict in different degrees.

Lebanese Shiites are in fact divided into several movements of differing strength and militancy. But none of them are like Western organizations, which tend to be tightly structured.

The largest group is Amal. Now headed by Nabih Berri, who is negotiating for the hijackers in the Beirut hostage crisis, Amal began as a social movement in the early 1970s. Imam Musa Sadr, an Iranian-born cleric of Lebanese descent, was the first to mobilize Lebanon's Shiites. He began the group largely in response to the fact that the Shiites had grown from the third to the first largest population group since Lebanon's independence, but were receiving few social or political benefits.

In 1974, Imam Sadr launched a military wing. "Today we shout out loud the wrongs against us, that cloud of injustice that has followed us since the beginning of our history," he said in a speech. "Starting from today, we will no longer complain our cry."

"What does the government expect, except rage and except revolution?" the charismatic cleric asked. "Arms are man's beauty." This statement opened the way for the formation of the largest official Shiite militia in Lebanon.

Over the past decade, Amal has fought Lebanese Christians, Palestinians, and the Israelis - and occasionally other Shiites, such as the two Shiite-dominated communist parties in Lebanon. Fiercely independent, the Amal Shiites never joined the various coalitions of Muslim factions. Amal is strongest in west Beirut and south Lebanon, where its followers eventually became the most active against the occupying Israelis.

Imam Sadr disappeared in Libya in 1978, and he remains a powerful figure among the Shiites. Mr. Berri's subsequent moderate and secular leadership led to the birth of extremist groups.

## Following Khomeini's edict

The first prominent splinter group was Islamic Amal, founded by Hussein Musavi. A former Amal official, Mr. Musavi broke with Berri during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Islamic Amal is based in the eastern Lebanese city of Baalbek, the third of the three main Shiite strongholds in Lebanon, with Syrian and Iranian backing. Western intelligence agencies link Musavi to the 1983 bombing of the United States Marine compound in Beirut. He denied involvement, but voiced approval of the act.

"If America kills my people, then my people must kill Americans," Musavi said. "We have already said that if self-defense and if the stand against American, Israeli, and French oppression constitute terrorism, then we are terrorists."

But Hizbullah, or the Party of God, also formed in 1982 in Baalbek, is now considered the largest radical movement in Lebanon, although its strength cannot be accurately judged because it lacks any official structure or membership list.

After Washington linked Hizbullah with the bombing last September of the US Embassy annex in Beirut, one seasoned US diplomat in Beirut snickered, "That doesn't tell us anything. Every Shiite in Lebanon is now Hizbullah."

This statement was only a slight exaggeration, since any Shiite who adheres to Islamic tenets is, in theory, a member.

The movement, which was started by militant local clerics, is aided by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard who had deployed in Lebanon's eastern Bekaa Valley after the Israeli invasion.

Within a year, Hizbullah had quietly infiltrated Beirut. At first it did not publicize its presence, but gradually the militant posters and the return to conservative Islamic dress by Shiite women revealed the spread and strength of Hizbullah. Now the group has at least three offices in west Beirut.

Last year Amal leaders expressed concern about the shift of public allegiance from the centrist groups to the extremist factions, particularly Hizbullah.

Last April, the party finally made a public declaration of its principles in "an open letter to the downtrodden."

"We have opted for religion, freedom, and dignity over humiliation and constant submission to America and its allies," the letter said. It declared the movement's loyalty to Ayatollah Khomeini and listed four goals in Lebanon:

- \* Expelling the US, France, and "the influence of any imperialist power" from the country.
- \* Expelling Israel "as a prelude to its final obliteration from existence and the liberation of venerable Jerusalem."
- \* Submission of the Christian Phalange Party, and trial of members for crimes against Muslims and Christians.
- \* "Giving all our people the opportunity to determine their faith, keeping in mind that we do not hide our commitment to the rule of Islam."

Hizbullah has become the umbrella cover for a host of smaller factions, including Islamic Amal, the Hussein Suicide Squad, Dawa (the Lebanese branch of the Iraq-based al-Dawa al-Islamia), and other smaller movements, according to Hizbullah and Amal sources.

The most famous group in Lebanon, however, is Islamic Jihad (Islamic Holy War). It has claimed responsibility for bombings against US diplomatic and military installations in Lebanon as well as in Kuwait. It claims to hold seven Americans, who were kidnapped before the hijacking of the TWA jet.

But Islamic Jihad is also the most mysterious group. Oral communication is made by anonymous telephone callers to claim responsibility for various attacks in Lebanon and elsewhere.

## Following Khomeini's edict

The movement, if it can be called that, is thought to be a concatenation of cells, perhaps acting independently and unaware of one another. There are also growing signs that Islamic Jihad has claimed some acts in which it had no part.

Observers suspect that part of their goal has been to build up an image of being a single omnipotent force in the region - a goal that has in part been achieved.

The writer is a former Monitor correspondent based in Beirut. Her book on Shiites, called "Sacred Rage," will be published soon.

## Graphic

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Picture, In Beirut, return to conservative Islamic dress is a sign of radical Shiites' growing influence, UPI; Map, no caption, JOAN FORBES - STAFF

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## SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST TURKEY THE NEW YORK TIMES

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

January 26, 2000, Wednesday,

REGION EDITION

Copyright 2000 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 330 words

**Byline:** STEPHEN KINZER

### **Body**

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ISTANBUL, Turkey -

With Turkey in a state of shock over the discovery of dozens of savagely tortured bodies beneath hideouts of a religious terror group, much of the outrage and grief has been focused on the case of the only female victim.

The woman, Konca Kuris, was often described as a Muslim feminist. In books, articles, lectures and television appearances, she had described Islam as a religion that guarantees women's rights, and asserted that male commentators over the centuries had twisted its essence in ways that led to the oppression of women.

In July 1998, Kuris was kidnapped from the street in front of her home in the Mediterranean town of Mersin. There were no clues to her fate until her burned and disfigured body was exhumed Saturday from a shallow grave in Konya, 220 miles northwest of Mersin.

Her body was one of 33 that have been found so far at properties used by Hizbullah, or the Party of God, a group dedicated to overthrowing the secular Turkish state and establishing an Islamic republic in its place.

Police investigators are searching for more corpses.

Hizbullah is not believed to be connected to the similarly named group that has fought against the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. Both groups, however, proclaim loyalty to fundamentalist Islam.

According to press reports, the police team that uncovered Kuris' body also found a videotape containing scenes of torture sessions she endured over a period of weeks. At one of the sessions, her captors are said to have charged her with seeking to become Turkey's version of Salman Rushdie or Taslima Nasrin, writers whom some Muslims consider heretics deserving of death.

"She had a great influence on Turkish women," said Ayse Onal, who has written several books on feminism in Turkey. "She showed that it's possible to be completely modern and still be faithful to Islam. That's why she was killed. Hizbullah, which is a very sick and deeply violent group, could not tolerate her point of view."

**Load-Date:** January 26, 2000

SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST TURKEY THE NEW YORK TIMES

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## *Israel strikes south Lebanon*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

October 21, 1988, Friday

Copyright 1988 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 10

**Length:** 239 words

**Byline:** George D.Moffett III

**Dateline:** Jerusalem

### **Body**

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Israeli artillery yesterday shelled three Shiite villages in south Lebanon in response to Wednesday's suicide car-bomb attack by **Hizbullah** that killed seven Israeli soldiers, Radio Free Lebanon reported. Shiite militiamen were reportedly moving south toward the Israeli security zone, even as civilians fled north in anticipation of a retaliatory strike.

"Israel's just and secure hand will reach the killers, each and every one of them," Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir warned. His words were echoed by other top Israeli leaders.

Eight Israeli soldiers and two Lebanese **women** were wounded by the bomb that exploded between two convoys of Israeli vehicles. It was the first major attack by **Hizbullah** since the Iranian-backed group was expelled from southern Lebanon last spring by another Shiite militia, Amal, and the first successful car-bomb attack in two years.

All day yesterday troops of the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army conducted house-to-house searches in Shiite villages in the six-to-10 mile wide zone, which was established after Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon in 1985.

But Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin rejected suggestions that Israel fence off the northern border of the security zone.

"If we did so, we would have to establish a military government and ostensibly annex the security zone to the state of Israel," Mr. Rabin said.

"Such a move is inconceivable, both from a political and military standpoint," he said.



## *Eager for Prosperity, Lebanese Keep Rebuilding*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

May 24, 1996, Friday

Copyright 1996 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL; Pg. 5

**Length:** 1016 words

**Byline:** Mike Theodoulou, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

**Highlight:** Despite a 15-year civil war and 17 days of Israeli bombing, this nation is intent on regaining its splendor

### **Body**

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Daoud Younes's \$ 250,000 dream house was destroyed by Israeli warplanes just as news came through that a truce had finally been brokered.

"Can you imagine it? It was 6 p.m. I was watching [Lebanese Prime Minister] Rafik al-Hariri announce on television that [there was] a cease-fire when my house was hit," Mr. Younes says. He's a Shiite Muslim businessman who built the three-story home with savings amassed during 17 years in Saudi Arabia.

Yet Younes felt fortunate. None of his 20 relatives who lived in the house was injured. All had fled their drab, hillside village of Adchit, a **Hizbullah** stronghold in southern Lebanon, and were sheltering with friends when the house was rocketed. Younes didn't discover the damage until the next day - after the truce went into effect April 27 that confined fighting to the nine-mile-wide "security zone" and ended a 17-day Israeli offensive against suspected **Hizbullah** positions.

Like Younes, many in southern Lebanon are unsure if the truce will hold, but they're rebuilding anyway. Their spirit is emblematic of a people impatient for a more solid peace after a 15-year civil war and desperate to restore their country to being the region's financial and cultural hub.

But there is much work to be done. The Lebanese government claims that more than 5,000 houses were damaged in April's air and artillery blitz and a further 1,000 destroyed. A recent extensive three-day tour of southern Lebanon suggests these figures were exaggerated, although there is significant damage in many villages.

In the village of Qana, Fijian United Nations peacekeepers are building a new shelter to replace the camp in which 102 Lebanese civilian refugees were killed when an Israeli bomb set their tents afire.

Optimism tinged with anger

Here the villagers' optimism is tempered by rage directed at Israel. Naja Jaber, a teacher who lives in a house near the open-air shrine, says she now feels duty-bound to impart more than French and arithmetic to the children of Qana. "We have to teach our children to hate the Israelis like they teach theirs to hate Arabs, otherwise we will be weak," she says.

## Eager for Prosperity, Lebanese Keep Rebuilding

Despite continuing instability in the south, Prime Minister Hariri says peace between his country and Israel is "inevitable." But, he says, "Israel has to make a tremendous effort, several times more than before the last aggression, to convince the Lebanese they really want peace."

He adds that "there is no other choice" and says he is confident that international cease-fire monitors will help the truce hold. "No one wants an escalation now," Mr. Hariri said in an interview at his palatial sandstone residence in west Beirut.

But he insists there can be no peace before Israeli forces withdraw from southern Lebanon. Then his Army would guarantee the security of Israel's northern border. "When peace has taken place, Lebanon will have a tremendous responsibility in assuring the security in the south," he says.

In the event of peace, there would be no need for "resistance" by Hizbullah, which Hariri says would be disarmed, like the other militias that fought in Lebanon's civil war. But, he says, "the Israeli occupation gives Hizbullah political cover to operate as an armed group."

But his country can't wait for a comprehensive peace before rebuilding. "We want to be ready for peace. Unless we create jobs for the people, there will be social and political problems that could risk blowing up the whole situation," he says.

It is unclear how much of the foreign investment that's required for Lebanon's multibillion dollar post-civil-war reconstruction effort may be discouraged by last month's fighting.

Mr. Hariri, a self-made billionaire who has invested heavily in the reconstruction, puts a positive spin on recent events. "Confidence in Lebanon has not been damaged. After the Israeli aggression, the country is still on its feet. Politically, we had an excellent result. The country is more unified than before."

Unity is desperately needed as Lebanon convalesces from the civil war. But its divisions are still apparent. In fact, crossing Beirut is still like traveling between vastly different countries. Grubby-faced children run barefoot in the teeming, Hizbullah-dominated southern suburbs where large posters of Iran's former leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, abound. Women dress modestly, and many of the Shiite Muslim families have at least five children.

Ten miles away, but worlds apart, is the prosperous district of Kasklik on the northern outskirts of Beirut, Lebanon's Christian heartland. Here, the children are dressed in designer clothes. Gleaming new Jeep Wranglers and Mercedes-Benzes fill the streets. Most families have just two or three children. The Francophile Christians who look to Europe rather than Tehran for their inspiration have little time for Hizbullah's "war of liberation" or anything else that is bad for business.

Most Lebanese are gripped by the fervor for reconstruction. Even during last month's shelling, bulldozers swarmed over central Beirut, which was devastated during the civil war. Nothing, it seemed, could distract the Lebanese from the biggest rebuilding project since Europe and Japan resurrected their cities after World War II.

The frenetic renovation of hotels along the capital's bustling sea front continues even at night. Residents are convinced Beirut will again be a financial and cultural mecca.

Prosperity needs peace

But critical to this dream is regional peace - the future of which may be affected by elections in Israel May 29.

Hariri implies their outcome doesn't matter: "From what [Israeli Prime Minister Shimon] Peres says, he's committed to peace in his own way. The Lebanese people are asking 'What can Likud do more than [Peres'] Labor Party did to them?'"

Asked if he would take his conciliatory tone directly to Jerusalem - as did Egyptian President Anwar Sadat - Hariri laughs. "They can see me on CNN. They don't need to see my face," he says, adding, "You need two to tango. The

## Eager for Prosperity, Lebanese Keep Rebuilding

Israelis have to show they're committed to peace. Ask them to withdraw from my country. Don't ask me to go to the Knesset."

### Graphic

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Map, Showing Lebanon, DAVE HERRING -- STAFF

**Load-Date:** May 24, 1996

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## SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST SPARKS OUTRAGE IN TURKEY

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

January 26, 2000, Wednesday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2000 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 496 words

**Byline:** STEPHEN KINZER, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**Dateline:** ISTANBUL, Turkey

### **Body**

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With Turkey in a state of shock over the discovery of dozens of savagely tortured bodies beneath hideouts of a religious terror group, much of the outrage and grief has been focused on the case of the only female victim.

The woman, Konca Kuris, was often described as a Muslim feminist. In books, articles, lectures and television appearances, she had described Islam as a religion that guarantees women's rights, and asserted that male commentators over the centuries had twisted its essence in ways that led to the oppression of women.

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According to press reports, the police team that uncovered Kuris' body also found a videotape containing scenes of torture sessions she endured over a period of weeks. At one of the sessions, her captors are said to have charged her with seeking to become Turkey's version of Salman Rushdie or Taslima Nasrin, writers whom some Muslims consider heretics deserving of death.

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This has, indeed, been a mild winter despite the arctic blasts of the past week. School and school activities have rarely been delayed, let alone canceled, to this point.

## SLAYING OF MUSLIM FEMINIST SPARKS OUTRAGE IN TURKEY

That, however, wasn't the case with the Quaker Valley at Avonworth boys' basketball game last week.

Anticipating a major storm, the Quaker Valley School District on Thursday canceled classes for Friday. Because it did, that meant no extracurriculars the next day. District policy states "no school, no activities," so the game with Avonworth had to be postponed.

It has been rescheduled, tentatively, for 8 p.m., Feb. 7, a Monday. That will follow the WilkinsburgAvonworth girls' contest, which is to begin at about 6:30.

That boys' game will be big for both teams. Coming into this week, Avonworth was 3-3 in Section 4-AA, in fifth place, a half-game from the third and final playoff berth. The Antelopes need victories. Quaker Valley was 6-0 and on a quest for its third section title in four years.

**Load-Date:** January 27, 2000

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## *Killing people loses friends*

Guardian Weekly

April 28, 1996

Copyright 1996 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 938 words

**Highlight:** Until the Qana massacre Israel had the tacit support of the West for its Lebanese adventure. No longer, writes Ian Black

### **Body**

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"IF YOU think you understand Lebanon you haven't been properly briefed," cautions a jokey poster in the headquarters of Unifil, the UN force whose base at Qana became a charnel house of decapitated babies, severed limbs and charred corpses after last week's Israeli artillery attack.

Yet there is nothing incomprehensible about the strictly military logic of what happened in those frenzied minutes of shelling: Israeli gunners were simply firing back, with devastating inaccuracy, after Hizbullah guerrillas loosed off another salvo of Katyusha rockets a few hundred metres away.

Nor is there any reason to disbelieve the laconic explanation by the Israeli chief of staff, General Amnon Shahak: "We fought Hizbullah . . . and when they fire on us, we will fire at them to defend ourselves."

He added: "I don't know of any other rules of the game, either for the army or for civilians."

Before the massacre, arguments about Israel's offensive focused on the question of proportion: was it right to use air strikes and artillery barrages against Hizbullah's Katyusha rockets -- primitive weapons that have killed 12 Israelis since 1982 but none in recent months? And was it justified to terrorise 400,000 Lebanese into leaving their homes because of the actions of a handful of guerrillas who enjoy at least passive popular support because -- their broader fundamentalist ideology apart -- they are fighting to liberate their country from foreign occupation?

Israeli attacks on power stations provided a sinister hint that Lebanon's economic recovery after years of civil war would not be allowed to take place if there was no peace in Galilee. By the rules of this dangerous game, a disaster was always possible.

Yet until those shells ploughed into the Qana base, world reaction had been strikingly low-key: the United States tacitly supported the onslaught while elsewhere Israel enjoyed novel understanding of its right to self-defence: even Arab responses were muted.

It is hard to exaggerate the significance of such supportive noises. Since the agreement between Israel and the PLO in September 1993, the Jewish state has broken out of its isolation and re-established ties that many countries severed in 1967 or 1973.

Before that, coinciding with the end of the cold war, the ideological sting of a century of confrontation was drawn as Zionism and the dispossession and discrimination it represented for Palestinians became less burning issues than ever before.

### Killing people loses friends

Post-modern Israel worried more about markets than territory as its soldiers tired of intifada duty in the valleys of Nablus. Palestinians were emboldened by their successful challenge to the status quo, came to terms with their history and grudgingly accepted that half (or even less) a loaf was better than none. Arabs elsewhere recognised their societies faced even tougher problems than Israel.

And as Israel opened new embassies and old lobbyists abandoned propaganda for trade promotion, wide support for the peace process strengthened the feeling that the world really had changed, that the old conflict was winding down, that there was after all, going to be a happy end.

Last November's assassination of Yitzhak Rabin by a rightwing Jew gave peace a martyr while Islamist suicide bombers and dismembered bodies in the shopping malls of Tel Aviv raised the stakes higher. Even Yasser Arafat emerged, de-demonised, and embraced a tacky democracy designed to legitimise -- and hopefully develop -- the self-rule deal with Israel.

As the tectonic plates shifted, Shimon Peres's vision of a "new" Middle East shimmered: the Arab economic boycott faded, secret friendships with Morocco and Jordan came out of the closet and there were public forays to the Gulf. Last month's "anti-terrorist" summit in Egypt brought Israel and pro-peace process Arabs into a new coalition.

Last week's abrupt cancellation of a follow-up meeting in Luxembourg symbolised how damaging the attacks have been.

Yet just as the Sarajevo market massacre galvanised the international community into belated action over Bosnia, Qana may encourage countries which matter, and care, to co-operate more closely. The US and France were urgently coordinating an approach to a ceasefire before the mass killing.

But medium-term efforts must focus on fitting the crucial missing pieces into the jigsaw of a comprehensive settlement: Syria's President Hafez al-Assad remains the key regional player, exploiting Lebanon's wild south as his last and only card in the long endgame over the Golan Heights -- now almost certainly attainable if Mr Peres's Labour government survives next month's election.

Credible reports of weapons being airlifted from Iran to Damascus and sent on to the south three weeks ago are more than an incidental detail in a drama that was cynical and complex enough before it took this terrible toll of innocents.

Western countries also need to think harder about how to handle Iran. Tehran has openly supported Hizbullah and remains ideologically opposed to the wider peace process. Iran is looking back, but others need to look ahead.

An unequivocal promise of withdrawal could coax Syria to rein in Hizbullah and the government in Beirut to take over its own backyard. The phrase "no territorial ambitions" echoes hollowly in the history of this century, but it is true -- for Mr Peres at least -- and it should be spelled out.

And Israel needs to remember what many thought, over-optimistically, it had already learned: that there are limits to force and a heavy price to be paid -- in international opprobrium and willing generations of future martyrs -- for depending on it too much.

## Graphic

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Photograph, The body of a child is carried from a block of flats destroyed by Israeli warplanes in Nabatiyeh last week, a foretaste of the carnage to follow at the UN compound at Qana, where more than 100 people, mostly women and children, were killed by Israeli shelling, MOHAMED ZATARI

Killing people loses friends

**Load-Date:** May 13, 1996

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## *Staying true to Khomeini*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

September 13, 1999, Monday

Copyright 1999 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; ONE MAN'S MISSION; Pg. 6

**Length:** 763 words

**Byline:** Michael Theodoulou, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** TEHRAN, IRAN

**Highlight:** Iran's power struggle goes on. Four people involved in summer unrest have been sentenced to death.

### **Body**

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As a teenage volunteer in Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Army, Massoud Dehmamaki witnessed unimaginable horrors in Iran's war against Iraq. Bombarded with "choking gas," friends died in his arms. Others were killed by shrapnel.

