

Violent Protests Continue Across The World; U.S. On The Verge Of Being Dragged Into Holy War; Biden Announces \$100 Million In Aid To Gaza; Biden's Media Acolyte....

## **Violent Protests Continue Across The World; U.S. On The Verge Of Being Dragged Into Holy War; Biden Announces \$100 Million In Aid To Gaza; Biden's Media Acolytes Rush To His Defense; Hundreds Of Pro-Palestine Protesters Swarm Capitol; Why Are There Hamas Sympathizers In The U.S.?; Strategic Petroleum Reserve Has Just 17-Day Supply; Biden Debuts His 'Don't, Don't, Don't' Doctrine**

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### **Body**

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BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Primetime address from the Oval Office on Israel-Hamas war, also the conflict in Ukraine. Martha MacCallum and I will anchor our special coverage 8 PM Eastern time. Thanks for inviting us to your home tonight. That's it for this Special Report. Fair, balanced, and unafraid. The Ingraham Angle is now.

LAURA INGRAHAM, FOX NEWS HOST: Hello, everyone. I'm Laura Ingraham. This is The Ingraham Angle from Washington tonight.

(VIDEO PLAYING)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Is there's a lesser chance now that Israel won't go in and into Gaza that can be averted.

JOE BIDEN (D), PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We had long talk about that and what alternatives are.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Oh, alternatives, first, no one on earth thinks that Biden was discussing specifics on any alternatives. Now some staffer probably handled that for him. But now we see what the Biden team has been up to. They've been up to dictating Israel's next move against Hamas. That's funny, because I thought the IDF already had a lead commander. But we're going to learn more about these alternatives that Biden is obviously pushing on Israel, in exactly 25 hours, when President Biden addresses the nation in a Primetime speech.

So I'll tell you, expect two things in these remarks. First, they will not be as muddled as what we heard him say earlier today in Israel. We'll get to that in a little bit, because he can still read a teleprompter. And number two, he'll

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go into tell you why you should trust him to spend a lot more of your money, both in Ukraine and now in the Middle East. He'll probably even call it an investment.

Meanwhile, we're seeing violent protests continue at Israeli and U.S. embassies across the Middle East. Apparently, they're not buying Israel's claims that it did not hit that hospital. And closer to home pro- Palestinian protesters took over the U.S. Capitol. More on that in moments. But first for what's happening on the ground in Israel. We go live to Jerusalem where John Roberts, co-host of America Reports is standing by with all the details. John, what can you tell us?

JOHN ROBERTS, AMERICA REPORTS CO-ANCHOR: Laura, good morning to you from Jerusalem. And the big question here in Israel is what comes next in this war. Now that President Biden is winging his way home, Israel itself seems to be in no hurry to push a ground operation. In fact, the British Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak, is going to be here tomorrow. And I doubt that they would launch a ground operation with him in the country.

I spoke with the former National Security Council Chief General Giora Eiland, who told me that he doesn't see any need for Israel to go on the ground anytime soon that the Air Force can continue to hit Hamas targets all over Gaza, continue to soften up the ground, and then the forces could go into kind of a mopping up operation and try to get into those tunnels.

The other big question is, what is Hezbollah going to do? For the past 12 days, there's been harassing fire across the northern border into Israel, IDF forces were engaging with Hezbollah operatives again today. But General Eiland told me, he doesn't see any reason why Hezbollah would commit fully, at least not at this time. So maybe Israel has got a little bit of time to work a few things out.

One of those is the hostages, because we still don't know much about those and then the other is in order to tamp down international outrage finally gets some aid into Palestinians in southern Gaza. Israel has agreed to let 20 truckloads through the Rafah border crossing between Gaza and Egypt. Truth be told, though, Laura, they could probably use about 200 truckloads.

So, at least for the next few hours, no change expected. Israel likely will continue to hit Hamas targets with air strikes, Hamas will continue to fire back with harassing rocket fire. The big question that is being asked here in Israel, and asked increasingly in some circles is why the global media Laura was so quick to take Hamas at its word when it comes to this hospital explosion that you're looking at the aftermath of. I mean, this is an organization that launched a massive terror attack on October the 7th, killed 1300 Israelis and explosion goes off, Hamas says, it's Israel, and everybody around the world, including the United Nations buys it.

There have been some good analyses of what happened, one in the BBC, and other one in the Wall Street Journal, it's worth taking a look at both of those, because they really do suggest that the likelihood of that being an Israeli air strike versus a rocket that was fired from Gaza that went wrong, very, very small.

INGRAHAM: John, thank you so much. Great to see you tonight.

ROBERTS: Good to --

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HOSSEIN AMIR-ABDOLLAHIAN, IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER: If the limited and extremely tight windows of opportunity available to the United Nations and political actors are not used over the coming hours, opening new fronts against the Zionist regime is inevitable.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Growing belligerence from Iran's foreign minister on Monday, that was a war of words that really kicked off yesterday when its supreme leader blamed the U.S. for the war between Israel and Hamas. Now, Iran is

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trying to leverage the crisis and Biden's weakness. I'm going to get to that later in the Angle in order to box out America. Of course, with plenty of help from pro-Palestinian media.

Now, early this morning, just before Biden's meeting with the Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu, the Iranian foreign minister tweeted this, the time has come for global unity of humanity against the fake regime more hated than ISIS, and it's killing machine. Time is over.

Joining me now is Nathan Sales, former Ambassador-at-Large in Counterterrorism, Coordinator for the Trump Administration. Mr. Ambassador, good to see you tonight. What does he mean by that? Is he talking about Israel, America or a combo?

NATHAN SALES, FORMER COUNTERTERRORISM COORDINATOR: Well, Laura, I think it's clear that this is a shot across the bow of the United States and Israel alike. There's been a lot of focus on Hamas and its responsibility for this deadly attack. But make no mistake, Iran's fingerprints are all over this attack. Iran has been funding Hamas hundreds of millions of dollars over the past number of years, boosted their capabilities for precisely this kind of terrorism.

Now, just today, Iran up the ante yet again, we're not just talking about words, Laura, we're talking about deeds, because Iranian terror proxies in Iraq launched three drones, suicide drones at American soldiers in Iraq. Now thankfully, we were able to take them out before they caused any death or damage. But that gives you a sense that Iran doesn't take the administration's word for it, when we say, sit on the sidelines, or there will be consequences. Iran is not deterred.

INGRAHAM: Well, Nathan, I want to get your reaction to an announcement that President Biden made just today. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: Today, I'm also announcing \$100 million of new U.S. funding for humanitarian assistance in both Gaza and the West Bank. This money will support more than 1 million displaced in conflict affected Palestinians, including emergency needs in Gaza.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Give it all we know how likely is it that this money, which is never trackable when it goes to the UN ends up in the hands of Hamas?

SALES: Laura, it's pretty likely. During the Trump Administration, we cut off all assistance to the Palestinian Authority and Palestinian territories, for precisely that reason. We knew that Hamas was going to skim off the top, resources that are intended for the benefit of suffering civilians is going to be used to fill terrorist coffers.

The Biden Administration came into office with a different view. And shortly after January 2021, they decided to open up the spigots again, they actually wrote a memo where they said we acknowledge there is a high likelihood that money is going to find its way into Hamas's pockets. They did it anyway. I have to think that at least a portion of this 100 million is going to be used to entrench Hamas further