But 11 years after the cease-fire, he has chosen to remain on the front line. His office in Tehran is a bunker, complete with gas masks, steel helmets, ammunition boxes, and sandbags.

"I keep it like this because we are the generation of the war, and we don't want to forget its values in the daily routine," he says. "Those values are the values of the Islamic revolution - independence and self-determination. The West has not recognized them and that's why we are at war with the West."

Twenty years after the Islamic revolution, when Iran installed conservative cleric rule, the country is undergoing a tug of war. On one side are moderates, including President Mohamad Khatami, who call for reforms; on the other are hard-liners advocating strict Islamic rule.

Mr. Dehmamaki is on this hard-line side of the tug of war. He is considered to be a prominent figure in the shadowy Ansar-e **Hizbullah**, the Followers of the Party of God, the self-appointed enforcers of Islamic revolutionary values. The vigilantes, dressed in black and circling on noisy motorbikes, have spread terror at pro-reform rallies.

Many Iranians believe Dehmamaki is the group's overall leader, although he denies involvement in the movement. Ansar-e **Hizbullah** has come under unprecedented pressure after its members were accused, along with the police, of storming a student dormitory at Tehran University in July. The incident ignited the worst unrest since the early days of the Islamic revolution, killing at least three students.

The violence also has intensified Iran's prolonged power struggle in the run-up to key parliamentary elections next February. And yesterday, the conservative daily Jomhuri Eslami reported that four people who took part in the pro-reform demonstrations have been sentenced to death.

## Staying true to Khomeini

A frail, bearded man in his early 30s, Dehmamaki says he is not only at war against the West, but also against the enemy within. He decries the women who flash a bit of ankle, youths nodding to heavy-metal music on a Walkman, or reformist students whom he claims are being aided and abetted by "American and Zionist agents" to undermine the foundations of the Islamic Republic.

"When you see some people here dressed in American-style clothes, you are seeing the bullets of the West," Dehmamaki said in a rare interview with a Western reporter. "But Islam is winning the battle because it is growing every day."

On the other hand, reformers allied to President Khatami want a crackdown on Ansar-e Hizbullah, which is funded by his powerful opponents. Recently newspapers quoted Intelligence Minister Ali Yunesi as saying the authorities were determined to do away with hard-line vigilantes waging a violent campaign to undermine the president's reforms.

After a government report into the dormitory raid held the group responsible for the "bitter incident," even their hard-line sponsors are distancing themselves.

Dehmamaki was seen at the dormitory raid and later brought in for questioning, but he maintains he was there only as a reporter. He is the editor of Jebhe, or the Front, the unofficial mouthpiece for Ansar-e Hizbullah.

Across the top of every page in the publication, there is a passport-size photograph of the late Ayatollah Khomeini, leader of the Islamic revolution. His face also glowers from a picture on the wall of Dehmamaki's office.

There are also graphic pictures of teenage "martyrs" who died fighting Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's forces. "Western states sold chemicals to Iraq to attack us. Then they deliberately sold us faulty gas masks. This shows just how decadent the West is," he says. "I watched friends in these masks dying at Halabja [Iraq]."

Iran, he says, can hold its head high. "Iran now stands out in the whole world because we stopped the US implementing its policies here. Our revolution also spread self-confidence among small nations. We stood against both the West and communism."

He has no time for Khatami's call for a dialogue of civilizations. "All this would do is confirm to the West that they have to destroy our Islamic revolution because it opposes their totalitarianism," he says.

Gesturing at the pained faces on his office walls, he says Iran had paid a "heavy price" for its steadfastness. "Fortunately, I survived to continue fighting."

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**Load-Date:** September 12, 1999

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Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

September 13, 1999, Monday

Copyright 1999 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** WORLD; ONE MAN'S MISSION; Pg. 6

**Length:** 763 words

**Byline:** Michael Theodoulou, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

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## Graphic

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Staying true to Khomeini

PHOTOS: 1) REVOLUTION REDUX: A man holds a portrait of Ayatollah Khomeini, late leader of the Islamic revolution, during a February rally celebrating its 20th anniversary. BY DAMIR SAGOLJ/REUTERS 2) Massoud Dehmamaki. BY MIKE THEODOULOU

**Load-Date:** September 13, 1999

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## *Israel swaps prisoners for bodies*

Guardian Weekly

July 28, 1996

Copyright 1996 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

**Section:** INTERNATIONAL NEWS; Pg. 4

**Length:** 303 words

**Byline:** Derek Brown in Jerusalem

### **Body**

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ISRAEL reclaimed two of its dead at the weekend in a macabre exchange of human remains with Islamist guerrillas in Lebanon.

**Hizbullah** had the best of the grisly bargain with the release from prison of at least 100 of its members and the handing over of the bodies of more than 120 dead guerrillas. In return, Israel took back the remains of Yosef Fink and Rahamim alSheikh, captured in a guerrilla ambush in February 1986.

The exchange is the culmination of months of mediation by a six-man German team headed by a security official, Bernd Schmidbauer. Israel took the unusual step of acknowledging Iran's role in the exchange.

**Hizbullah** also won the release of 45 men held by Israel's client militia, the South Lebanon Army, in return for 16 SLA men.

Germany, which has closer contact with Tehran than other Western countries, has played a leading part in discreet diplomatic moves to locate Ron Arad, an Israeli airman shot down over Lebanon and captured in 1986, and three other Israeli servicemen captured in Lebanon in 1982.

Meanwhile the Israeli president, Ezer Weizman, has announced that he intends to pardon two Palestinian **women** jailed for attacks on Israelis. Anam Jabari was imprisoned for 12 years in 1988, when she was a minor, for killing a Jewish religious student. Mai Aljesin was jailed for stabbing a student, and then given a life sentence for killing a prisoner.

\* Palestinians protesting against Israeli land seizures in the occupied West Bank were attacked by Jewish settlers last week. An Arab woman, aged 76, had her nose broken and two television cameramen were clubbed.

Israeli soldiers fired tear gas at the protesters but, according to witnesses, made no attempt to restrain the settlers. Palestinians said the settlers had fenced off some 375 acres of Arab-owned land near the settlement of Shilo.

**Load-Date:** September 3, 1996

## *Extremists invite tourists to Lebanon*

The Ottawa Citizen

November 1, 1995, Wednesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A18

**Length:** 486 words

**Byline:** HUSSEIN DAKROUB; THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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SAVING FACE: Weakened by the growing authority of a central government, Hezbollah is hoping to retain a role in Lebanon's political scene and has vowed to refrain from hostage-taking.

BEIRUT -- Hezbollah, the umbrella group for extremist Islamic fundamentalists who kidnapped dozens of foreigners in the 1980s, is now inviting westerners to come visit its strongholds as tourists.

Hezbollah Welcomes You By His Pioneer Values, says a slightly muddled English-language banner near the ancient Roman ruins in Baalbek, a Hezbollah redoubt that was off limits to foreigners during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Hezbollah's new face is a recognition of its waning influence, ironically at a time that Islamic fundamentalism is on the rise in other countries in the region, including Egypt, Sudan and Algeria.

The coalition has been weakened by the growing authority of Lebanon's central government and by a shrinking flow of money from its cash-strapped sponsor, Iran.

Many Lebanese also have shown little interest in supporting hardline groups that could again fracture the country after the devastation of the civil war.

Seeking to retain a role in the country's politics, Hezbollah, as well as nonviolent Islamic fundamentalist groups, have adopted less extreme positions and shown more willingness to work with mainstream parties.

Hezbollah guerrillas still battle Israeli troops occupying southern Lebanon, but the group has made a sharp change in tactics since the 1980s when it sought to establish an Islamic state patterned after Iran.

Hezbollah now speaks of achieving a democratic Islamic state through nonviolence.

Shiite Muslim militants linked to Hezbollah were involved in the kidnappings of westerners and several dramatic attacks, including the 1983 suicide bombing of the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut that killed 240.

The last western hostages were released three years ago, and shadowy extremist groups that operated under Hezbollah's tutelage have pledged to refrain from hostage-taking.



## Extremists invite tourists to Lebanon

Gone are the days when Hezbollah gunmen roamed the chaotic streets of Muslim west Beirut, smashing liquor bottles and wrecking bars.

In Beirut's southern suburbs, where Hezbollah has substantial support, women no longer face orders to be fully covered. Most women continue to wear modest clothing but the occasional miniskirt isn't challenged.

"It is not part of our thinking to impose by force our views on Lebanese society," said Sheik Nabil Kaouk, a Hezbollah guerrilla commander in southern Lebanon.

But Hezbollah's tolerance has limits.

Sheik Naim Kassem, the group's deputy secretary-general, says Hezbollah will not allow its strongholds to be "debauched," a reference to the Christian regions north of Beirut where nightclubs and bars abound.

And Hezbollah's rank and file still display the same anti-American and anti-Israeli fervor when they get the chance.

**Load-Date:** November 2, 1995

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End of Document

## *Turkey's rights record criticised*

The Independent (London)

July 9, 1992, Thursday

Copyright 1992 Independent Print Ltd

**Section:** EUROPEAN NEWS PAGE; Page 10

**Length:** 336 words

**Byline:** From HUGH POPE in Istanbul

### **Body**

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TURKEY'S record on national minorities and human rights - central elements in the Helsinki process - is the focus of renewed criticism as world leaders converge on Helsinki for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Despite the promises of rapid reforms made by the Prime Minister, Suleyman Demirel, when his coalition government took power nine months ago, parliament has so far failed to approve even a judicial reform law that would allow lawyers to be present during initial interrogations.

This simple measure is seen as the key to ending widespread police beatings and frequent torture by ill-trained Turkish police seeking confessions.

The legislation had been vetoed by the President, Turgut Ozal, and watered down on the grounds that it would hamper the security forces in their fight against Kurdish rebels and left-wing terrorists.

But a report warns of Turkey's continued abuse of human rights. "Rights and freedoms were violated in a way that was no better than the past," said the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey in a report that said 1,038 soldiers, police, militants, Kurdish rebels and civilians had been killed in the first six months of the year.

Courts confiscated 41 periodicals and imprisoned two radical writers. Six journalists were killed in unsolved murders and 31 beaten up by security forces. Eleven people died in detention "in suspicious circumstances". Another 53 people were proven to have been tortured, including 32 women and six children.

The foundation did not count deaths in the Kurdish rebellion separately, but it estimated about 950 dead in six months - 228 from security forces, 315 civilians and 407 people linked to the rebel Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK).

The foundation said 131 people were killed in a mysterious war in south-east Turkey between Kurdish nationalists and a group known as Hizbullah, which was blamed for 86 of the deaths. Hizbullah is believed to be backed by an ultra-nationalist part of the state to carry out extra-judicial killings.

## 7 KILLED AS GUERRILLAS, ISRAELI TROOPS CLASH

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)  
March 26, 1994 SATURDAY,  
CITY EDITION

Copyright 1994 The Dayton Daily News

**Section:** NEWS,

**Length:** 219 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** SIDON, LEBANON

### **Body**

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Hezbollah guerrillas attacked Israeli-allied militiamen Friday, provoking intensive bombardments by Israeli troops occupying part of southern Lebanon.

At least two Lebanese women and five combatants were killed, security sources said.

Police and security sources said regular Lebanese troops, which have posts in the area, were hit by some of the fire between the Iranian-supported Hezbollah and Israeli forces. At least six soldiers were wounded.

The army command had no immediate comment. Hezbollah, the guerrilla group leading the fight against Israel and the allied South Lebanon Army militia, said it was unaware of any attack on Lebanese government troops.

Hezbollah said its fighters attacked positions of the South Lebanon Army near the town of Jezzine. One guerrilla was killed and another wounded, it said.

Security sources said five combatants were killed in the attack on a militia outpost and a nearby Lebanese army garrison. The sources did not know if the dead belonged to Hezbollah, the militia or Lebanon's army. The sources said Hezbollah fighters captured two people and wounded three.

The attacks sparked intense artillery duels, with Israeli and militia tanks and howitzers hammering Hezbollah bases and the guerrillas firing rockets at a militia post and Marjayoun, a town in the Israeli-occupied zone.

**Load-Date:** September 1, 1994

**ISRAELI PLANES STRIKE IN BEIRUT< ELECTRICITY TO MUCH OF THE CITY  
WAS KNOCKED OUT. THOUSANDS< OF LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS FLED  
THEIR HOMES AS ATTACKS RAGED.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

APRIL 15, 1996 Monday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly . com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A01

**Length:** 1337 words

**Byline:** Jere Downs, INQUIRER STAFF WRITER, This article contains information from Inquirer wire services.

**Dateline:** METULLA, Israel

## **Body**

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The war of bombardments between Israeli forces and Hezbollah guerrillas raged inside Lebanon and northern Israel for the fourth day yesterday, driving 400,000 Lebanese from their villages and forcing thousands of Israelis to evacuate their homes or escape to bomb shelters.

Israeli warplanes pounded Beirut, hitting a power relay station and knocking out electricity to large sections of the capital and its suburbs. The planes also struck across southern Lebanon, hitting an ambulance for the second consecutive day in an attack that security sources said wounded four paramedics.

Undaunted, Hezbollah fighters continued to launch Katyushas into northern Israel, with the rockets exploding every 20 minutes over a seven-hour period. One Israeli was wounded, and an empty school was damaged.

The retaliatory attacks - which pit Israel's state-of-the-art warplanes, gunboats and artillery against Hezbollah's dated but still deadly Katyushas - represent the worst fighting in Lebanon in 14 years. In all, 28 Lebanese have been killed and 40 Israelis have been wounded since the blow-for-blow warfare erupted last week.

Yesterday, as three Lebanese civilians were reported killed and seven wounded, Israel gave no indication that its "Grapes of Wrath" campaign would soon ease. At least 400,000 panicked civilians - more than half the population of southern Lebanon and a tenth of the entire nation's - fled north for the relative safety of Beirut.

The guerrillas of Hezbollah, an Islamic militant movement supplied by Iran and backed by Syria, clung to their positions under withering Israeli fire. Although its fighters were reduced to transporting weapons by cars and donkeys, according to the Israeli military, Hezbollah vowed yesterday to turn northern Israel into a "fiery hell."

A Hezbollah TV station in Lebanon showed 70 fighters marching in formation with explosives purportedly strapped to their chests - a clear warning of suicide bombings. Since 1982, Hezbollah has used suicide bombers and

ISRAELI PLANES STRIKE IN BEIRUT< ELECTRICITY TO MUCH OF THE CITY WAS KNOCKED OUT.  
THOUSANDS< OF LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS FLED THEIR HOMES AS ATTACKS RAGED.

guerrilla attacks to try to drive Israel out of Lebanon, where it maintains a nine-mile-deep "security zone" in the south.

Israel is attempting to create intolerable conditions inside Lebanon for Syria, which dominates the internal affairs of its smaller neighbor while maintaining 35,000 to 45,000 troops there. By flooding Beirut with refugees and blockading Lebanon's ports, Israel hopes to force Syria to rein in Hezbollah.

Syria has used Hezbollah to torment Israel and to influence the Middle East peace process. But talks between Israel and Syria on returning the Golan Heights to Syria were suspended after recent suicide attacks in Israel - freeing Israel to attack Hezbollah without fear of upsetting the Golan negotiations.

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, locked in a tight election campaign, has been under pressure to take a tough stand against Arabs in the face of the recent suicide bombings by Palestinian terrorists. Peres unleashed the attacks Thursday after weeks of sporadic rocket attacks by Hezbollah.

"If the Hezbollah stops its attacks, we will stop ours," Peres said yesterday, in the first indication that Israel might be prepared to negotiate a cease-fire.

Peres also ruled out a ground invasion of Lebanon.

"I was the prime minister who took the army out of Lebanon in 1982," he said. "I don't want to be the prime minister that takes them back into Lebanon."

Israel's bombing of the relay station in Beirut was the first deliberate attack on an economic target in the current operation. Israeli officials said the attack was in retaliation for a Hezbollah rocket barrage that knocked out electricity in the northern Israeli town of Kiryat Shemona.

There was no immediate indication yesterday that Washington was attempting to mediate a halt to the fighting. In 1993, after a weeklong Israeli assault against Hezbollah killed 147 people and wounded 500, the United States brokered an agreement in which both sides agreed to limit their attacks to the security zone.

A White House spokesman yesterday said U.S. officials were in contact with Israel and with "those parties that might have influence over Hezbollah." Washington has formal relations with Syria but not with Iran.

The spokesman, Brian Cullin, told reporters in Washington that the United States blamed Hezbollah for the fighting.

"Fundamentally our position remains the same, in which the focus is on the provocative acts by Hezbollah which have provoked these actions by Israel," Cullin said.

Asked about civilian casualties - including an Israeli attack on an ambulance near Tyre Saturday in which four girls and two women were killed - Cullin said: "We have regretted the loss of life on both sides, both Israeli and Lebanese; this kind of violence hurts civilians on both sides."

Israel said the ambulance was being used by a Hezbollah fighter. Peres apologized for the deaths of the girls, saying: "I regret we took children."

Before each major attack in recent days, the Israeli military has warned civilians in southern Lebanon to leave their villages to avoid being caught up in air raids, artillery attacks and gunboat shelling.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez said the Israeli attacks were provoking Hezbollah.

"The White House knows well that Israel is the one that started intensive bombardment that killed civilians," Bouez told a private Beirut television station, responding to Cullin's remarks.

"We are sorry the position of the White House is an unjust and unrealistic position," Bouez added.

## ISRAELI PLANES STRIKE IN BEIRUT< ELECTRICITY TO MUCH OF THE CITY WAS KNOCKED OUT. THOUSANDS< OF LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS FLED THEIR HOMES AS ATTACKS RAGED.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri agreed during talks in Damascus Saturday with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to call for an urgent meeting of the Arab League to discuss the fighting.

Yesterday, Israeli military officers said one goal of the operation was to turn Lebanese civilians against Hezbollah.

"There is a strong coupling between Hezbollah and the people of southern Lebanon," said Israeli army spokesman Raneem Gissim. "We are trying to show the people it is going to cost them if they support Hezbollah."

After four days of pounding by Israeli forces, Gissim said, Hezbollah fighters are "are traveling on a donkey with two Katyushas."

Israeli army intelligence chief Hertzel Buddenger said Syria was the key to forcing an end to the Hezbollah rocket attacks.

"I think the Hezbollah have more Katyushas and enough people to fire them if they want to keep going," Buddenger said. "The question is, who is going to give them an order to behave?"

About 50 villages in southern Lebanon were deserted by civilians fleeing to the north to escape yesterday's bombardments. On the Israeli side, officials said two civilians and one soldier were slightly wounded.

The mood in Metulla, a mountain tourist village on Israel's northern border, was upbeat despite a Katyusha rocket that landed in the heart of the town yesterday morning. The resulting blast shattered the windows of a recreation center and left a four-foot-deep crater on its lawn.

"We'll give you a room with a good view of incoming Katyushas," a hotel clerk said of the vista, which included deserted Lebanese villages on neighboring mountain ridges.

On a ridge-top near Metulla, Israeli soldiers fired 155mm artillery toward the hills of Lebanon every few minutes, producing deafening booms of outgoing rounds.

"Our men are like a spring which has just begun to uncoil," said an army spokesman. "We have been waiting for this action for a long time."

Half of Metulla's 1,200 residents had fled the town by yesterday evening. Kiryat Shemona, Israel's largest town near the northern border, was virtually deserted, with all its businesses closed. All 22,000 residents of Kiryat Shemona either left or remained hunkered in bomb shelters, many of them for the sixth straight day.

One Kiryat Shemona resident, Tamira Long, said she feared for her Lebanese housekeeper, who she said was forced to flee her southern village.

"I hope she is OK," Long said of the housekeeper, whom she had employed for three years. "She doesn't have her work. She doesn't have anything. I miss her."

## Graphic

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PHOTO AND DRAWING;

PHOTO (1)

1. Israeli artillery gunners fire from along the Israeli-Lebanese border at Hezbollah targets inside Lebanon. "If the Hezbollah stops its attacks, we will stop ours," said Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Hezbollah threatened yesterday to turn northern Israel into a "fiery hell." (Associated Press, YARON KAMINSKY)

ISRAELI PLANES STRIKE IN BEIRUT< ELECTRICITY TO MUCH OF THE CITY WAS KNOCKED OUT.  
THOUSANDS< OF LEBANESE AND ISRAELIS FLED THEIR HOMES AS ATTACKS RAGED.

DRAWING (1)

1. Katyusha Rockets (KRT Graphic)

**Load-Date:** October 28, 2002

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End of Document

## *Lebanon Shi'ites celebrate as divisions deepen*

The Guardian (London)

August 23, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Length:** 449 words

**Byline:** By JULIE FLIN

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Shi'tes yesterday celebrated the final day of Ashura, the commemoration of the martyrdom of the Imam Hussein, with the wounds of the recent inter-Shi'ite fighting in Beirut's southern suburbs still festering and new violence deepening the division in the country's most populous community.

In Bir el-Abed, Hezbollah's stronghold in the capital, a tightly packed crowd of about 15,000 people, the women all dressed in long black chadors, heard Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah appeal for Shi'ite unity. The outside world, he said, rejoiced to see Shi'ite fight Shi'ite.

On the street outside the mosque where he was preaching, Hezbollah militants circulated copies of a West Beirut newspaper in which Sheikh Abdel Amir Qabalan, a cleric close to Amal, damned Iran with faint praise.

'They want me to love Iran by force,' Sheikh Qabalan was quoted as saying, repeating a theme first heard during the bloody inter-Shi'ite fighting that left more than 260 people dead in the southern suburbs in May. 'But I will only love Iran for the good it does in Lebanon.'

The new enmity between Amal and Hezbollah deepened this month with a resurgence of violence in Shi'ite South Lebanon, from where Amal all but evicted Hezbollah in three days of preliminary battle in April.

At the start of the month, Hezbollah accused Amal of storming its villages in Jebel Amel, an impoverished, largely barren area between Tyre and the Israeli border that has longstanding links with Iran, and of arresting and torturing Hezbollah sympathisers - breaking arms and legs, the party alleged, in imitation of Israeli practises in the occupied territories.

Amal responded by accusing Hezbollah of smuggling arms and ammunition into the south and of 'promising the people of the south that they will return to the area by force if need be.'

These tensions, restrained by the alliance that still binds Syria and Iran in Lebanon, climaxed on August 13 when a Hezbollah cleric, Sheikh Ali Krayyem, was shot dead at an Amal checkpoint in Bir el-Salasel village.

The small crowd of mourners that attended his funeral testified to Amal's success in putting the south, Hezbollah's front line with Israel, under a virtual one-party stranglehold. Hezbollah accused Amal of 'premeditated murder' and charged that it was cooperating with Israel to close Hezbollah and the Islamic resistance out of the south.



## Lebanon Shi'ites celebrate as divisions deepen

Sheikh Fadlallah said the killing of the 32-year-old cleric had opened 'a new era in the south.' In the ultimate insult, the **Hezbollah** weekly paper, Al Ahd called its Amal rivals 'yazidis' after the tyrant Yazid who was responsible for the killing of Hussein, grandson of the prophet Mohammed, at the battle of Kerbala in 680 AD.

**Load-Date:** June 13, 2000

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End of Document

## ISRAELI BOMBS KILL 5 GUERRILLAS

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

August 04, 1997, Monday

Copyright 1997 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** A section; Pg. 3

**Length:** 273 words

**Byline:** AP

### **Body**

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NABATIYEH, Lebanon (AP) -- Israeli commandos set off bombs in southern Lebanon early today that killed five Hezbollah guerrillas, including two commanders, Israeli army and Lebanese security officials said.

Five other people -- three civilians and two guerrillas -- were wounded in related violence, the Lebanese officials said.

The dead included Sheik Taissir Badran, commander of Shiite Muslim Hezbollah guerrillas near the market city of Nabatiyeh, and Hussein Kassir, who directed operations in the nearby village of Kfour, the officials said.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah acknowledged five of its members died.

The bombs went off at about 4 a.m. near Kfour, which is about two miles northwest of Nabatiyeh. Israeli hilltop outposts surround Nabatiyeh, 35 miles southeast of Beirut, on three sides.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli army confirmed that it had sent a raiding party north of the so-called "security zone" it occupies in southern Lebanon.

The army said Israeli troops exchanged fire with Lebanese guerrillas and that at least two guerrillas were believed injured. No Israeli soldiers were harmed, according to the army.

Lebanese officials said five people were injured, including three civilians.

"Afterwards, other Hezbollah activists arrived on the scene, but forces operated roadside bombs against the Hezbollah and caused the deaths of at least five Hezbollah," the Israeli army said.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah has led a campaign to oust Israeli troops and their allied Lebanese militiamen from the occupied zone, which Israel established in 1985.

About 1,500 Israeli troops patrol the zone along with about 2,500 allied militiamen.

### **Graphic**

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## ISRAELI BOMBS KILL 5 GUERRILLAS

MOHAMED ZATARI/The Associated Press \* Grieving: Women identified as the wife, left, and sister of slain Hezbollah commander Sheik Taissir Badran grieve today in the southern Lebanese village of Kfour. Israeli commandos set off bombs in the south that killed Badran, a local guerrilla commander, and four others.

**Load-Date:** August 6, 1997

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End of Document

## THOUSANDS FLEE ISRAELI ASSAULT

THE AUSTRALIAN

April 15, 1996, Monday

Copyright 1996 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Length:** 664 words

### **Body**

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TENS of thousands of terrified refugees fled the Lebanese port of Tyre yesterday after Israel threatened to rain destruction on southern Lebanon until Islamic guerillas stopped their attacks on Israeli towns.

The exodus came as the escalating border war between Israeli forces and pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters entered its fourth day, alarming world leaders who called on the parties to rein in their attacks.

Israeli tanks and 155mm batteries hammered villages in southern Lebanon in a relentless bombardment, dubbed Operation Grapes of Wrath.

Hezbollah hit back with a steady barrage of rockets on northern Israel, where about 50,000 people were forced to flee.

Sunday Times, AFP, Reuters

The fighting risks drawing in Syria, Israel's main Arab enemy, and unleashing another Middle East conflagration.

As the rocket attacks continued, the Israeli army reiterated warnings to residents of Tyre and 40 surrounding villages to leave the region or risk coming under attack.

It imposed a final deadline of 4.00pm AEST yesterday.

An Israeli warplane rocketed a village near the southern Lebanese port less than an hour after the expiry of the deadline, witnesses said, and there were also reports of Israeli bombers striking the Christian village of Jamhur, near Beirut.

As the human toll mounted, an Israeli helicopter yesterday fired a rocket at an ambulance near Tyre for the second day running, wounding four people, an official with a Muslim relief group said.

The ambulance belonged to the Islamic Scouts, which also owned the ambulance destroyed earlier by an Israeli helicopter, killing six people from the same family, including four children.

The women and children killed in that attack brought the toll in the four-day offensive to 25 Lebanese dead and more than 100 wounded, most of them civilians.

Hezbollah guerillas last night sent five successive barrages of Katyusha rockets crashing into the eastern Galilee panhandle.

The Israeli army announced that its aircraft had counterattacked against the rocket launchers in the region of Jabal Kabir just north of the Israelioccupied buffer zone and that pilots reported destroying their targets.

## THOUSANDS FLEE ISRAELI ASSAULT

**Hezbollah** rocket attacks on the north have sent nine Israelis to hospital since Tuesday and forced residents to live in bomb shelters or flee south.

**Hezbollah** issued a statement warning it would turn northern Israel into "hell", and security forces said about 300 **Hezbollah** suicide bombers have travelled to south Lebanon to prepare for anti-Israeli operations.

The Prime Minister of Lebanon, Mr Rafik Hariri, rejected Israeli pressure to clamp down on **Hezbollah**, asserting "the core of the problem is not the **Hezbollah**, but rather the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon". Israel's Prime Minister, Mr Peres, yesterday ruled out an Israeli ground invasion of Lebanon despite the failure of air raids and artillery to halt **Hezbollah** attacks.

Mr Peres warned, however, that Israel's latest campaign against **Hezbollah** would continue until their attacks on Israel ended.

"If Kiryat Shimona cannot know peace, then 'Hezbollahland' will not be a safe place," he said, referring to the northern Israeli town that has borne the brunt of rocket attacks.

Australia's Foreign Minister, Mr Downer, yesterday called on all warring parties to exercise restraint and find a peaceful settlement to the conflict.

"This latest outbreak of violence graphically demonstrates the need for Israel, Syria and Lebanon to work together in the search for a comprehensive settlement, one in which Israel is given firm guarantees of security for its northern border regions, and the rockets of **Hezbollah** will no longer be aimed at Israel."

The United States Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, called on **Hezbollah** to end its attacks but reiterated the State Department's defence of Israel's retaliatory strikes.

Refugees from south Lebanon poured into Beirut, settling in schools and building sites. Some 200,000 Lebanese have been driven from their homes.

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

**Attack claims 4 kids; Israelis blast ambulance; ships blockade part of Lebanon**

Bismarck Tribune (North Dakota)

April 14, 1996, Sunday,

METRO EDITION

Copyright 1996 The Bismarck Tribune, a division of Lee Enterprises, Inc.

**Length:** 963 words

**Byline:** Los Angeles Times

## **Body**

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BEIRUT, Lebanon -- In a grisly attack that could undermine Israel's military campaign against **Hezbollah** guerrillas in Lebanon, Israeli forces pounding the country for a third day Saturday rocketed an ambulance packed with refugees, killing two **women** and four children.

The attack came as Israel stepped up its campaign against **Hezbollah** fighters by imposing a partial naval blockade on Lebanon -- raising anxieties in this capital city that gasoline and food supplies might be impeded.

The ambulance attack, witnessed by journalists at a U.N. checkpoint five miles south of the port city of Tyre, enraged television viewers in Lebanon and undercut Israeli assertions that its offensive is limited to strongholds of the Shiite Muslim guerrillas and is being carried out with surgical precision.

In the Israeli drive to avenge cross-border rocket attacks by **Hezbollah** guerrillas, a campaign dubbed "Operation Grapes of Wrath," more than 3,000 shells and rockets have rained down on nearly 50 towns and villages in southern Lebanon. At least 25 people have been killed, mostly civilians, and more than 85 have been wounded, Lebanese media and police officials reported.

Posing a humanitarian crisis for the Lebanese government, 200,000 people have fled their homes to escape the pounding by tanks and howitzers in southern Lebanon. They were bedding down in schools, mosques and barracks or sleeping in parks or along roadsides. **Hezbollah** retaliated late Saturday by firing a new salvo of Katyusha rockets at northern Israel, security sources in Lebanon said. Israel confirmed that seven rockets landed within northern Israel, causing no injuries or damage.

The leader of **Hezbollah** issued a call on his movement's television station for a general mobilization of fighters, including volunteers to carry out suicide bombings against Israel. "I call on all the suicide fighters to join their stations," Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said. "These are the days when holy war and martyrdom are sweetest."

Two other anti-Israel groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, also threatened suicide attacks.

While there has been no signs of a break in the conflict, Israel's Channel Two reported late Saturday that a diplomatic effort may be mounted involving the United States, Israel, Syria and Lebanon.

## Attack claims 4 kids; Israelis blast ambulance; ships blockade part of Lebanon

Any such attempt "should come as no surprise," Israeli government spokesman Uri Dromi said, because the United States "seems to be the only power that can broker anything here." But he could not confirm that any diplomatic moves were underway.

U.S. diplomats helped bring about an unofficial understanding between Israel and Hezbollah in 1993 after the last serious offensive by Israel in Lebanon. That fighting lasted seven days, killing about 130 people and forcing 500,000 villagers from their homes.

Israel began its latest offensive Thursday, saying it was targeting Hezbollah installations in retaliation for a barrage of Hezbollah missiles fired at northern Israel on Tuesday that injured 36 people.

Increasingly, however, the Israeli tactics seem focused on the Lebanese government itself, with Jerusalem's apparent message being: Shut down Hezbollah or suffer the chaos and panic of an ongoing mini-war that would scuttle Lebanon's efforts to rebuild.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri has said it would be political suicide for the government to clamp down on Hezbollah when the group is seen as heroic for resisting the 12-year Israeli occupation of a nine-mile-wide "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

But in the face of ongoing Israeli military action, Israeli Foreign Minister Ehud Barak predicted, "I believe that they will reappraise. It could take another 24 or 48 hours."

Saturday's attack on the ambulance came at a busy U.N. checkpoint south of Tyre where vehicles loaded with refugees streamed northward to escape the Israeli assault.

According to a reporter who saw the attack, the white Volvo station wagon, with red markings on its side and a siren and lights mounted on its roof, was rocketed by an Israeli helicopter without warning. The force of the blow flung the vehicle 20 yards into a house.

"I want my sister! I want my sister!" screamed a girl who survived and raced from the wreckage. "Oh God, oh God." Of the six people killed, three were sisters, aged 3, 6 and 7. Eight people were wounded.

Markings on the ambulance indicated it belonged to a scout organization affiliated with Amal, Hezbollah's main political rival among Lebanon's Shiite population. Israeli Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak conceded that one of his helicopter gunships had rocketed the ambulance but said the vehicle was believed to be carrying a Hezbollah activist.

"It will be conclusively proven the target was Hezbollah terrorists using the ambulance for their own means," he said.

But televised scenes of the mangled bodies of the children in the wreckage and hysterical survivors screaming in agony added fuel to the mounting rage in Lebanon against Israel.

"Everyone has a bad taste in his mouth," said Beirut banker Anas Hibri, 48, who said Hezbollah fighters are waging "a legal and legitimate struggle" to get Israel off Lebanese land.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez, who traveled to the Syrian capital of Damascus with Hariri on Saturday to consult with Syrian President Hafez Assad, said Lebanon will ask the U.N. Security Council to condemn Israel even though the United States has indicated already it would veto such a resolution. Lebanon also will seek an emergency meeting of the Arab League, he said.

Israel's naval blockade affects the ports of Beirut, Sidon and Tyre. Marwan Iskander, an economic adviser to Hariri, said Lebanon gets 60 percent of its food through the ports. The Israeli army said it will last "as long as necessary" to keep any arms from reaching Hezbollah by sea.

Attack claims 4 kids; Israelis blast ambulance; ships blockade part of Lebanon

**Load-Date:** January 15, 1998

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End of Document



## **Mass Graves In Turkey Put Attention On Terror Cell**

The New York Times

January 23, 2000, Sunday, Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2000 The New York Times Company

**Distribution:** Foreign Desk

**Section:** Section 1;; Section 1; Page 9; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Column 1;

**Length:** 779 words

**Byline:** By STEPHEN KINZER

By STEPHEN KINZER

**Dateline:** ISTANBUL, Jan. 22

### **Body**

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Police officers searching for victims of a religious-oriented terrorist group found four bodies buried beneath a villa in the central Turkish town of Konya on Friday night, bringing the total exhumed so far to 17.

The gruesome search has riveted the nation's attention since Monday, when a heavily armed police squad surrounded a building that authorities called the group's Istanbul headquarters and seized it after a spectacular gunbattle that was broadcast live on television.

One man inside the building in Istanbul was killed. The police identified him as Huseyin Velioglu, leader of a militant Islamic group known as **Hezbollah**, which is believed to be unrelated to the anti-Israeli group **Hezbollah** based in Lebanon.

Ten bodies, all nude and bearing signs of torture, were found beneath the Istanbul hide-out. According to news reports, some of the bodies were missing limbs, and others had nails driven into their skulls. The killers had planted onions above the mass grave to cover up the odor.

The police captured two men who were inside the house. They also found documents, computer disks and videotapes said to contain scenes of torture and executions.

All 17 victims whose remains have been found so far are believed to have been Kurds from southeastern Turkey, which has been torn by war and terror for years. The lone woman among them was reportedly Konca Kuris, a writer who had often portrayed Islam as a permissive religion that demands freedom for **women**.

An estimated 200 residents of southeastern Turkey, most of them businessmen unsympathetic to the cause of militant Islam, have disappeared since August. **Hezbollah**, which means Party of God, is now considered the prime suspect in many of those cases.

The group is also suspected of involvement in a 1993 arson attack in the city of Sivas. That fire killed 37 secularist intellectuals who had gathered for a conference.

## Mass Graves In Turkey Put Attention On Terror Cell

Although Turkey's Hezbollah is not believed to be connected to the group based in Lebanon, the two evidently share a fervent commitment to radical Islam. Turkish and Israeli officials believe that both groups receive support from Iran, but the Iranian foreign minister, Kamal Kharrazi, who was in Turkey during the Istanbul raid, denied that his government had any connection to Hezbollah in Turkey.

Hezbollah emerged as a force in southeastern Turkey in the late 1980's, when a Kurdish uprising was reaching its peak. For the next several years, the ranks of Kurdish nationalists, intellectuals and businessmen were decimated by thousands of unsolved "mystery killings."

In recent days, news commentators and academic researchers have asserted that many of those killings may have been carried out by Hezbollah in cooperation with the army and the police. Many of the victims were perceived as supporters of the rebel Kurdistan Workers Party, or P.K.K., which the government was determined to wipe out.

Now that the Kurdish group's top leader, Abdullah Ocalan, has been captured and sentenced to death, fighting in the southeastern provinces has subsided. If Hezbollah was once an ally of the government, it is now considered a threat because of its support for radical Islam.

"Hezbollah's anti-P.K.K. stance and the sympathy it has received for killing P.K.K. members has put the state in the position of being the target of the Frankenstein monster it created," the columnist Gungor Mengi wrote in an Istanbul newspaper. "We hope this incident has taught our leaders not to use religious terror groups under any circumstances."

The two recent raids may lead to new investigations into some of the most highly publicized mystery killings. The victims included not only Kurds, but also prominent secularists like a newspaper columnist, Ugur Mumcu, who was killed by a car bomb in 1993, and a former minister of culture, Ahmet Taner Kislali, who was killed by a bomb last year.

Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said operations against Hezbollah "will continue until we have completely wiped out this murderous organization."

One leading expert on Turkish terror groups, Emin Gurses, a professor of international relations at the University of Sakarya in western Turkey, said Hezbollah and the Kurdistan Workers Party fought not only over ideology, but also for control of smuggling routes.

"The P.K.K. was at the peak of its power in the early 1990's," Mr. Gurses said. "Army commanders knew that it was dangerous to give free rein to Hezbollah, but the P.K.K. was their main concern. Central authorities in countries around the world close their eyes temporarily to these kinds of organizations in similar circumstances. But now that the P.K.K. is defeated, a decision has been made to crush Hezbollah."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

**Load-Date:** January 23, 2000

## *Allegations of ties with Islamic militants haunt Turkish state*

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

January 27, 2000, Thursday

Copyright 2000, Telegraph-Herald

**Section:** National/World; Pg. a 9

**Length:** 790 words

**Byline:** Associated Press

### **Body**

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**Hezbollah** terror: The government denies connection with group that battled Kurds

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) - For almost a decade, Islamic militants terrorized Kurds in southeastern Turkey, executing their enemies with a single shot to the head or a swing of a long blade called the "sword of Islam."

Turkish police are now cracking down on the group, arresting militants and uncovering dungeons and torture cells. The campaign has raised the difficult question of whether the state turned a blind eye or even helped create a group that went unpunished as it killed thousands of people, including hundreds of anti-government Kurdish rebels.

Last week, authorities discovered dozens of savagely tortured bodies, including that of one woman, Konca Kuris, beneath the group's hide-outs.

Outraged commentators and even some politicians contend the state's crackdown has come only because the group, **Hezbollah**, is no longer useful now that the main Kurdish militant group, Abdullah Ocalan's Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, has largely been defeated.

"**Hezbollah** has completed its mission," said Faik Bulut, an expert on Islamic terrorist groups. "It has been squeezed and squeezed like a lemon."

**Hezbollah**, which is not linked to the Lebanon-based guerrilla group of the same name, was formed in the impoverished southern city of Diyarbakir in the early 1980s, when the PKK was becoming powerful in the surrounding countryside.

The militants, who distinguished themselves by wearing shirts over their pants to hide their long knives, were staunchly anti-Communist and killed hundreds of PKK members.

The group was at its height in the early 1990s, at the same time that the PKK controlled most of the countryside.

Turkey's military has denied any links with **Hezbollah**, but the denial has not silenced speculation that the organization, which never attacked soldiers or police, was supported by local politicians, police and paramilitary forces.

## Allegations of ties with Islamic militants haunt Turkish state

"It is not possible for an organization to do things like Hezbollah without collaborating with traitors within the state and receiving their support," said Mesut Yilmaz, leader of the Motherland Party, which is part of the governing coalition.

Eyup Asik, a former state minister, said that in 1993 he informed then-Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin that Hezbollah was killing people in the southeastern town of Batman. He said the government never took action.

It is not the first time the state has been accused of using radical groups to eliminate its enemies.

A 1997 government report said that the state used death squads made up of ultra-nationalists to kill Kurdish rebels, journalists and Armenian militants.

The crackdown on Hezbollah began earlier this month, when police attacked the group's safe house in Istanbul, killing Huseyin Velioğlu, the leader of the organization's most militant wing.

Following the shootout, the government arrested hundreds of militants who led police to uncover 33 corpses buried in basements and gardens throughout the country. Most of the dead had their arms and legs tied behind their backs.

All the victims were naked and some bore signs of torture, such as missing ribs and broken bones.

Many of the victims were Kurdish businessmen who refused to pay zakat, an Islamic tax, to the group. Others were not Kurds, including Kuris, an Islamic women's rights activist who apparently first backed Hezbollah but angered its members when she demanded that women pray alongside men.

Police discovered a Hezbollah videotape in which Kuris was seen being interrogated and tortured for 35 days, newspaper reports said.

The group tortured some people by dripping burning nylon on their naked bodies during interrogations, which were videotaped, according to Mehmet Arica, a former Hezbollah member turned police informant. Arica said the leadership watched the videotapes to review the sessions and decide on the victims' fates.

Militants injected people with tranquilizers and moved them from city to city in refrigerators or couches, the daily Sabah newspaper reported.

According to military intelligence reports, Hezbollah killed 500 Kurdish rebels and is blamed for another 5,000 mysterious killings in the region.

Turkish officials say the group is backed by Iran, a claim that Tehran denies.

Ilnur Cevik, editor in chief of the Turkish Daily News, was pessimistic that the crackdown would lead to significant change.

"All that will happen will be the elimination of some militants while the state officials, who fed them and directed them, will remain unknown and we will face another cover up," Cevik wrote in an editorial.

But some others said they hoped for change.

"This is the day for settling accounts," Mehmet Ali Birand wrote in the same newspaper. "The state is cleaning out the dirt within."

**Load-Date:** February 3, 2000

## UNEASY TRUCE AFTER 65 DIE IN BEIRUT

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

May 9, 1988 Monday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; Pg. 11

**Length:** 213 words

**Byline:** ANTONY WALKER, Herald Correspondent

### **Body**

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CAIRO, Sunday: A delicate truce prevailed in the southern suburbs of Beirut late today after the fiercest factional fighting this year. At least 65 people died and many more were wounded.

Machine-guns, tanks and mortars were used in the conflict.

Scores of people, most of whom were women and children, were seen fleeing from the battle zones.

The conflict, between the Syrian-backed Amal militia and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters, is seen to threaten the ties between Damascus and Tehran.

Officials from the two countries were involved at the weekend in efforts to bring about a cease-fire.

The clashes started after Hezbollah fighters refused to hand over the suspected killers of three Amal militiamen.

A Hezbollah spokesman said today that its militia was "consolidating its hold".

Hezbollah is believed to be holding some of the 22 foreign hostages still missing in Lebanon.

The leader of Amal, Mr Nabih Berri, accused Hezbollah of turning the area under its control into a nest for terrorists.

The spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, appealed for an end to the fighting.

He said: "There is neither victor nor vanquished in the fight between brothers but you are losers in this war. I call on everybody to lay down their arms and resort to dialogue."

**Load-Date:** July 20, 2007

## MIDDLE EAST: Southern Lebanon in crossfire again

The Ottawa Citizen

June 24, 1995, Saturday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. D10

**Length:** 812 words

**Byline:** ROBERT FISK; THE INDEPENDENT

**Dateline:** SHAQRA, Southern Lebanon

### **Body**

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POWER PLAYS: When peace is in the air, southern Lebanon explodes. It happened again Friday, and as usual the innocent paid the price.

They buried 18-year old Jumana Fahas on Friday as Israeli shells thundered across the baking hills and a curtain of brown smoke rose from the villages of Kafra and Yater.

"Shell warning, shell warning," the UN radios squawked.

It was only hours since the Hezbollah had fired into Galilee, killing a Frenchman and wounding eight other civilians, five French tourists and three Israelis.

Which was why, in the shuttered streets of the dead woman's ghost village of Shakra on Friday there were to be seen just a clutch of Irish United Nations soldiers, one middle-aged man and a cat. Life in southern Lebanon is getting dangerous again.

It was, in one sense, a familiar story, the second time in three weeks that Israeli ordinance had killed a young Lebanese girl at Shaqra, the third time in as many weeks that mortar rounds had landed on the village. But there was what the UN sometimes calls the "big picture," the geopolitical arguments and negotiations that are intimately related to this war.

On Tuesday, the Israelis and the Syrians are to sit down together in Washington to restart their talks on a future Middle East peace. And as always when peace is in the air, southern Lebanon explodes.

The sequence of grubby events was easy to put together. On Thursday afternoon, the Shiite Hezbollah militia fired two Sagger wire-guided missiles from Shaqra at the earthen artillery compound held by Israel's "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) gunmen outside the village but inside the Israeli-occupied zone of southern Lebanon.

The SLA, rather than firing on known Hezbollah positions to the north, instead fired 14 mortar rounds into Shaqra itself, eight of them fitted with proximity fuses that burst at head height to cause maximum casualties. East of the village, one of their first rounds tore into 27-year-old Ibrahim Nurredin as he walked from his house. Nearby, the fifth round exploded above an olive tree, sending a chunk of shrapnel through the window of Jumana Fahas's home, cutting off the lower half of her face and almost severing her neck. She died instantly.

## MIDDLE EAST: Southern Lebanon in crossfire again

Exactly 12 hours later, just after dawn Friday, the Hezbollah honored their promise to retaliate for any Israeli killings of civilians in southern Lebanon by firing at least 14 Katyusha missiles from the villages of Kafra and Yater toward the Israeli coastal town of Nahariya. They killed the Frenchman and wounded the eight other civilians on the other side of the border.

Then came Israel's retaliation, a torrent of shells back into southern Lebanon and air raids on two more villages east of Sidon. By dusk, the Hezbollah were promising to attack another Israeli artillery position inside southern Lebanon.

Jumana Fahas, it turned out, was a member of the Hezbollah's "girl scouts" -- an organization intended to teach Shiite women to wear the hijab and pray -- but her father was a member of the more moderate Shiite Amal movement, which blames the Hezbollah as much as the Israelis for the Israeli bombardments on southern Lebanon.

And so, as her body was taken from the house, Amal and Hezbollah mourners began cursing each other over who had the right to bury her, fighting with their fists in the street outside the dead girl's home until her remains were shoved unceremoniously into an ambulance.

By then, the Frenchman was dead across the border and Benjamin Netanyahu, leader of the divided Israeli opposition Likud party, was demanding that Syria disarm and close down the Hezbollah and prevent any more Katyushas being fired at Galilee as a precondition for Tuesday's Washington talks. He did not, of course, demand the disarming of the SLA and the withdrawal of Israeli army from southern Lebanon - which is, after all, Hezbollah's condition for ending its own 'war of resistance' against the Israeli occupation.

But what nobody ventured to answer was the old question: were these latest tragedies an attempt by Syria, via its Hezbollah allies, to put pressure on Israel to compromise at the Washington talks?

Or an attempt by Israel to force the Syrians, via their south Lebanese allies, to compromise? Or both?

That the war in southern Lebanon is political is in no doubt and, as usual, the innocent paid the price. Friday night, Israeli troops had taken over one of their SLA positions above the neighboring town of Nabatea -- usually a prelude for further bombardments -- while the only Hezbollah man known to have suffered was in the village of Qlielieh, not far from the coast.

Just 15 minutes after the Katyushas exploded in Galilee, a single Israeli shell landed on the roof of his empty home and destroyed the building while the stunned local Hezbollah leader watched in silence from the road outside.

## Graphic

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Reuter photo/ ROCKET VICTIM: Medical workers treat one of eight civilians wounded by a Hezbollah rocket attack that also killed a man at a Galilee resort. As usual in Lebanon, attacks by both sides were directed at non-combatants.

**Load-Date:** June 25, 1995

## **ISRAEL'S AIM: HALT WAR OF ATTRITION, MAKE NEW RULES FOR COMBAT**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

April 13, 1996, Saturday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 1996 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 527 words

**Byline:** MARJORIE MILLER, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

### **Body**

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Israel's reprisal attacks on **Hezbollah** headquarters in Beirut and throughout Lebanon have been intended as impressive surgical strikes and may well have done serious damage to the Iranian-backed guerrillas.

But Israel never expected the military operation to end the decade-long war against **Hezbollah**, a militia drawn from Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslims. That end, Israel believes, can come only through negotiations with Syria, the de facto ruler of Lebanon and overseer of **Hezbollah**.

The Israeli fighter-bombers, helicopter gunships and heavy artillery attacking **Hezbollah** bases throughout Lebanon are instead meant to bury the old rules of engagement under which a war of attrition has been waged for more than a decade and to open the way for negotiations on new set of rules - if not peace.

Until there is such an understanding, however, Israelis living in the northern town of Kiryat Shemona, Lebanese villagers and even some Beirut residents will be forced to run for cover.

"The point is very simple," said Maj. Gen. Moshe Yaalon, the Israeli army's intelligence chief. "**Hezbollah** doesn't fire, neither do we. They are firing, however, and so are we - to the best of our capability and according to our own rules."

In 1993, after a massive Israeli attack on southern Lebanese villages in "Operation Accountability," as the Israelis called it, the two sides reached a U.S-brokered understanding to protect Israeli and Lebanese civilians from the fighting. The agreement effectively restricted combat to Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon, its self-declared "security zone," although there have been violations by both sides.

Israel blames **Hezbollah** for breaking this understanding with repeated rocket attacks on northern Israeli communities in recent months, including a barrage fired Tuesday at Kiryat Shemona that wounded 36 people and damaged about 200 houses.

Fed up and under mounting domestic criticism for inaction, Prime Minister Shimon Peres ordered Israel's first air attacks on Beirut in 14 years against a **Hezbollah** headquarters in the city's southern suburbs - and other strikes in the Bekaa Valley, this within 700 meters of Syrian troops stationed there.



## ISRAEL 'S AIM: HALT WAR OF ATTRITION, MAKE NEW RULES FOR COMBAT

These raids, in turn, provoked further rocket attacks yesterday on northern Israel and then Israeli counter-attacks on Beirut and on Lebanese villages.

Trying to minimize civilian casualties, Israel warned the residents of more than 40 Lebanese villages just north of the occupied zone that it was about to bomb, sending thousands of men, women and children fleeing north toward Beirut.

The sudden flood of refugees created an immediate crisis for the Lebanese government, which Thursday had tried to dismiss the conflict as a problem between Israel and Hezbollah.

The bombing of Beirut also provoked, as Israel clearly intended, panic among the city's residents and revived frightening memories of Lebanon's 15-year civil war.

Foreign Minister Ehud Barak said Israel wanted to "clarify to the Lebanese government . . . that sovereignty above all means responsibility. . . . They will have to find a solution: either disarm the Hezbollah of their weapons or find another way to silence them."

**Load-Date:** April 17, 1996

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End of Document

## ISRAELI ROCKET KILLS REFUGEES

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

April 14, 1996, Sunday

Copyright 1996 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** Region/Nation/World; Pg. B1

**Length:** 995 words

**Byline:** AP

### **Body**

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BEIRUT, Lebanon -- In a grisly attack that could undermine Israel's military campaign against Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon, Israeli forces pounding the country for a third day Saturday rocketed an ambulance packed with refugees, killing two women and four children.

The attack came as Israel stepped up its campaign against Hezbollah fighters by imposing a partial naval blockade on Lebanon -- raising anxieties in this capital city that gasoline and food supplies might be impeded.

The ambulance attack, witnessed by journalists at a U.N. checkpoint five miles south of the port city of Tyre, enraged television viewers in Lebanon and undercut Israeli assertions that its offensive is limited to strongholds of the Shiite Muslim guerrillas and is being carried out with surgical precision.

In the Israeli drive to avenge cross-border rocket attacks by Hezbollah guerrillas, a campaign dubbed "Operation Grapes of Wrath," more than 3,000 shells and rockets have rained down on nearly 50 towns and villages in southern Lebanon. At least 25 people have been killed, mostly civilians, and more than 85 have been wounded, Lebanese media and police officials reported.

Posing a humanitarian crisis for the Lebanese government, 200,000 people have fled their homes to escape the pounding by tanks and howitzers in southern Lebanon. They were bedding down in schools, mosques and barracks or sleeping in parks or along roadsides.

Hezbollah retaliated late Saturday by firing a new salvo of Katyusha rockets at northern Israel, security sources in Lebanon said. Israel confirmed that seven rockets landed within northern Israel, causing no injuries or damage.

The leader of Hezbollah issued a call on his movement's television station for a general mobilization of fighters, including volunteers to carry out suicide bombings against Israel. "I call on all the suicide fighters to join their stations," Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said. "These are the days when holy war and martyrdom are sweetest."

Two other anti-Israel groups, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, also threatened suicide attacks.

While there has been no signs of a break in the conflict, Israel's Channel Two reported late Saturday that a diplomatic effort may be mounted involving the United States, Israel, Syria and Lebanon.

Any such attempt "should come as no surprise," Israeli government spokesman Uri Dromi said, because the United States "seems to be the only power that can broker anything here." But he could not confirm that any diplomatic moves were underway.

## ISRAELI ROCKET KILLS REFUGEES

U.S. diplomats helped bring about an unofficial understanding between Israel and Hezbollah in 1993 after the last serious offensive by Israel in Lebanon. That fighting lasted seven days, killing about 130 people and forcing 500,000 villagers from their homes.

Israel began its latest offensive Thursday, saying it was targeting Hezbollah installations in retaliation for a barrage of Hezbollah missiles fired at northern Israel on Tuesday that injured 36 people.

Increasingly, however, the Israeli tactics seem focused on the Lebanese government itself, with Jerusalem's apparent message being: Shut down Hezbollah or suffer the chaos and panic of an ongoing mini-war that would scuttle Lebanon's efforts to rebuild.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri has said it would be political suicide for the government to clamp down on Hezbollah when the group is seen as heroic for resisting the 12-year Israeli occupation of a 9-mile-wide "security zone" in southern Lebanon.

But in the face of ongoing Israeli military action, Israeli Foreign Minister Ehud Barak predicted, "I believe that they will reappraise. It could take another 24 or 48 hours."

Saturday's attack on the ambulance came at a busy U.N. checkpoint south of Tyre where vehicles loaded with refugees streamed northward to escape the Israeli assault.

According to a reporter who saw the attack, the white Volvo station wagon, with red markings on its side and a siren and lights mounted on its roof, was rocketed by an Israeli helicopter without warning. The force of the blow flung the vehicle 20 yards into a house.

"I want my sister! I want my sister!" screamed a girl who survived and raced from the wreckage. "Oh God, oh God." Of the six people killed, three were sisters, aged 3, 6 and 7. Eight people were wounded.

Markings on the ambulance indicated it belonged to a scout organization affiliated with Amal, Hezbollah's main political rival among Lebanon's Shiite population. Israeli Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak conceded that one of his helicopter gunships had rocketed the ambulance but said the vehicle was believed to be carrying a Hezbollah activist.

"It will be conclusively proven the target was Hezbollah terrorists using the ambulance for their own means," he said.

But televised scenes of the mangled bodies of the children in the wreckage and hysterical survivors screaming in agony added fuel to the mounting rage in Lebanon against Israel.

"Everyone has a bad taste in his mouth," said Beirut banker Anas Hibri, 48, who said Hezbollah fighters are waging "a legal and legitimate struggle" to get Israel off Lebanese land.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Bouez, who traveled to the Syrian capital of Damascus with Hariri on Saturday to consult with Syrian President Hafez Assad, said Lebanon will ask the U.N. Security Council to condemn Israel even though the United States has indicated already it would veto such a resolution.

Lebanon also will seek an emergency meeting of the Arab League, he said.

Israel's naval blockade affects the ports of Beirut, Sidon and Tyre. Marwan Iskander, an economic adviser to Hariri, said Lebanon gets 60 percent of its food through the ports. The Israeli army said it will last "as long as necessary" to keep any arms from reaching Hezbollah by sea.

"If (the blockade) is maintained for any length of time, the cost of food in Lebanon will increase dramatically," Iskander said. "They are trying to squeeze the government as much as they can."

## ISRAELI ROCKET KILLS REFUGEES

## Graphic

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AP \* Photographer takes pictures of wreckage of ambulance that was fired on by Israeli helicopter Saturday. The attack killed six civilians, including four children, and eight were wounded. Israel claimed the ambulance was attacked because it was carrying a Hezbollah activist. \* Shiite muslim villager holds a wounded girl en route to the hospital in Tyre, southern Lebanon, Saturday. The Lebanese government lodged a formal protest with the U.N. Security Council over the Israeli aggression. Condition of the girl is unknown.

**Load-Date:** April 16, 1996

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End of Document

## *Iran losing its popularity among Lebanese Shi'ites*

Guardian Weekly

June 5, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Publication, Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 9

**Length:** 977 words

**Byline:** By Julie Flint

### **Body**

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A YOUNG Shi'ite taking a stroll along the seafront last weekend was surprised to find a friend promenading without his fiancée. "I left her at home," the friend told him. "It's the chador. I thought there might be problems."

It was an extraordinary admission in a city where women have been wearing the chador for years and where the stern features of the Ayatollah Khomeini are more ubiquitous than those of most home-grown leaders.

For the first time since they emerged in Lebanon six years ago, Iran and its proxy, Hezbollah, are sending frissons of alarm not just through Christians, Sunnis or even Westerners, but through their own community.

Rightly or wrongly, they are held responsible for the war in the southern suburbs that has set Shi'ite against Shi'ite and put the suburbs -- a place of refuge from other wars -- on self-destruct. It has seen some of the most brutal fighting in 14 years of civil war. At least 300 people died. A quarter of a million have fled. Brothers who fought each other during the day slept in the same bed at night.

Crushed in south Lebanon in April by the Syrian-backed Amal movement, Hezbollah is accused of waging the suburbs war to redress the balance and parlay its way back to the south. While Amal retreated, as much through incompetence as through concern, Hezbollah advanced. While Amal's constituents fled -- not aspiring to be, as Hezbollah's "Voice of the Suburbs" radio would have them, "heroic" -- Hezbollah's stayed, impervious to the death and destruction.

Thus, Hezbollah, the "Party of God", is referred to on the streets as the "Party of the Devil". And Amal, which only last month was promising to abide by Iranian arbitration on the South, attacks the spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, as the "Great Rasputin".

More than Hezbollah, however, it is Iran, on the retreat regionwide, that has come under attack. Tehran is no longer venerated in the Lebanon as the originator of the revolution that gave Shi'ites new pride, but is reviled as an alien force imposing unwanted fanaticism, an outside force seeking not only to correct injustices but to change the whole character of Lebanese life.

In an astonishing interview in the middle of the suburbs war, the Grand Mufti of Lebanese Shi'ites, Sheikh Abdel Amir Qabalan, made the divorce with Iran public. "I reject you," he said, "because I have experienced you." Refusing the "unquestioned loyalty" that he said was demanded of Lebanese Shi'ites, Sheikh Qabalan told the Ash Shiraa magazine: "Our fight is not with a party, however big this party may be. It is with the Islamic Republic of Iran." Addressing himself to Iran, he went on: "I reject all you have. I have experienced you well. Leave us alone

## Iran losing its popularity among Lebanese Shi'ites

before it is too late . . . . Many may be angered by these words, but they have made us cry tears of blood. Let them cry with us . . . . If we are unable to punish, God will."

Sheikh Fadlallah, one of the more realistic of Hezbollah's leaders, is already attempting to limit the damage, telling the faithful at Friday prayers this week: "We are not with Persian Iran, but Islamic Iran."

It is a huge setback for Iran, which, according to Shi'ite sources, now invests one-sixtieth of its budget in Lebanon, its would-be second Islamic Republic. In the six years since the first Revolutionary Guards entered Lebanon, under the pretext of fighting Israel, schools and hospitals have been built, television channels, radio stations, newspapers and magazines launched, food and cash handed out to the poor and the not-so-poor.

The Iranians were slow in making inroads in the quiet valleys and gentle industrious villages of south Lebanon, despite historical ties to the Jabal Amel area east of Tyre, but found more followers in the disaffected masses and bleak urban poverty of the southern suburbs.

Even here, however, feelings were always ambivalent. While Hezbollah was admired for its dedication and its social work, it was mistrusted for its fanaticism and its foreignness.

"I see it this way," says a Shi'ite from the suburbs who has more admiration for Hezbollah than his words would seem to indicate. "It's like a cow; when the milk has gone, there is no love for the cow." Sources close to the Iranian embassy say there is a new awareness, after the suburbs war, of the need to work harder on the political level, to woo the Muslim establishment and convert its new hostility. The Islamic movement in Lebanon, says Sheikh Fadlallah, "has attained the age of reason."

One of the strongest cards in Hezbollah's hands as it enters the second stage of its life in Lebanon is the moral discrepancy of its main rival, Amal. A few years ago, a Lebanese sociologist, Samir Khalaf, wrote: "The Shi'ites are in the throes today of a historic watershed, a great divide . . . . If the Shi'ites can learn from the pitfalls of other groups, they could possibly emerge as the architects of a new secular order in the rest of the society. They are in a position, in other words, either to reform Lebanon or to exacerbate its deformation."

Amal, which still represents the Shi'ite mainstreams, has gone a good way down the second road. Today it is a "movement" only in that it lacks the coherency and the efficiency of a "party". The voice of the militia and the mafia in its ranks drowns the voice of the disinherited. "They are thieves," says a British-educated engineer from the suburbs who, liking whisky and dancing, is not natural Hezbollah material.

"With Hezbollah, everything is very fine. You can leave your keys in the car and go to sleep. There are no thieves."

For both Amal and Hezbollah, the end of the war of the suburbs is the beginning of a new, political war. If Amal cannot rise to the occasion, Hezbollah, with its dollars and its dedication, will continue its push for a new, non-secular order.

## Change of force

The Guardian (London)

May 30, 1988

Copyright 1988 Guardian Newspapers Limited

**Length:** 970 words

**Byline:** By JULIE FLINT

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Rightly or wrongly, they are help responsible for the war in the southern suburbs that has set Shi'ite against Shi'ite and put the suburbs - a place of refuge from other wars - on self-destruct. It has been some of the most brutal fighting in 14 years of civil war. At least 300 people died. A quarter of a million have fled. Brothers who fought each other during the day slept in the same bed at night.

Crushed in south Lebanon in April by the Syrian-backed Amal movement, Hezbollah is accused of waging the suburbs war to redress the balance and parlay its way back to the south. While Amal retreated, as much through incompetence as through concern, Hezbollah advanced. While Amal's constituents fled - not aspiring to be, as Hezbollah's 'Voice of the Suburbs' radio would have them, 'heroic' - Hezbollah's stayed, impervious to the death and destruction.

Thus Hezbollah, the 'Party of God', is referred to on the streets as the 'Party of the Devil'. And Amal, which only last month was promising to abide by Iranian arbitration on the South, attacks the spiritual leader of Hezbollah, Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, as the 'Great Rasputin'.

More than Hezbollah, however, it is Iran, on the retreat region-wide, that has come under attack. Tehran is no longer venerated in the Lebanon as the originator of the revolution that gave Shi'ites new pride, but is reviled as an alien force imposing unwanted fanaticism, an outside force seeking not only to correct injustices but to change the whole character of Lebanese life.

In an astonishing interview in the middle of the suburbs war, the Grand Mufti of Lebanese Shi'ites, Sheikh Abdel Amir Qabalan, made the divorce with Iran public. 'I reject you,' he said, 'because I have experienced you.' Refusing the 'unquestioned loyalty' that he said was demanded of Lebanese Shi'ites, Sheikh Qabalan told the Ash Shiraa magazine: 'Our fight is not with a party, however big this party may be. it is with the Islamic Republic of Iran.' Addressing himself to Iran, he went on: 'I reject all you have. I have experienced you well. Leave us alone before it

## Change of force

is too late .. Many may be angered by these words, but they have made us cry tears of blood. Let them cry with us .. If we are unable to punish, God will.'

Sheikh Fadlallah, one of the more realistic of Hezbollah's leaders, is already attempting to limit the damage, telling the faithful at Friday prayers this week: 'We are not with Persian Iran, but Islamic Iran.'

It is a huge setback for Iran, which, according to Shi'ite sources, now invests one-sixtieth of its budget in Lebanon, its would-be second Islamic Republic. In the six years since the first Revolutionary Guards entered Lebanon, under the pretext of fighting Israel, schools and hospitals have been built, television channels, radio stations, newspapers and magazines launched, food and cash handed out to the poor and the not-so-poor.

The Iranians were slow in making inroads in the quiet valleys and gentle industrious villages of south Lebanon, despite historical ties to the Jabel Amel area east of Tyre, but found more followers in the disaffected masses and bleak urban poverty of the southern suburbs.

Even here, however, feelings were always ambivalent. While Hezbollah was admired for its dedication and its social work, it was mistrusted for its fanaticism and its foreignness.

'I see it this way,' says a Shi'ite from the suburbs who has more admiration for Hezbollah than his words would seem to indicate. 'It's like a cow: when the milk has gone, there is no love for the cow.' Sources close to the Iranian embassy say there is a new awareness, after the suburbs war, of the need to work harder on the political level, to woo the Muslim establishment and convert its new hostility. The Islamic movement in Lebanon, says Sheikh Fadlallah, 'has attained the age of reason.'

One of the strongest cards in Hezbollah's hands as it enters the second stage of its life in Lebanon is the moral decrepitude of its main rival, Amal. A few years ago, a Lebanese sociologist, Samir Khalaf, wrote: 'The Shi'ites are in the throes today of a historic watershed, a great divide .. If the Shi'ites can learn from the pitfalls of other groups, they could possibly emerge as the architects of a new secular order in the rest of the society. They are in a position, in other words, either to reform Lebanon or to exacerbate its deformation.'

Amal, which still represents the Shi'ite mainstream, has gone a good way down the second road. Today it is a 'movement' only in that it lacks the coherency and the efficiency of a 'party'. The voice of the militia and the mafia in its ranks drowns the voice of the disinherited. 'They are thieves.' says a British-educated engineer from the suburbs who, liking whisky and dancing, is not natural Hezbollah material.

'With Hezbollah, everything is very fine. You can leave your keys in the car and go to sleep. There are no thieves.'

For both Amal and Hezbollah, the end of the war of the suburbs is the beginning of a new, political war. If Amal cannot rise to the occasion, Hezbollah, with its dollars and its dedication, will continue its push for a new, non-secular order.

**Load-Date:** June 8, 2000



## *A violent circle in Lebanon*

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 16, 1996, Tuesday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** EDITORIAL / OP-ED; Pg. B2

**Length:** 531 words

**Byline:** THE GAZETTE

### **Body**

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It's easy enough to understand Israeli frustration with the latest round of Katyusha rocket attacks into northern Israel from across the Lebanese border. The attacks, which began earlier this month after Israeli forces accidentally killed a Lebanese civilian, have made life miserable for northern residents.

It's also easy enough to see why Prime Minister Shimon Peres probably felt he had little political choice but to authorize bombing and artillery ripostes against the Iran-backed Hezbollah forces responsible for the rocket attacks. Mr. Peres's prospects in the current election campaign have already been badly eroded by bus bombings and other terrorist attacks by extremist Palestinians. Politically, security is his weak suit and he would have paid a high political price had he done nothing.

But so far, Israel's bombing and shelling against Hezbollah in Lebanon has brought less security for northern Israel, not more. On Sunday, Hezbollah fired 45 Katyushas into Israel, its heaviest assault in three years. Yesterday, the barrages continued, in both directions.

Nor are the longer-term prospects happy ones. By making life miserable for tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of Lebanese civilians, who are fleeing north in an attempt to stay out of harm's way, Israel's action is sowing the seeds of more bitterness, just as surely as the Katyusha barrages infuriate Israelis. And war is never as surgical as the public-relations folks suggest. Saturday's deadly Israeli attack on an ambulance it believed to be carrying a Hezbollah official, which killed six women and children, was a horrible mistake that is bound to embitter Lebanese.

Israel's aim in prompting the civilians to flee seems to have been twofold: to get them out of the way so it could strike Hezbollah (in an admirable attempt to minimize civilian casualties), and, much less admirably, to use the civilians to create a problem for Lebanese (and Syrian) authorities and thus try to make them rein in Hezbollah. Syria, with 35,000 troops in Lebanon, could curb Hezbollah. But it callously prefers to try to use the group's violence as a bargaining chip against Israel.

For his part, Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri says his government doesn't plan to do anything about Hezbollah, and suggests the solution is for Israel to pull out of the "security zone" it controls in southern Lebanon. But Israel is unlikely to pull out before there is a peace treaty with Syria and Lebanon, something that does not appear imminent.

No one expects the cycle of violence in southern Lebanon to be ended by the latest Israeli actions; at the dismal best, once the current barrages play themselves out, the fighting will once again at least be mainly among the military men.

## A violent circle in Lebanon

The only positive note in all of this is that it might, in the longer term, advance the prospects for Middle East peace by giving a boost to Mr. Peres's chances in the May 29 election. But it is hard to be optimistic about the immediate future. **Hezbollah** has promised retribution and there is no reason to doubt it will keep its vow. If it does, one can expect Israel to retaliate. And so the tragic cycle continues.

**Load-Date:** April 17, 1996

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End of Document

## *Iran's Khomeini: inspiration to many S. Lebanese Shiites*

Christian Science Monitor (Boston, MA)

October 3, 1986, Friday

Copyright 1986 The Christian Science Publishing Society

**Section:** International; Pg. 9

**Length:** 928 words

**Byline:** By Jim Muir, Special to The Christian Science Monitor

**Dateline:** Siddiquin, Lebanon

**Highlight:** Radicals vow to battle Israel; mainstream Amal prefers stability

### **Body**

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Surrounded by Islamic tomes and posters of the Ayatollah Khomeini, Sheik Abdumoneim Muhanna sits three miles from the nearest Israeli position and preaches the need for unrelenting holy war until Israel is destroyed "root and branch."

Even if the Israelis withdraw fully from their nearby self-proclaimed "security zone" inside Lebanon, Sheik Muhanna says, the struggle must go on.

"Islam would not accept Israel's continuing presence in Palestine and the occupation of the Holy Land," he says. "The holy warriors who are acting according to the teachings of Ayatollah Khomeini are bound by his philosophy, which orders continuation of the holy war until the elimination of Israel, destroying the usurping Zionist entity to its roots, even if it takes 200 years."

Through the window of the sheik's book-lined study in this impoverished Shiite village you can see a badly damaged four-story building next door. It is Muhanna's hauzeh or Islamic seminary. Until a few weeks ago, it housed about 60 Shiite student clerics from all over Lebanon. These students had come to imbibe teachings "in the line of the imam (teacher), Ayatollah Khomeini," the sheik explains.

Iranian visitors were also frequent, his son adds. Some spoke a little Arabic, others brought interpreters.

But Muhanna laughs off Israel's accusations that Iranian officers and troops were involved in last month's attacks in the security zone on positions manned by the Israelis' local militia ally, the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

"It's hard for Israel to admit defeat at the hands of the Lebanese and the Muslim holy warriors, so it resorts to a force bigger than either Lebanon or Israel and says, 'Our defeat came from Iran,' " he says.

The sheik describes his school as a "cultural and religious center, far removed from military affairs." It was smashed by a salvo of rockets fired from nearby Israeli and SLA positions on Sept. 11. This was in retaliation for an attack by Shiite fighters on an SLA position. It was the first in a series of similar attacks which left perhaps a score of SLA men killed, and prompted the Israelis last week to mass hundreds of troops on the border in a demonstration of support for the SLA.

## Iran 's Khomeini: inspiration to many S. Lebanese Shiites

Responsibility for the attacks was claimed by the "Islamic Resistance," the umbrella name for Iranian-inspired radical groups such as the **Hizbullah** ("Party of God"). Their followers draw inspiration and encouragement from clerics like Muhanna, who hold out visions of paradise to those seeking martyrdom.

"The holy warrior offers himself on the road of Allah. He is joyful and happy because he is carrying out a duty placed on his shoulders, and is going to everlasting bliss and the sublime paradise of Allah," he tells them. Observers note the upsurge of attacks took place during the period of Ashura, when devout Shiites commemorate the martyrdom of their leader, Hussein, in a 7th century battle. Since the end of Ashura, the attacks have appeared to die down.

Though the strikes were by all accounts initiated by Islamic radicals, they seem to have at least the theoretical support of Lebanese Muslim and nationalist groups, including the mainstream Shiite Amal movement.

"All free and noble men must take part in operations to liberate the south," says Amal's senior organizer for south Lebanon, Mahmud Faqih. "Even if they provoke a violent reaction, anyone wanting to carry out operations is welcome. There is no difference between the groups - it could be Amal or **Hizbullah**, we all want to liberate our land."

But in practice, Amal disapproves of attacks launched on the security zone from adjacent, heavily Shiite "liberated areas," for fear of attracting violent reprisals promised by the Israelis. Many towns near the zone have been bombed following attacks on the SLA or Israelis. But because of the politics of the situation, observers say it is impossible for Amal to accept Israeli overtures of cooperation and coordination. In Muslim and nationalist eyes, that would be seen as collaboration with the Israelis and doing their work for them. Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin recently said Amal last year refused Israel's offer of a coordinated withdrawal.

In Nabatiyeh, a Shiite market town often cited as a likely target for reprisal action by Israel, an Amal fighter said, "**Hizbullah** is forbidden here. It has no offices or official presence. It exists and is strong, but it works clandestinely. We know who they are."

But in some instances there is no clear dividing line between **Hizbullah** and Amal. Some of the attacks are said to have involved local elements of both who are fighting on their home ground which is now occupied by the Israelis and the SLA. Amal organizer Faqih says a joint operations room has been set up to coordinate actions against the "security zone."

Amal keeps a close eye on the Palestinian refugee camps in the Tyre area to prevent Palestinian groups from attacking the Israelis. Its efforts to control operations by Lebanese political groups have brought harsh criticism from communist and other factions.

But senior officials of UNIFIL, the United Nations peacekeeping force in south Lebanon, fear that the longer the Israelis stay inside Lebanon, the harder it will be for Amal to maintain its moderation and restrain the radicals.

"We told the Israelis last year that their presence was an irritant which would provoke attacks against them," said one. "Now we're concerned that their statements that Amal won't be able to control the situation should they pull out, may be a self-fulfilling prophecy."

## Graphic

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Picture, Shiite **women** in Nabatiyeh, Lebanon commemorate Ashura, the martyrdom of their 7th century leader, AP/1985; Map, Israeli security zone and UN zone, Lebanon, JOAN FORBES - STAFF

## *Israel trades border blows*

The Weekend Australian

May 6, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Section:** WORLD; Pg. 17

**Length:** 420 words

**Byline:** ABRAHAM RABINOVICH \* Jerusalem

### **Body**

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TIT-FOR-TAT attacks between Israel and Hezbollah continued yesterday in the wake of a rocket strike by the Muslim guerilla group on Israeli civilian targets.

In the latest attack, Hezbollah last night fired a salvo of Katyusha rockets on north-west Israel, causing damage and fires, witnesses said. A military spokesman said it was not yet known if there were any casualties.

The rockets, which fell near the coastal resort of Nahariya, close to the Lebanese border, followed retaliatory Israeli air strikes that put the lights out in Beirut, after a rocket strike by Hezbollah on the northern town of Kiryat Shmona on Thursday left 25 people wounded and an Israeli soldier dead.

Jerusalem avoided causing civilian casualties as it continued its complex process of withdrawing under fire from the neighbouring country it wants good relations with when the current unpleasantness is over.

Israeli jets sent a hail of missiles into Lebanon, striking two power stations and a guerilla arms depot, and blowing a crater in the main highway between Beirut and Damascus.

By not retaliating against population centres in Hezbollah-controlled areas in southern Lebanon, Israel was indirectly acknowledging that the guerilla group had a cause for its attack under the rules of the game as it is played in the region.

Two Lebanese women had earlier in the week been killed by a shell fired by the Israeli-backed South Lebanese Army, and six civilians were wounded by a bomb the Israeli air force said was dropped by mistake.

Israeli officials said the two incidents had been regrettable mistakes that did not merit Hezbollah's attack on Kiryat Shmona at an hour when the town's streets were filled with civilians. Deputy Defence Minister Ephraim Sneh warned that if Hezbollah chose to escalate the war, Israel would do so as well.

The Israeli attacks were significant more in the signals they sent than in the actual damage caused. Israeli General Staff operations chief Giora Eiland said the "attack was a clear signal of what the air force can do".

The single bomb that put the crater in the Beirut-Damascus main road also landed close to Syrian military intelligence headquarters in Lebanon -- a warning to Syria not to overplay its hand by encouraging guerilla attacks against Israel.

## Israel trades border blows

Israel is planning to pull out of Lebanon within two months. The decision has alarmed Syria, which had viewed the loss of Israeli soldiers in skirmishes with **Hezbollah** as the most effective pressure on Jerusalem to withdraw from the Golan Heights.

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

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End of Document

**Air of mistrust lingers amid a tenuous peace; MIDDLE EAST**

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

May 27, 2000 Saturday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 29

**Length:** 1083 words

**Byline:** Ross Dunn

## **Body**

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Israel has pulled out of Lebanon but hostility remains on both sides, as Ross Dunn reports from Fatima Gate.

In the cold stares and taunting voice of a young, bearded Hezbollah supporter one can see the seeds of a continuing conflict along Israel's northern border.

He stood peering through the barbed wire fence, and with great glee mocked the Israeli soldiers patrolling in full combat uniform in the searing heat of the morning sun.

"You are a disgrace," the Hezbollah supporter calls out to one soldier. "When I fight, I like to fight someone strong, you are so weak."

This is the Fatima Gate, until this week the most easily crossed border in the Middle East.

Once an entry point for Lebanese workers employed in the Jewish state, it has now been shut tight, part of the new reality in the Middle East following Israel's troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon this week, ending 22 years of military occupation.

While the Lebanese have joyfully regained control of the southern part of their country, some in the militant Islamic group Hezbollah (Party of God) seem to be spoiling for a new fight.

Along the border fence young Lebanese women, wearing the head-scarves of observant Muslims, could be seen calling out to the Israeli soldiers: "We are better than you. In our hearts and our minds we are better than you."

Among the crowds of Lebanese along the border this week was an Hezbollah military commander, brazenly standing in full sight of his bitter foes in the Israeli army.

His appearance is not what one would expect. He is clean-shaven and his nearly bald head gleamed in the hot sun, unprotected by the turbans worn by other members of the Hezbollah.

He displayed a broad smile, and exuded authority and strong self-confidence.

In recent days, Hezbollah supporters have been celebrating their greatest triumph driving the Israeli troops out of southern Lebanon.

## Air of mistrust lingers amid a tenuous peace MIDDLE EAST

The Israeli soldiers, who were meant to withdraw by July 7, came home more than a month early on Wednesday after Israel's allies in the South Lebanon Army collapsed under the advance of the Hezbollah.

But whether the Hezbollah guerilla fighters are disciplined enough or willing to commit themselves to a permanent ceasefire remains one of the big unanswered questions following the Israeli troop pullback.

At the border fence, Hezbollah supporters chanted that they were coming to "save" Jerusalem, which they call Al Quds (the Holy). Their refrain underlined a belief within the organisation that Jerusalem must be recaptured and Israel wiped from the face of the earth.

But not all Lebanese citizens are willing to support Hezbollah carrying out more attacks, a move that would inevitably provoke a severe reaction from Israel.

"I don't think the Hezbollah will do that," said Miss Nadine El-Ali, a student at the American University in Beirut. "The welfare of the Lebanese people is more important to them."

As a child she was raised in Sydney after her family fled to Australia during the civil war in Lebanon. The family returned about six years ago, hoping Lebanon might lift itself out of turmoil.

But even the sight of retreating Israeli soldiers did not reassure her that the country's troubles were beginning to subside.

In fact, Miss El-Ali predicted Israel rather than the Hezbollah would provoke renewed fighting.

"The Israelis are pressurising [us]. They are clever. I think they are up to something," she said.

Mr Hahib Chams, 22, a student at the same university, was more hopeful. "I think it will stay calm for the time being because no-one wants a [full-scale] war," he said.

This is undoubtedly true.

Neither Hezbollah nor Syria, the main powerbroker in Lebanon, could afford a major confrontation with Israel's defence forces.

At the same time, both Hezbollah and Damascus are likely to test Israeli Prime Minister Mr Ehud Barak's dire warnings against them.

After all, neither Hezbollah or Syria has any interest in promoting calm along the border. For years, Damascus has promoted fighting in southern Lebanon as a pressure point to force Israel to negotiate over the future of the strategic Golan Heights, captured from Syria during the 1967 war.

Talks between the two sides broke down this year over this issue, after Israel refused to give in to all of Syria's demands.

A chief adviser to Mr Barak, Mr Danny Yatom, said this week the two sides were still making contacts, in an effort to revive the negotiations.

But should these efforts fail, it will be anybody's guess when the next flare-up might occur along the border.

For the moment the war in Lebanon has been replaced by a war of nerves.

"There is reasonable concern that fighting will continue on some level or other," one Israeli military official said this week.

"Even if there will be quiet now, that does not mean that, around the corner, there won't be attacks on the northern border."



## Air of mistrust lingers amid a tenuous peace MIDDLE EAST

It is already being suggested that future attacks will be carried out by Palestinian refugees in southern Lebanon, allowing **Hezbollah** and Syria to say they are not responsible for the actions of others.

But Mr Barak is warning that any cross-border attacks will be viewed as an act of war and that no target or player in Lebanon a phrase taken to mean the Syrians would be immune from retaliation.

"I am referring particularly to the exploitation by the Syrians of the Palestinian organisations and the Syrian attempt to use them for terrorist activity against Israel following the withdrawal," he said.

Israel, he said, "will not tolerate a situation where its sovereign territory is attacked and its citizens' lives are being endangered".

It is a message that is being carefully co-ordinated with the United States Government.

The Vice-President, Mr Al Gore, a candidate for the presidential elections in November, said this week that now the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon has been completed, Syria should allow Israel to live in peace.

The Israeli pull-back has also helped place the international spotlight on Syria's own occupation of Lebanon.

The US Government this week demanded that all foreign forces, a statement now aimed solely at Syria, should withdraw from Lebanon.

Throughout the week, the Israeli Prime Minister and defence officials have been warning that the rules of the game have changed.

"Israel's presence in Lebanon tied its hands to some extent," Mr Barak said during a special parliamentary session on Thursday in the town of Kiryat Shemona.

"From now on, there are no limits on a tough Israeli response to all aggression against it."

Israel's defence Page 39

## Graphic

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TWO ILLUS: Fortune's playground ... a boy plays atop a cannon near the Lebanese village of Kfar Kila. The Lebanese have joyfully regained control of the southern part of their country. Photograph by AP Israeli soldiers lock the Fatima gate. Photograph by REUTERS

**Load-Date:** July 24, 2007

## **DID TURKS USE MILITANTS AGAINST KURDS?**

The Columbian (Vancouver, WA.)

January 28, 2000, Friday

Copyright 2000 The Columbian Publishing Co.

**Section:** World/Nation; Pg. a4

**Length:** 516 words

**Byline:** SELCAN HACAOGU, Associated Press writer

### **Body**

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ANKARA, Turkey -- For almost a decade, Islamic militants terrorized Kurds in southeastern Turkey, executing their enemies with a single shot to the head or a swing of a long blade called the "sword of Islam."

Turkish police are now cracking down on the group, arresting militants and uncovering dungeons and torture cells. The campaign has raised the difficult question of whether the state turned a blind eye or even helped create a group that went unpunished as it killed thousands of people, including hundreds of anti-government Kurdish rebels.

Last week, authorities discovered dozens of savagely tortured bodies, including that of one woman, writer Konca Kuris, beneath the group's hide-outs.

Outraged commentators and even some politicians contend the state's crackdown has come only because the group, **Hezbollah**, is no longer useful now that the main Kurdish militant group, Abdullah Ocalan's Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, has largely been defeated.

"**Hezbollah** has completed its mission," said Faik Bulut, an expert on Islamic terrorist groups. "It has been squeezed and squeezed like a lemon."

**Hezbollah**, which is not linked to the Lebanon-based guerrilla group of the same name, was formed in the impoverished southern city of Diyarbakir in the early 1980s, when the PKK was becoming powerful in the surrounding countryside.

The militants, who distinguished themselves by wearing shirts over their pants to hide their long knives, were staunchly anti-communist and killed hundreds of PKK members.

The group was at its height in the early 1990s, at the same time that the PKK controlled most of the countryside.

Turkey's military has denied any links with **Hezbollah**, but the denial has not silenced speculation that the organization, which never attacked soldiers or police, was supported by local politicians, police and paramilitary forces.

"It is not possible for an organization to do things like **Hezbollah** without collaborating with traitors within the state and receiving their support," said Mesut Yilmaz, leader of the Motherland Party, which is part of the governing coalition.

## DID TURKS USE MILITANTS AGAINST KURDS?

Eyup Asik, a former state minister, said that in 1993 he informed then-Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin that Hezbollah was killing people in the southeastern town of Batman. He said the government never took action.

The crackdown on Hezbollah began earlier this month, when police attacked the group's safe house in Istanbul, killing Huseyin Velioğlu, the leader of the organization's most militant wing.

Following the shootout, the government arrested hundreds of militants who led police to uncover 33 corpses buried in basements and gardens throughout the country.

Most of the dead had their arms and legs tied behind their backs.

All the victims were naked and some bore signs of torture, such as missing ribs and broken bones.

Many of the victims were Kurdish businessmen who refused to pay zakat, an Islamic tax, to the group.

Others were not Kurds, including Kuris, an Islamic women's rights activist who apparently first backed Hezbollah but angered its members when she demanded that women pray alongside men.

## Graphic

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CAFER ESENDEMİR / The Associated Press \* Terrorism victim: Family members mourn writer Konca Kuris, 38, in Mersin, Turkey, on Sunday. For almost a decade, Islamic militants have terrorized Kurds in southeastern Turkey.

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2000

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End of Document

## **Nasrallah warns Israel to leave Lebanon alone**

The Pantagraph (Bloomington, IL)

May 27, 2000, Saturday

Copyright 2000 The Pantagraph

**Section:** News; Pg. A11

**Length:** 810 words

**Byline:** ASSOCIATED PRESS

### **Body**

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BINT JBEIL, Lebanon (AP) - **Hezbollah**'s triumphant leader warned Israel on Friday to leave Lebanon alone or expect reprisals, and urged Palestinians celebrating Israel's chaotic departure from south Lebanon to rise up anew against the Jewish state.

Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, whose Iranian-backed guerrillas have been riding a wave of enthusiasm since Israel's departure this week, made clear it's too early to retire the Katyusha rockets it periodically launched into Israel as part of its struggle to force Israel off Lebanese soil.

"If Israel commits any aggression against Lebanon, it will pay a high price," Nasrallah told 30,000 cheering supporters crowding a stadium and spilling into the streets of this former Israeli stronghold.

"The time when we were afraid of threats by Israel, the time when its planes and tanks and gunboats violated our skies, land and sea - that time is gone," he said. "You are today in Bint Jbeil safe and happy, and they are in the northern settlements of Palestine along all the border terrified before an unknown future."

But Nasrallah said his guerrilla group, which led the Lebanese resistance after Israel invaded in 1982, was not a substitute for the state in southern Lebanon.

"The state is the one responsible. We are absolutely not responsible for the security in this area," he said, standing in front of Lebanon's flag and a banner that carried the number 1,276 - the total of **Hezbollah** guerrillas killed in the fighting. Draped from the podium was **Hezbollah**'s logo, an arm clutching an AK-47 assault rifle and the words, "**Hezbollah** will conquer."

"Oh God, oh God preserve Nasrallah for us!" the crowd shouted, waving clenched fists in the air. **Hezbollah**'s yellow-and-red flags fluttered over the white and black turbans of Shiite Muslim clerics, colorful headscarves of **women** and baseball caps worn by men to guard against the baking sun.

The jubilation since Israel's final departure Wednesday has spread beyond Lebanon, with Arab world officials and media praising **Hezbollah**. Supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas in the West Bank town of Nablus celebrated during a march Friday to support Palestinian prisoners on hunger strikes. They raised the slogan: "**Hezbollah** is the victor." Others chanted: "**Hezbollah** is brave, moving forward."

Nasrallah urged Palestinians to follow **Hezbollah**'s example to regain their land, saying if Palestinians wait for the international community, "you will get nowhere."

## Nasrallah warns Israel to leave Lebanon alone

"In order to liberate your land you don't need tanks and planes. With the example of martyrs you can impose your demands on the Zionist aggressors," he said. "Israel may own nuclear weapons and heavy weaponry but, by God, it is weaker than a spider's web."

Nasrallah also had a message for Arab leaders: "We demand from the Arab governments at a minimum to stop the normalization of relations and sever relations with Israel."

Israel completed its troop pullout from Lebanon before dawn Wednesday - six weeks ahead of its self-imposed July 7 deadline - as Israeli-allied militiamen dropped their weapons and fled in the face of advancing guerrillas and their supporters.

Earlier Friday, Prime Minister Salim Hoss urged militiamen among the more than 6,000 Lebanese who fled to Israel during the withdrawal to return home and surrender. Militiamen are considered traitors subject to prison terms or, in extreme cases, death sentences.

Nasrallah said militiamen "must be punished to the extreme so they will be an example for the future."

About 1,500 militiamen and others affiliated with the pro-Israeli South Lebanon Army militia have turned themselves in to Lebanese authorities. Thus far, 400 have been ordered to stand trial.

U.N. teams, meanwhile, fanned out in south Lebanon to ensure Israel has withdrawn completely and the SLA has been dismantled - formalities to deploying a peacekeeping force along the Lebanon-Israel border.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said Friday in New York that he expects to have the certification of Israel's withdrawal "in the next few days."

Lebanese police also were settling in at southern Christian villages, a move intended to provide some security after reports of looting by armed Shiite guerrillas. The SLA was Christian-led, though a majority of its men were Muslim.

Underlining the difficulties facing government security forces, several policemen in the village of Bourj el-Moulouk tried to stop guerrillas from stealing five trucks Friday. But police backed off when three carloads of gunmen arrived, and the guerrillas took the vehicles.

At the border fence Friday, families came to see the Israeli side and a crowd of about 100 threw stones and firebombs, starting a bush fire that was put out by Israeli soldiers. In the past two days, civilians have thrown firebombs, glass bottles, fruits and insults at a group of Israeli soldiers guarding their side of the frontier.

## Graphic

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A child wearing a military uniform held a portrait of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah while a supporter waves a Hezbollah flag at the Israeli fence along the Lebanon-Israeli border Friday.

**Load-Date:** May 27, 2000

## *Children die as Israeli rockets hit ambulance*

The Sunday Times (London)

April 14, 1996, Sunday

Copyright 1996 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 903 words

**Byline:** By Najla Abu Jahjah, Beirut

### **Body**

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THE girl was about 11. She ran towards me shrieking and then collapsed on the ground: "I want my brothers," she wailed. "My sister's head blew apart. I want my sister. I want my sister."

Somehow she had survived the rocket attack by an Israeli helicopter on an ambulance packed with refugees fleeing south Lebanon yesterday. Two women and four girls were killed in the attack, which marked the bloodiest episode of Israel's blitz against Islamic militants in Lebanon.

The ambulance was hit just after it drove past a United Nations checkpoint. Suddenly I saw it disappear in a huge cloud of smoke followed by a powerful blast, just 20 yards from where I stood at the checkpoint. It was hurled off the road, through a garden and into the front of a house, which was destroyed in an avalanche of rubble.

Two small children were still alive inside the wrecked ambulance. Two women, aged about 50 and 35, leaned against each other dead. A child of about three lay on the stomach of one of the women dead. Three girls aged 11 or 12 were also dead.

Two men and two other girls in the vehicle were wounded. Blood poured from the men's faces as one of them ran carrying a wounded girl and a baby in his arms.

The refugees had been travelling in a white Volvo estate car with a siren and flashing lights on its roof. It was clearly marked with the red logo of a scouts organisation, the Al-Risala (The Message) Islamic Scouts Association, which is run by the pro-Syrian Shi'ite movement Amal, a political rival of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah.

Officials in Jerusalem said the ambulance belonged to Hezbollah, whose rocket attacks on northern Israel provoked the Israeli onslaught. The women and children killed in the attack brought the toll in the three-day offensive to 21 Lebanese dead and 48 wounded, most of them civilians.

The attack came as Israeli tanks and artillery blasted southern Lebanon on the third day of the offensive against Hezbollah. The fighting risks drawing in Syria, Israel's main Arab enemy, and unleashing another Middle Eastern conflagration.

By yesterday, some 200,000 villagers from southern Lebanon had fled their homes and the government lodged a formal protest with the UN security council.

## Children die as Israeli rockets hit ambulance

Israeli tanks and 155mm batteries hammered villages in southern Lebanon in a relentless bombardment, dubbed Operation Grapes of Wrath. Hezbollah hit back with a steady barrage of rockets on northern Israel, where about 50,000 people were forced to flee.

Refugees from south Lebanon poured into Beirut, settling in schools and building sites. But even in Beirut there is no guarantee of safety: the city came under aerial attack for the first time in 14 years on Thursday when Israeli helicopters blasted a building thought to be used by Hezbollah.

Rafik Hariri, the Lebanese prime minister, rejected Israeli pressure to clamp down on Hezbollah, asserting that "the core of the problem is not the Hezbollah, but rather the Israeli occupation of south Lebanon". Israel responded yesterday by pushing tanks and troops into the strip of land across its northern border that it calls the security zone.

The biggest danger yesterday was of Syria getting involved. Syria, which has 40,000 troops stationed in Lebanon, said one of its soldiers was killed and seven wounded on Friday when an anti-aircraft unit was hit by missiles from an Israeli helicopter.

Israeli officials said the Syrians were inadvertently attacked. "We are targeting neither the Lebanese army nor the Syrian army," said Uri Dromi, an Israeli government spokesman. Syrian-Israeli peace negotiations have stalled and a confrontation would considerably dim chances of getting them going again.

Israel began its barrage on Thursday after Hezbollah gunners hit a northern Israeli village with Katyusha rockets. That attack was apparently in response to the death of a guerrilla killed by an Israeli landmine. The security zone was established in 1985 after Israel pulled out of Lebanon following the 1982 invasion. Its aim was to provide security for Israel's northern border. But the 1,000 Israeli troops in the area have been under almost constant attack from the guerrillas.

Israeli army officers from the battered and frustrated northern command had prepared a thick file of potential Hezbollah targets and for weeks had been pressing for permission to launch a full-scale air and land bombardment.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli prime minister, has an eye on general elections next month. Often criticised as a "dove" unable to act firmly against the Islamic fundamentalists, he has been put under enormous pressure in the wake of the suicide bombings by Palestinian activists.

On Thursday Israel decided to act. Apache helicopters sent three Hellfire missiles through the first-floor windows of what Israel said was Hezbollah's Beirut operations centre.

It was the first strike at the Lebanese capital since the war of 1982 and the message was simple. "The Lebanese government must learn that the price of not confronting Hezbollah is far higher than ignoring it," said Ehud Barak, Israel's foreign minister.

But fears are being voiced that the operation could unleash a wider war. Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, a Hezbollah leader, warned his movement would not remain silent. Speaking in Beirut, he called the Hezbollah rocket attacks "an initial response". "We will react," he warned. "But where and when you will have to wait and see."

## Graphic

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Bomb

**Load-Date:** April 17, 1996

## Children die as Israeli rockets hit ambulance

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End of Document



## *Christian men of war recast as refugees*

The Times (London)

May 24, 2000, Wednesday

Copyright 2000 Times Newspapers Limited

**Section:** Overseas news

**Length:** 450 words

**Byline:** Ross Dunn at the Good Fence Israel-Lebanon Border

### **Body**

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THE remnants of Israel's proxy army and their families queued at their ally's military checkpoints yesterday, carrying their belongings in plastic bags, suitcases or anything they had been able to grab in haste before fleeing the advancing Hezbollah guerrillas.

Once across the border into Israel, the men, women and children, mostly Christians, boarded buses and headed to a holiday camp near the shores of the Sea of Galilee, the first stop in their new life after 22 years of protecting Israel's northern border.

Among those who came yesterday were Suleiman Nahak, a captain in the South Lebanon Army (SLA), which has fought for years alongside the Israeli soldiers against Hezbollah, the "Party of God".

After such sacrifice, he said, he felt betrayed by the Israelis for not giving him and his wife and their two children guarantees of permanent refugee status in Israel. "Everybody is worried, everybody is afraid," he said. "I really don't believe what is happening today."

Captain Nahak said that the refugee camp was simply the next stop on the way to an uncertain future. "After that we don't know where we'll go," he said.

With the sound of gunfire and artillery blasts in the near distance, Mr Nahak, 36, said he doubted whether he would ever be able to return to Lebanon. Holding back tears, he said it was a tragedy that he and his family might be denied ever seeing their homeland again.

He said he believed that if the Lebanese Government tried to halt the progress of Hezbollah, the guerrillas would turn their guns against Beirut. "They want to go to Jerusalem," he said. "Some day they (the Lebanese Government) will know what is Hezbollah. They need a whole world to become the Republic of Islam."

He said that he feared for the lives of any SLA members, particularly Christians, who dared to stay behind and fight Hezbollah.

"I don't believe they will leave them (the SLA members) in safety," he said.

One young Lebanese Christian woman among the refugees, who declined to give her name, said: "I came here so afraid. Hezbollah was coming and we organised some of our clothes and then we left our homes and ran away."

## Christian men of war recast as refugees

In the meantime, Israeli residents on the northern border were ordered into bomb shelters. In Kiryat Shmona, it is estimated that half the residents have fled and the other half have gone into underground shelters. All shops were shut last night as the remaining residents braced themselves for possible rocket attacks by **Hezbollah**.

Only 35 miles farther south, at Tiberias, holidaymakers continued to flock to the resort along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. If there was a war going on in the north, it seemed unlikely to interfere with normal life in the town.

**Load-Date:** May 24, 2000

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End of Document

## *The spiral of violence*

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

April 20, 1996 Saturday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; LEADERS; Pg. 32

**Length:** 579 words

### **Body**

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THERE was an inevitable spiral of violence about Israel's attack on the United Nations base in southern Lebanon which has resulted in about 100 deaths, including women and children. Two Fijian soldiers on United Nations peacekeeping duty have also been listed among the wounded. The bombing and rocket attacks launched by Israel could never be guaranteed to punish only the Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerillas. The Israeli rhetoric justifying the attacks, though, has pointed to the necessity of teaching the Hezbollah terrorists the lesson that they cannot attack Israel with impunity. Rockets, unfortunately, do not always land where they are supposed to land.

The fact that a UN base that cannot in any sense be linked to the Hezbollah forces has been shelled, with the deaths of a great number of people with no connection to terrorism, makes it impossible now for Israel's Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, to

claim any moral justification for the attacks launched by Israel on the grounds of "self-defence" for the people living in northern Israel. This argument was never very sustainable, moreover, once the flood of refugees started to flow out of southern Lebanon.

How were the misery of these refugees and the damage done to the economic and social life of Lebanon compatible with the defence of Israel? With the unfortunate attack on the UN base, the self-defence argument becomes even less sustainable. The French Government insists, for instance, that it has been "stupefied by this attack". It makes the case that the Operation Grapes of Wrath (the Israeli codename for the attacks) has "extended the boundaries of fighting terrorism" and has created a "tragedy for Lebanese people".

This reaction is typical of the response from the major powers. It raises the issue of whether Israel has seriously miscalculated in launching the operation. No-one denies Israel's right (or the right of any country) to defend itself. Israel insists that it has been provoked into what has been a strong response because of the violent campaign of terror launched against its people by the Hezbollah. But has Operation Grapes of Wrath been a proportionate response to this campaign? And was it less a response to the rockets and bombs of Hezbollah and more a political tactic on the part of Mr Peres to show the Israeli public that he has the will to conduct a hard-hitting campaign against the Hezbollah?

Mr Peres faces a difficult election contest against the hardline Likud Party on May 29. There are talks, too, scheduled for May 4, on the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. These events seemed likely to coincide with a fall in the popularity of Mr Peres as Israelis worried whether the dividends from the peace process were being delivered. The political subtext of the operation against the Hezbollah, therefore, lies in the irony of Mr Peres trying to prove his credentials for delivering peace by unleashing attacks on the Hezbollah.

## The spiral of violence

A further irony is that the tragedy at the UN base may allow Mr Peres a way of escaping from the increasingly difficult situation Israel was creating for itself in southern Lebanon. The UN Security Council call for an immediate ceasefire gives Mr Peres the opportunity of doing what he should do (call off Israel's attacks on the **Hezbollah**) without the political baggage of being seen by Israeli voters to have backed down. Even with a ceasefire, though, the real problem of a peace agreement with Syria remains to be resolved.

**Load-Date:** July 23, 2007

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End of Document

## *South Lebanon's refugees return to devastation*

The Ottawa Citizen

April 28, 1996, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / Front

**Length:** 841 words

**Byline:** NORMA GREENAWAY; SOUTHAM NEWS

**Dateline:** Harouf, Lebanon

### **Body**

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Tens of thousands of men, women and children left Beirut for their shattered villages as a ceasefire giving them protection from Israeli shelling came into effect Saturday

Tin drums dripping syrup. Burned-out cars. Half a house. And the charred remains of a storeroom once filled with \$ 60,000 worth of cigarettes.

The scene was worse than anything Jihad Karaki had imagined as he huddled in a Beirut mosque to escape Israel's 16-day bombardment of suspected Hezbollah strongholds in south Lebanon.

He had heard the family home and businesses -- all part of the same compound -- had been hit by Israeli artillery shells. But Karaki didn't know until he returned home Saturday morning that his pastry shop, car repair business and the cigarette storehouse were in ruins.

"All I have earned has been destroyed," said the father of six.

While his pregnant wife and children sought to make what remained of the house habitable, Karaki greeted neighbors and praised God they were all still alive. They consoled each other with defiant vows to rebuild their shattered lives and keep up the fight against the "Israeli occupiers" of their land.

The town of Harouf -- known for its amateur poets, auto mechanics and Hezbollah fighters -- will rise again, they pledged. Weekly gatherings of aspiring poets and their fans are set to resume again in about three weeks after a mourning period for the more than 150 Lebanese "martyrs" who died in the Israeli onslaught.

The Harouf returnees were among tens of thousands of men, women and children who flooded back to south Lebanon after a U.S.-brokered ceasefire to end the fighting between Israeli forces and Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrillas went into effect just before dawn. Up to 400,000 had fled further north during the conflict.

They arrived in cars, vans and buses loaded with foam mattresses, water jugs and blankets after a tedious drive along the jammed coastal highway to Beirut, a road which only 24 hours earlier was under constant shelling by Israeli gunboats.

Most vehicles sported paper Lebanese flags emblazoned with the slogan: All the People with Hezbollah. They were distributed by Hezbollah volunteers, along with yellow leaflets celebrating the so-called Party of God's victory

## South Lebanon 's refugees return to devastation

over the Israeli enemy. "All of us are Katushyas," yelled one driver as he pulled out of Beirut, referring to Hezbollah's now-famous rockets which guerrillas fire into northern Israel.

But the celebratory mood on the highway evaporated for many when they got close to their home villages, or rather what was left of them. In some cases, the roads were so cratered from Israeli bombs that families were forced to walk the last few kilometres. Many found their houses badly damaged or reduced to rubble. Some undoubtedly belonged to Hezbollah guerrillas. Some didn't. Others were spared any structural damage. But nobody had water or electricity.

The government and international aid agencies were only beginning to assess the damage caused by the fighting. Estimates of rebuilding costs run as high as \$ 500 million. The government and the Hezbollah party have pledged to help foot the bill.

The town of Harouf, tucked in a lush green valley about 25 kilometres southeast of the port city of Sidon, bore the scars of many which share its reputation as a Hezbollah stronghold. The main street of burned and battered buildings was littered with concrete blocks, shards of glass and downed wires.

The view depressed Rachid Russein, owner of a slightly damaged auto parts shop. "The human spirit doesn't like disaster and destruction," he mused. "It likes a rose. It likes spring. This is not beautiful."

Only a few hundred of Harouf's 17,000 residents, mostly young men, stayed here during the mini-war. The young guerrillas were and remain proud fighters in the "resistance" to Israel's occupation of a narrow strip of land inside the Lebanese border.

They admitted they fired rockets into Israel from the hills around Harouf. And they said the ceasefire agreement which bans Hezbollah from firing from civilian areas won't stop them from doing it again. "If I am fighting someone who is occupying my land, where am I suppose to fight from -- China?" asked Abu Zahara, 24.

Meanwhile, Zeinab Karaki was near tears as she surveyed the wreckage of her home for the first time. The top floor is now completely exposed to the elements after several shell strikes. The ground floor was a mess of glass, broken furniture and rubble. "Can anyone bear having their house destroyed?" she asked. "Where are we going to sleep. There's glass everywhere. No water. There's nothing here."

It was the second time the Karaki house has been destroyed by Israeli shelling attacks in less than three years. Indeed, the family had almost finished rebuilding after it was pounded by Israeli shells in July 1993, the last major flareup between Israel and Hezbollah guerrillas. As in the past, the Karakis hope the government and Hezbollah will come to the family's rescue.

## Graphic

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Colour Photo: Reuter Photo / RUINS: Family surveys what's left of a home

**Load-Date:** April 29, 1996

## ISRAELI KILLED IN LEBANON ROCKET STRIKE

The Philadelphia Inquirer

JANUARY 26, 2000 Wednesday SF EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**

Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A09

**Length:** 295 words

**Byline:** Hussein Dakroub, ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, Lebanon

### **Body**

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A rocket attack launched by guerrillas killed an Israeli soldier in south Lebanon yesterday - the first Israeli fatality in Lebanon in five months, and the first since Israel and Syria resumed peace talks.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerrilla group claimed responsibility for the attack.

Israel responded with an artillery barrage at Hezbollah outposts, and exchanges of fire persisted through the day.

Israel has said that Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, can control Hezbollah guerrillas. The government of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak has made clear that it expects restraint during Israel's talks with Syria.

The soldier was killed when a guerrilla antitank rocket scored a direct hit on the Israeli military outpost in Bayyada, which overlooks the southern port city of Tyre, Lebanese security officials said.

The Israeli military confirmed the soldier's death but did not release his name. The last Israeli fatalities in Lebanon occurred Aug. 17, when three soldiers died.

Later yesterday, two Israeli planes launched missile strikes against suspected guerrilla hideouts in Iqlim al-Tuffah province, a Hezbollah stronghold, the Lebanese officials said. One of the two missiles fired hit a two-story building, wounding two women, the officials said.

Bayyada, a frequent target of Hezbollah guerrillas, is 11 miles south of Tyre in an Israeli-occupied zone. It is a mile north of the Israeli border along the Mediterranean coast.

The Israeli-occupied zone in south Lebanon was set up in 1985 with the aim of protecting northern Israeli towns against cross-border guerrilla attacks. But the deaths of Israeli soldiers in south Lebanon have prompted calls in Israel for a withdrawal from the occupied zone.

Barak has pledged to pull out of south Lebanon by July.

## ISRAELI KILLED IN LEBANON ROCKET STRIKE

**Load-Date:** January 30, 2002

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End of Document



## **BOTH SIDES SUSPEND RETALIATION IN LATEST LEBANON ATTACKS**

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

May 6, 2000, Saturday,

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2000 P.G. Publishing Co.

**Section:** WORLD,

**Length:** 653 words

**Byline:** TRACY WILKINSON, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**Dateline:** KIRYAT SHEMONA, Israel --

### **Body**

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Lebanese-based **Hezbollah** guerrillas fired salvos of rockets into northern Israel yesterday for a second day, but a dangerous escalation of violence was apparently halted when both sides later said they were suspending retaliatory attacks -- for now.

The flare-up, which left dozens injured and at least three dead on both sides of the tense border, underscored the volatility of the region as Israel prepares to withdraw troops that have occupied southern Lebanon for more than two decades.

**Hezbollah** has been fighting for years to oust Israel from Lebanon. But now that Israel has said it will leave by early July, both sides seem to be keen to stake out their endgame positions.

In their heaviest attacks in nearly a year, **Hezbollah** Shiite militants launched a barrage of Katyusha rockets into Israel's northern Galilee region Thursday afternoon and again yesterday morning, in what they said was retaliation for Israeli fire.

In shellshocked northern towns such as Kiryat Shemona, families emerged bleary-eyed from a night in bomb shelters only to be sent running for cover by renewed rocket fire. Yesterday's attacks came at midmorning as residents hurried about their shopping for the Jewish Sabbath. By last night, however, the army announced it was safe for residents to abandon the cramped, dingy shelters.

Israel retaliated for Thursday's attacks with overnight air raids that hit two Lebanese power stations and a guerrilla arms depot. On yesterday afternoon, following an emergency Cabinet meeting and amid international calls for restraint, the government of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak said it would not further escalate the spiral of violence threatening to engulf the region.

"We should not react in a moment of anger, because we do not want an escalation during the final stages of our cutting ourselves off from the Lebanese tragedy," Barak said last night in an interview with Israeli television. At the same time, he stressed, "I don't advise anyone ... including the Syrians, to try Israel's patience or ability by attacking our civilians after we are back inside Israel's borders."

## BOTH SIDES SUSPEND RETALIATION IN LATEST LEBANON ATTACKS

**Hezbollah** claimed "victory" and gloated that it had forced Israel to back down because of the "high price" in casualties that the Jewish state would have to pay.

**Hezbollah** maintained that its Thursday onslaught came in response to an Israeli shelling of a Lebanese village, which Israel said was accidental, and the killing of two Lebanese **women** by the pro-Israel South Lebanon Army. The **Hezbollah** rocket strikes Thursday killed a Israeli soldier and injured 26 civilians.

An escalation of the conflict now, and in the weeks leading up to Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, was to be expected, analysts in Israel said. **Hezbollah** militants want to be seen as the force that chased Israel out of Lebanon. Every attack they launch strengthens their political and moral position in Beirut, the Lebanese capital, where they hope to gain legislative power, and in the 9-mile-deep zone along the border that Israel is about to evacuate.

Barak and Israel want to counter the image that they are being chased out of Lebanon while also showing that they will exact an ever-higher price if their people are attacked.

"Our [intention] is to pull out of Lebanon by July from a position of power, with the rules of the game being determined by us, and not by **Hezbollah**," Israeli army chief of staff Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz said.

Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon and a patron of **Hezbollah**, has warned Israel that it should withdraw only as part of a broader peace deal that includes returning the Golan Heights to the Syrians. This has been seen as a threat of cross-border attacks. Peace talks between Israel and Syria broke down earlier this year.

The clashes hinted at a grim picture of what the aftermath of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon could look like. If anything, though, the violence may only steel Israeli resolve to get out.

**Load-Date:** May 9, 2000

## 'We have no refuge': 150,000 caught in Lebanon's heavy crossfire

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

April 14, 1996, Sunday, FINAL EDITION

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 772 words

**Byline:** STEPHANIE NOLEN; FREELANCE

**Dateline:** BEIRUT

### **Body**

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Hamzi Farras ran from his home in the village of Jabsheet in south Lebanon on Friday night, carrying three of his grandchildren in his arms through driving rain.

"We ran from village to village until finally we found a car to take us," he said. "We could see the Israeli helicopters right above us and even very old people were trying to run."

Farras and his family joined more than 150,000 Lebanese fleeing south Lebanon, where Israel shelled Shiite villages yesterday for the third straight day. The family took shelter in a half-built shop in Sidon, a port city 85 kilometres south of Beirut. Yesterday, as they shopped for food, they were worrying about how long their money would last.

Inevitably, it is civilians like the Farras family who are caught in the middle of the escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, or Party of God. Israel says it launched this offensive to protect its northern border communities from Hezbollah rocket attacks, which have been stepped up in the past two weeks. Hezbollah says it wants to drive the Israelis from Lebanon - Israel has occupied a 15-km-wide "security zone" in southern Lebanon since 1982.

At least 25 people, mostly civilians, have died and 85 more have been injured in the Israeli offensives in the south and in Beirut in the past three days.

The road north to Sidon was jammed with trucks and taxis yesterday. One four-door Mercedes held 12 small children. But refugees were also fleeing to Beirut, creating a traffic jam in the centre of the city - no one was sure which direction would bring safety.

The Farras family thought they might go to Beirut from Sidon to stay with relatives. But in Sidon, just a kilometre away from where the Farrases were staying, Aida Baiseh was seeking shelter in a public school with her four children. She had just fled Beirut.

"The shelling was so close to our house," said Baiseh, adding that this was the second time she had brought her children to Sidon. They spent six months there during the Israeli invasion of Beirut in 1982. "It's always safer here."

Israel has said it now considers south Beirut outside the authority of the Lebanese government. The Beirut port is under naval blockade, and panicked residents believe another Israeli invasion is imminent.

'We have no refuge': 150,000 caught in Lebanon 's heavy crossfire

The streets of south Beirut were deserted yesterday, except for heavily armed Hezbollah gunmen. Those who hadn't fled the area were staying indoors.

"Where could we go?" asked Fathi Bheki, 60, watching the sky from his third-storey balcony. "Israel has hit everywhere our families are living and we have no refuge."

Hunkered down in a Hezbollah office across the street - an office Israel has twice targeted and twice missed - Hezbollah leaders are waiting for war.

"We don't like this, but we have no choice," said a top Hezbollah official who spoke on condition of anonymity. "Israel shells our civilians and occupies our land despite all the UN resolutions, and no one lifts a hand to help us. Of course, we prefer no war, but we will fight if this is what it takes."

In Sidon, the refugees sat exhausted and frightened in public-school staircases. But as they struggled to make some semblance of home with sleeping bags and tin teapots, no one blamed Hezbollah for the Israeli attacks that drove them from their homes.

"It is not just Hezbollah. I don't know why Israel says it is hitting Hezbollah targets because we are all against Israel," said Zina Atmi, 25, who brought her four children north. "All the Lebanese want Israel off their land."

Initially, Atmi's sentiments, her lack of resentment, were not shared in Christian East Beirut, which has enjoyed six years of relative peace since the formal end of the country's civil war.

Now the fear of war is in the air and threatens the rebuilding efforts undertaken in the capital in the past two years. After an Israeli helicopter fired at a Red Cross ambulance, killing three women and three children, in south Lebanon yesterday afternoon, public sentiment is strongly with Hezbollah.

"I am most worried about my countrymen, these people trapped in the south," said Munah Dabaghi, a Christian entrepreneur who owns the City Cafe, a popular Beirut meeting spot.

Thus far, life in East Beirut has gone on much as normal. The cafe is crowded as the shells fall, testament to the legendary Lebanese nonchalance.

But Dabaghi, who lived in Montreal during much of the 20-year civil war before returning here three years ago, says this, too, shall pass.

"If the Lebanese were not attached to this country," Dabaghi said, "we would not have survived this long."

**Load-Date:** April 15, 1996

**Israel's buffer strip falls: Occupied South Lebanon in chaos as proxy militia flees advancing militants**

The Gazette (Montreal, Quebec)

May 23, 2000, Tuesday, FINAL

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**Section:** News; A1 / FRONT

**Length:** 1089 words

**Byline:** Hugh Dellios

**Dateline:** JERUSALEM

## **Body**

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Israel's plans for an orderly withdrawal from occupied South Lebanon unraveled into chaos yesterday when Islamic militants and Lebanese civilians marched home to their villages and Israel's proxy militia turned and fled.

As thousands of celebrating Lebanese villagers waved flags, threw rice and cried in one another's arms, Israelis feared for the security of their northern residents as Hezbollah guerrillas moved within a kilometre and a half of the border and the occupation zone was split in two.

Six Lebanese civilians were killed and dozens wounded after Israeli tanks, warplanes and ships began shelling into Lebanon to stop the return of villagers to areas that were quickly being abandoned by the Israeli-paid South Lebanese Army.

Israeli officials, expecting retaliatory rockets from Hezbollah, ordered northern residents into bomb shelters after some had watched through kibbutz fences as their two-decade buffer zone disappeared before preparations were finished for Israel's July 7 withdrawal deadline.

"We watched a war going on, like in the movies," said Hanan Rubinsky, the secretary of Kibbutz Misgav Am, after climbing into an underground shelter.

"I'm sure the Israeli army will know what to do, but right now none of our preparations is complete."

The deteriorating situation made conditions for the planned Israeli withdrawal more dangerous and prompted urgent calls for Prime Minister Ehud Barak to pull back Israel's troops at once.

After a late- night meeting, Barak's security advisers authorized him to advance the date of the withdrawal.

The Israeli army reportedly was sending more troops to reinforce the border areas.

The situation put Hezbollah right on Israel's border without a deterrent force for the first time since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1978. It might make it harder for a United Nations peacekeeping force to fill the vacuum when the Israelis pull out.

## Israel 's buffer strip falls: Occupied South Lebanon in chaos as proxy militia flees advancing militants

While some Israeli officials tried to play down the threat, saying they had planned for such a scenario, others sounded more worried and issued unequivocal warnings that an attack would be met with retaliation not limited to the border areas, and possibly another Israeli invasion.

"I don't recommend to anyone in the area to provoke a response from Israel," Barak said during a visit to the Zarit border town in the morning. "It will be in entirely different places, which will prove very painful."

The withdrawal, which Barak promised a year ago during his election campaign, had been quietly under way. Israel had no more than 200 soldiers left in the zone, down from 1,000 at the height of the occupation, and this week they were ordered to be combat-ready to pull out as of June 1.

Barak hoped to complete the redeployment in co-ordination with the UN, which was supposed to meet this week to decide under what conditions it would deploy a beefed-up peacekeeping force in the zone.

Last night, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan recommended increasing the force from 4,500 to 7,900.

First, however, UN officials want proof the withdrawal is total and includes a disbandment of the South Lebanese Army and a release of the militia's prisoners.

Hence, Barak had resisted army generals' demands to withdraw right away.

Without a peacekeeping force, officials fear not only easier Hezbollah attacks against Israel but also a settling of scores stemming from two decades of bloodshed in the zone. Israel's paid militiamen could be left to fend for themselves as accused traitors.

The situation began to deteriorate Sunday, when Lebanese villagers who fled their homes in the occupation zone years ago raised flags and marched back home. They reportedly were encouraged by activists from the Hezbollah and Amal movements, which also field guerrilla armies.

The South Lebanese militia, fearing for their families' safety, promptly fled the outposts that the Israeli soldiers had turned over to them only last week in preparation for withdrawal. In some cases, the militiamen left behind weapons and other equipment.

The militia's flight prodded more villagers to return home, and by yesterday afternoon the roads into South Lebanon were clogged with cars flying the Lebanese and Hezbollah flags. People danced in the road with joy.

The celebrations had a domino effect, and by last night as many as 14 villages and four militia outposts had been overrun, leaving the Israelis with almost no presence in the central sector of their self-styled "security zone."

"This is a great day, and I can't express my happiness," said Qassem Rammal, who was returning with his wife to their home town of Adaisseh, about a kilometre from Israel.

Although the first villagers were unarmed, eventually Hezbollah fighters also made their way through the UN checkpoints and set about dismantling the abandoned outposts and hoisting their flags over them.

"We are regaining our occupied land by force after the entire world did not bring it to us," said Nabil Kaouk, southern commander of the Hezbollah militia. "Jewish settlers are listening to the Muslim 'God is great' chants shaking their settlements, and the flags of Hezbollah wave in the air above the hills that face occupied Palestine while the enemy is not able to do anything."

The Israeli army formally complained to the UN, saying the "extremely" serious breach at the checkpoints contributed to the "deterioration" in the central sector.

The Israelis also fired shells onto the roads from the air, sea and behind the border fences, hoping to deter the villagers from advancing.

Israel 's buffer strip falls: Occupied South Lebanon in chaos as proxy militia flees advancing militants

It did little good, and Lebanese officials said six civilians were killed and more than 20 wounded. They said the deaths were caused by shrapnel from Israeli tank shells. The Israelis said the deaths apparently were a result of shelling by militiamen still at their posts.

Israeli officials said one militiaman was seriously injured by a missile fired at his armoured personnel carrier at the entrance to Meis ej- Jabal.

The situation effectively left Israel and the South Lebanese Army with two occupation zones and a severed supply line between them.

Christian villagers fled their homes in the western sector of Israel's occupation zone in south Lebanon today, hours after pro-Israeli militiamen abandoned the area, witnesses said.

They said hundreds of men, women and children, fearing the advance of Hezbollah guerrillas, left the villages of Debel and Tair Harfa and headed south to Beranit crossing point into Israel.

## Graphic

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CP Color Photo: MOHAMMED ZATARI, AP / Lebanese Shiite waves Hezbollah flag. Portrait on car shows Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah.; Color Photo: MOHAMMED ZATARI, AP / Lebanese civilians sought shelter yesterday as Israel shelled to deter returning villagers and Hezbollah guerrillas from entering the village of Beit Yahoun.

**Load-Date:** May 23, 2000

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End of Document

**ISRAELI-LEBANESE FRONT SIMMERS DOWN SPORADIC SHELLING  
KILLED NO ONE. SOME SAID DEADLY ATTACKS SUCH AS THOSE IN  
PREVIOUS DAYS LIKELY WOULD RETURN.**

The Philadelphia Inquirer  
MAY 7, 2000 Sunday D EDITION

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**The Philadelphia Inquirer**  
Found on Philly.com

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. A06

**Length:** 416 words

**Byline:** Khaled Yacoub Oweis, REUTERS

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, Lebanon

## **Body**

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Sporadic - and familiar - shelling resumed across the Israeli-Lebanese front yesterday, a day after Israel and **Hezbollah** guerrillas exchanged their worst cross-border attacks in almost a year.

But few expected the relative calm to last with the prospect of Israel's withdrawing from South Lebanon by July without a peace agreement that satisfies Syria, the dominant force in Lebanon.

"The latest flare-up gives another measure of the importance of a Syrian-Israeli agreement for the stability not only of South Lebanon but of the whole area," said Chibli Mallat, a leading scholar and lawyer.

"I am afraid more people will die unnecessarily in the absence of a substantially larger framework of understanding," Mallat added.

He pointed to a recent, large advertisement in a local newspaper for a boarding school in Cyprus, which recalled the days when the Lebanese would send their children to escape the 1975-1990 civil war.

There was occasional shelling yesterday in areas facing the eastern sector of the Israeli occupied zone, a routine occurrence unlike the violence that started last week and reached a peak on Friday.

The Syrian-backed **Hezbollah** militia fired Katyusha rockets onto northern Israeli settlements on Thursday, killing one soldier and wounding five Israelis, after shelling by Israel and its allied South Lebanon Army killed two Lebanese **women** and wounded 12 civilians.

**Hezbollah** launched more rockets on Friday without killing anyone, after Israel retaliated to its earlier attack by destroying two power stations, a section of the Beirut-Damascus highway, and a **Hezbollah** arms depot.



ISRAELI - LEBANESE FRONT SIMMERS DOWN SPORADIC SHELLING KILLED NO ONE. SOME SAID DEADLY ATTACKS SUCH AS THOSE IN PREVIOUS DAYS LIKELY WOULD RETURN.

"Israel and Syria are setting the ground rules and tempo for the coming months," said political commentator Michael Young.

"Syria showed, through the **Hezbollah** attacks, that the possibility of border tension exists during and after an Israeli withdrawal. Israel warned the Lebanese and Syrians, and assured its public opinion it will retaliate," Young said.

The Lebanese government has repeatedly warned that an Israeli withdrawal without a deal that returns the Golan Heights to Syria will subject Israel to cross-border attacks.

Chances of a trouble-free Israeli withdrawal appear to be diminishing, even with U.N. cooperation.

Beirut has been criticized for its reluctance to fill the vacuum left if Israel leaves by July, as it told the United Nations.

Syria backed the deployment of U.N. troops in the areas that could be vacated by Israel on the same day that its **Hezbollah** allies fired into Israel.

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2002

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End of Document

**THE DAY INNOCENTS WERE PUT IN THE FRONT LINE;**  
**COMMENTARY**

Evening Standard (London)

April 19, 1996

Copyright 1996 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 4

**Length:** 741 words

**Byline:** Anne Applebaum

## **Body**

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THE television pictures are terrible: weeping mothers, angry relatives, physical destruction. The news is worse: more than 100 people may be dead, mostly women and children.

Within a few minutes, yesterday's Israeli attack on a UN refugee shelter in southern Lebanon drastically altered international perceptions of the ongoing tit-for-tat military exchange between the Israeli army and Hezbollah guerrillas in southern Lebanon.

Immediately, President Clinton called for 'an end to the current violence', the French foreign ministry spokesman declared himself 'stupefied', and King Hussein of Jordan called the attack 'criminal'.

But has the tragedy changed perceptions in Israel itself?

Certainly the prime minister, Shimon Peres, did not appear last night to think so. He opened his remarks to the nation by quoting the UN spokesman for southern Lebanon, who had confirmed that 15 minutes before the Israel attack, Hezbollah guerrillas had fired one, and possibly two, rockets in Israel's general direction.

At the time, the guerrillas were less than 300 yards from the UN base.

Mr Peres said: 'Hezbollah is sheltering behind the civilian people...what we did was clearly in the line of defence.'

No, he continued, Israel would not stop fighting unless Hezbollah stopped firing at Israeli civilians; no, Israel did not aim at the refugees.

As soon as Hezbollah's shells fell, Israeli guns began firing. But they missed - by 300 yards.

Mr Peres admitted regret: 'We don't like to see any child, woman, person, lose their lives.'

But in case there was any doubt about where the blame lay, he made himself very clear. As the UN spokesman's words indicated, 'Lebanon is a victim of the Hezbollah.'

Just in case anyone still doubted the sincerity of those words, Mr Peres's senior cabinet colleagues rushed to echo them.

## THE DAY INNOCENTS WERE PUT IN THE FRONT LINE; COMMENTARY

The health minister agreed that if Israel failed to strike back, Hezbollah would keep firing, and 'these horrible things...we would witness them in our own villages.' Said the foreign minister, Ehud Barak, 'the overall responsibility for the whole event must be laid upon the Hezbollah and the government of Lebanon.'

In the wake of the tragic attack, those might sound like weasel words to the Western ear, but they do not here. Which is perhaps surprising: of late, Israel has been deeply divided over security issues.

The bitterness of those divisions has even crept into the current election campaign. This week, supporters of the opposition Likud party have been reported tearing down the ruling Labour party posters and threatening Labour activists.

But where the past week's military action in the Lebanon is concerned, it is difficult to find an Israeli who objects to the bombing campaign: on the contrary. Benyamin Netanyahu, the leader of the opposition, made this abundantly clear yesterday, agreeing that 'there is no doubt that no one in the Israeli Defence Force intended to harm innocent civilians'.

The debate in the West may focus on whether or not Israel should have begun its bombardment. Here, the greatest internal political challenge to Mr Peres's policy is not coming from those who would stop him, but from those who would have liked him to go further: to extend the Israeli-patrolled 'security zone' in south Lebanon, for example, as Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister wrote this morning.

More commonly, one hears that the prime minister ought to have begun the current operation sooner. 'By waiting so long, he only encouraged the terrorists to go on,' one retired professional soldier told me.

The attack on the Lebanese refugees will not change that debate.

If anything, reports of the Hezbollah cynically sheltering behind civilians will only harden Israeli support for the bombing raids. Yesterday, only two tiny demonstrations, both called by Israeli Arabs, protested against the army's disastrous mistake.

If the deaths of several dozen Lebanese do alter the situation, they will only do so because they inspire the international community - in this case, the Americans - to put greater pressure on Israel to stop answering fire with fire.

Still, if a ceasefire is called now, without more solid agreement between Israel, Lebanon, Syria and Hezbollah, do not expect it to be popular in Israel, and do not expect the Israelis to be grateful to Mr Peres.

Instead, simply expect to hear, as one security expert was quoted saying this morning, that Mr Peres is 'hyper-sensitive' to world opinion.

**Load-Date:** April 22, 1996

**Slaughter raises barely a whimper in Washington; \* MASSACRE IN  
LEBANON**

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

April 20, 1996 Saturday

Late Edition

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**Section:** NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 15

**Length:** 655 words

**Byline:** PILITA CLARK Herald Correspondent in Washington

## **Body**

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The mutilation of civilian refugees by Israeli gunners has finally jolted President Bill Clinton out of his tacit support for Israel's eight-day assault on Hezbollah Muslim guerillas.

But the carnage wrought when Israeli shells blew apart more than 100 people sheltering in a United Nations base in southern Lebanon on Thursday drew barely a whimper of criticism of Israel in Washington yesterday.

Instead, members of Congress insisted the blame lay largely with Hezbollah and its Iranian sponsors, who are dedicated to an end to the Jewish State.

A sombre Mr Clinton dispatched his Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, to the Middle East, saying all parties must immediately agree to a ceasefire.

But the United States's obvious disposition to favour Israel has again raised doubts about its effectiveness as a mediator in the bloody Middle East conflict.

Earlier in the week, when Israeli shells hit an ambulance, the US State Department said it was a "terrible tragedy" but failed to call for Israeli restraint.

And unlike other leaders, Mr Clinton refused yesterday to condemn what Israel's military called an "unfortunate mistake" when he spoke about the killings on arriving in St Petersburg for a Russian visit.

The United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, quickly condemned the Israeli attack, and called for an immediate inquiry into how it happened.

A UN spokeswoman told the BBC last night that while Hezbollah guerillas were obviously not without blame, "sometimes an over-reaction has to be condemned too".

Jordan's King Hussein, who is a friend of the Israeli Prime Minister Mr Shimon Peres, and a close ally of Israel in the peace process, described the Israeli attack as "criminal".

But in the US Congress, the overwhelming bipartisan support for Israel was made clear as political leaders reacted to the ghastly deaths.

## Slaughter raises barely a whimper in Washington \* MASSACRE IN LEBANON

Senator Bob Dole, the Republican who will almost certainly challenge Mr Clinton for the White House in the November presidential election, said Hezbollah itself was clearly to blame for "the terrible thing that happened".

"You have to keep in mind it was all initiated by Hezbollah," he said. "I don't know what other recourse Israel had.

"It is now time for Syria and (President Hafez) Assad to provide leadership in extricating the Hezbollah or at least get a ceasefire."

Syria has 35,000 troops in Lebanon, and Israel and the US believe it is the only nation with the authority to check Hezbollah. However, it remains unclear how Syria will react.

A Democrat Senator, Mr Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, appeared to be the only member of Congress willing to criticise Israel's actions.

He said that while Hezbollah clearly had no right to launch rocket attacks on Israel, "the overwhelming carnage of the past eight days compels ... attention to what looks like a disproportionate Israeli response".

Mr Clinton has frequently cited Mr Christopher's work on the now-struggling Middle East peace process as one of his Administration's finest foreign policy achievements.

But Thursday's bloodbath is yet another chilling reminder of the fragility of the process.

The State Department's special envoy, Mr Dennis Ross, headed to the region yesterday to lay the groundwork for Mr Christopher's visit.

Both men will intensify efforts to get Syria and Lebanon to agree to US proposals, based largely on Israel's demands, to end Hezbollah's shelling of northern Israel and disarm the guerillas. In return, Israel would agree to withdraw from its self-proclaimed buffer zone in southern Lebanon.

Mr Peres said in a CNN interview yesterday that he was ready to agree to a ceasefire, but only on condition that Syria and Lebanon fulfil their part of the bargain by promising to restrain Hezbollah attacks.

Israel wants that promise in writing, unlike the verbal agreement brokered by Washington after the last Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1993.

PAGE 23: New victims in an old war. PAGE 32: Editorial.

## Graphic

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Illus: Fog of war...smoke pours from the barrel of a 155mm howitzer as Israel pounds targets in southern Lebanon. More than 140 men, women and children had died in the Israeli assault by last night, including 101 refugees killed in the shelling of the United Nations peacekeeping base in Cana. Hundreds were wounded. Photograph by REUTER/JIM HOLLANDER

**Load-Date:** July 23, 2007

## *Syrians move into Beirut to stop factional fighting*

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

May 28, 1988, Saturday, City Edition

Times Publishing Company

**Section:** NATIONAL; Pg. 2A

**Length:** 763 words

**Byline:** PEYMAN PEJMAN

**Dateline:** BEIRUT, Lebanon

### **Body**

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BEIRUT, Lebanon - Syrian soldiers and Lebanese police moved into Beirut's southern suburbs Friday to stop three weeks of street fighting between rival Moslem militias in which hundreds of residents have been killed.

Eighteen foreign hostages, including nine Americans, are believed held in the neighborhoods between the center of the capital and the airport to the south. Last week, there were anonymous threats that the hostages might be killed if the Syrians moved into the area.

The Syrians, wearing bullet-proof vests over their combat uniforms, moved into the area shortly before noon carrying submachine guns and rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

The deployment went off without a hitch. The troops were greeted by cheering women tossing rice as they dispersed into the Shiyah, Mosharafieh and Ghobeiri neighborhoods, where the street fighting had been raging since May 6.

The fighting was mainly between two militias representing the Shiite Moslem religious sect in Lebanon. One is the Amal, a militia loyal to the Syrians. The other is Hezbollah, or Party of God, which is loyal to Iran.

As the Syrians moved through the rubble-strewn neighborhoods, Hezbollah militiamen looked on to make sure they did not cross the previously agreed demarcation lines.

Much of the area entered by the Syrians and about 50 Lebanese police officers seemed to have been already evacuated. Burned-out cars, some riddled by hundreds of bullet holes from previous street fighting, littered the streets. Others were turned on their sides to act as barricades. Many buildings were almost flattened by artillery and rocket fire. Some streets and alleys were almost impassable because of the debris.

Abdul Hadi Hamadei, the security chief of Hezbollah, said the two rival militias were pulling back their guerrillas from the southern neighborhoods and deploying them along the so-called Green Line that separates Beirut's Moslem and Christian quarters.

## Syrians move into Beirut to stop factional fighting

When a Syrian soldier called on members of a family in one Hezbollah neighborhood to open their front gate, he was confronted by a teen-age girl wearing a traditional Islamic chador covering from head to foot. "You always have to get things by force, don't you," she hissed. "Break the lock if you want." Without comment, the soldier broke the lock and continued his search.

By the time the Syrians moved in Friday, at least 300 people had been killed and 1,000 wounded in the fighting. Another 200,000, or about a third of the area's population, had fled to other parts of the country.

During the fighting, Hezbollah guerrillas managed to gain control of about 90 percent of the 16-square mile area.

The presence of the Syrians was not expected to have much effect on the fate of foreign hostages being held by groups believed allied to the Hezbollah militia. The troop deployment restricted Hezbollah movement in less than a quarter of the territory under its control.

Syrian officials said there were no plans to expand the troop deployment.

"We have no standing orders to move to other parts of the suburbs yet," one Syrian official told reporters. "This is not a military issue. It's a very sensitive political issue."

The Hezbollah militia's headquarters and strongholds are in the Bir al Abed and Haret Hraik neighborhoods. Also in the area are the homes of two prominent pro-Iranian religious leaders - Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah and Sheikh Ibrahim Amin.

The Syrian movement into the suburbs came hours after gunmen tried to kill Syria's chief military intelligence officer in Lebanon, Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kenaan. He and three other officers were driving through the area in a bullet-proof Mercedes sedan late Thursday when the gunmen opened fire. The four officers were unhurt.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack but Syrian officers pointed out that the gunfire came from an area under Hezbollah control.

Friday's deployment came after the Syrians cordoned off the southern neighborhoods for 13 days with more than 7,500 soldiers and 500 tanks and armored personnel carriers.

Syria has about 25,000 soldiers in Lebanon and has been the main power broker in the country since the civil war between Christians and Moslems began 13 years ago. In recent years, Iran has tried to check Syrian influence in Lebanon through the increasingly powerful Hezbollah militia.

Syrians move into Beirut to stop factional fighting

## Graphic

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BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO, Associated Press; Syrian soldiers walk past alley in slums of south Beirut

**Load-Date:** November 11, 1992

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## HUNDREDS FLEE RAIN OF SHELLS ON COASTAL ROAD

THE AUSTRALIAN

April 22, 1996, Monday

Copyright 1996 Nationwide News Pty Limited

**Length:** 416 words

### **Body**

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ISRAEL'S assault against Hezbollah guerillas may have achieved something that years of government efforts failed to do: it may have brought Lebanon's diverse Christian and Muslim factions together as a nation.

"They feel that the future of their country is at stake," said Professor Nawaf Salam, a Sunni Muslim and attorney and law professor at the American University of Beirut.

"I don't know if the support for Hezbollah has increased, but there is a rallying behind the country." Professor Mohammad Faur, a sociologist, said the Government had been trying since the 15-year civil war ended in 1990 to integrate the country's Christian and Muslim factions, which were also rife with internal divisions.

AFP

"The Government's efforts had been making slow progress," he said. "But since the Israeli attacks began, I have never before seen such a show of solidarity in this country."

The head of Lebanon's large Maronite Christian community, Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir, condemned the "dirty operation of collective extermination", referring to the massacre caused by Israel's bombing of a UN compound in the southern Lebanese village of Cana.

The intense shelling on Thursday killed 101 refugees, mostly Muslim women and children.

"The current tragedy is unifying the Lebanese people," Patriarch Nasrallah said.

Around 160 people have been killed and more than 300 injured, mostly civilians, since Israel launched its Operation Grapes of Wrath 10 days ago after Hezbollah repeatedly fired rockets into the Jewish State.

The Shi'ite Muslim Hezbollah's spiritual leader, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, praised the fact that Christians and Muslims were showing unity for the first time in this conflict.

"Lebanese Christians and Muslims are united in the face of Israeli aggression," he said.

Professor Salam said many Lebanese believed the Israeli attacks in Lebanon were not only directed against the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, but at efforts to rebuild the war-ravaged country and attract foreign investment.

The law professor cited Israel's bombing of two power plants outside Beirut, which plunged the country back into electricity rationing, and the round-the-clock bombing of south Lebanon, forcing more than 300,000 Lebanese to flee north.

## HUNDREDS FLEE RAIN OF SHELLS ON COASTAL ROAD

"Israel has shown that it is not targeting a group or party, but the whole process of Lebanon's reconstruction," he said.

"If Israel's goal was to turn the Lebanese against Hezbollah, it has only succeeded in unifying the country against its occupation."

**Load-Date:** March 1, 2002

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**THE TANKS ROLL IN;  
ISRAELI TROOPS INVADE LEBANON AND BRING FEARS OF NEW  
CONFLICT WITH SYRIA**

Daily Mail (London)

July 30, 1993, Friday

Copyright 1993 Associated Newspapers Ltd.

**Section:** Pg. 12

**Length:** 2320 words

**Byline:** Steve Doughty

## **Body**

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ISRAELI tanks and troops invaded southern Lebanon yesterday, threatening to repeat the bloody advance on Beirut of 11 years ago.

A witness said it was the biggest military column to enter Lebanon since Israeli guns and planes started pounding the area last Sunday. 'Its length and its military implications seemed awesome,' the onlooker said.

In the West, the invasion brought fears that Israel could now be drawn into a conflict with Syria, the country that ultimately holds sway in Lebanon.

The tanks crossed the 'security zone' on Israel's northern border as the country's Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, continued to defy Western condemnation and insisted that the offensive would go on until its objectives were met.

There were hopes that the ground forces would be used only to clear Israel's Islamic fundamentalist enemies, the **Hezbollah** guerillas, from their bases among the villages of southern Lebanon.

Any escalation would risk a repetition of the bloody fiasco that began in 1982, when Israel's army expelled the PLO from Lebanon only to be caught in a guerilla war that ended in humiliating withdrawal three years later.

Britain yesterday joined the international condemnation of Israel. A Foreign Office spokesman said Israel's response to **Hezbollah** attacks, 'in particular the deliberate attempt to displace a large part of the civilian population, cannot be justified'.

Half a million refugees are estimated to have fled northwards as their villages are pounded by artillery, naval guns and air raids. They must be allowed to return to their homes, the Foreign Office said.

But, as relief workers were distributing bread, fruit and blankets to the refugees in villages near Beirut, Israeli gunboats fired missiles at targets in the hills round the city and warplanes flew low overhead to intimidate any potential opposition.

Premier Rabin aims to clear the **Hezbollah** guerillas from land near Israel and, by provoking the refugee exodus, persuade the Lebanese government to crack down on the organisation.

## THE TANKS ROLL IN; ISRAELI TROOPS INVADE LEBANON AND BRING FEARS OF NEW CONFLICT WITH SYRIA

Shells were said to be landing at the rate of six a minute in the now-deserted villages, once Hezbollah havens. As many as 25,000 have been fired during five days of bombardment.

Refugees within range of the Israeli guns pleaded for escape.

In Tyre, one of the coastal cities targeted by Israel, 40-year-old Ali Barakat begged for a lift to Beirut and said: 'We are human beings, not animals. Let them have mercy on us. Let them have mercy on the children.'

Children screamed as Israeli jets made low passes over the city. Some refugees were still in the nightclothes they wore when the bombardment began.

A 70-year-old man said: 'I will pay you all that I have, but please help me escape from here.'

At a hospital in the heavily-bombed town of Nabatiyeh, Zeinab Khachab cried for her three-year-old daughter Heba, killed by a shell.

'It took me years to bring her up, and now she is gone,' she said. 'They killed my innocent daughter. I wish God had taken me instead of her.'

Some of the refugees blamed Hezbollah for their plight. 'We are fed up with all those who wear beards and chadors,' said Hassan Bakr.

'They have brought us nothing except calamities. If Hezbollah wants to fight Israel, let them do that alone and far from here.'

Others raged at the Israelis. 'They are savages,' said 50-year-old Zeinab Nagi. 'They have no mercy and know no God.'

Mr Rabin, commenting on suggestions that the U.S. was brokering an end to the offensive, insisted: 'We are not interested in a ceasefire. Reports that a ceasefire is imminent are unfounded.'

'We shall continue to operate until we attain our objective, which is not to wipe out the Hezbollah militia but to cause it a lot of damage. We want to ensure that our villagers in Galilee are not the hostages of Hezbollah.'

However, PLO chief Yasser Arafat joined the ranks of Arab leaders threatening Israel with retaliation. He said: 'We have the means to hit back.'

And Ali Akbar Velayati, Foreign Minister of Iran, the country that pays and arms Hezbollah, flew to Syria saying he would 'discuss ways of regaining the rights of the Moslem people of south Lebanon'.

WHY has Israel attacked southern Lebanon?

Iranian-backed Islamic fundamentalists have consistently provoked Israel with missile attacks launched from bases inside Lebanon.

The fundamentalists mostly belong to Hezbollah (Party of God), the group that once held Terry Waite, John McCarthy, Brian Keenan and the other Beirut hostages. They killed seven Israeli soldiers earlier this month.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has responded in the familiar Israeli tradition of ruthless vengeance. By artillery, air and naval bombardments of villages and coastal cities he has compelled hundreds of thousands of Lebanese to flee north towards Beirut. This, he hopes, will persuade the Lebanese government in Beirut to stop providing the guerillas with bases and havens.

WHY has Lebanon allowed Hezbollah to fire missiles and mount raids on Israel?

## THE TANKS ROLL IN; ISRAELI TROOPS INVADE LEBANON AND BRING FEARS OF NEW CONFLICT WITH SYRIA

The Beirut authorities are entirely dependent on Syria, whose army is the real power in Lebanon. With the backing of Syria's President Assad, they have disarmed all the myriad guerilla groups which once flourished in the Lebanese civil war - except Hezbollah and a few more minor Syrian-sponsored bands.

Hezbollah has been permitted to keep its missiles and heavy weapons because supposedly it is fighting a war of liberation for Palestinians. In fact, Assad considers Hezbollah a useful goad to use on Israel.

WHY has Rabin sent in Israeli ground troops?

Rabin wants to act firmly both to suppress the Hezbollah threat and to convince his domestic opponents that he is not a pushover for the Arabs. But it is thought he does not want to repeat the terrible history of Israel's last ground incursion into Lebanon.

In 1982, as Britain fought for the Falklands, the Israeli army pushed up to Beirut to clear out Palestine Liberation Organisation guerillas. In a swift advance, 'Operation Peace for Galilee' forced the PLO leadership and 15,000 fighters out of Lebanon.

But after the initial triumph the army became bogged down and began to suffer losses to guerillas. Israel was exposed to worldwide disgust when its generals allowed Christian Falangist allies to massacre thousands of PLO women and children in the Sabra and Chatila refugee camps outside Beirut.

After three years of bloody occupation the army withdrew to the 'security zone', a ten-mile-wide strip along the Israel/Lebanon border. Many in Israel counted the adventure their country's first big military failure.

Most Israelis and analysts believe Rabin cannot risk a fully-fledged Lebanese invasion - especially with the Syrian army encamped in Lebanon. Ultimately, the Prime Minister may settle for clearing southern Lebanese villages near the security zone so that Hezbollah is pushed back beyond missile range of Israeli settlements.

WILL the offensive wreck the chance of Middle East peace?

The UN says so far there have been 90 deaths, including Syrian soldiers, and 450 people have been wounded. The West fears that this toll, together with the upheaval produced by the massive wave of northbound refugees, will threaten the delicate peace process.

The peace talks have been moving at a snail's pace since former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker brought the warring nations of the Middle East together round a table in October 1991 in the aftermath of the Gulf War. But the talks, based on the premise that ultimately Israel will surrender territory occupied since the 1967 Six Day War in return for peace with its neighbours, still grind on. High-level secret contacts between Syria and Israel are rumoured.

Fears that the Israeli offensive will destroy the talks look exaggerated. The Palestinians of Gaza and the West Bank have not risen in rebellion to support the Lebanese fundamentalists. And none of the big Middle East countries wants to risk offending the U.S. by becoming the one to wreck the process. President Clinton has found cause to praise Syrian 'restraint' in not retaliating.

**Load-Date:** October 29, 1993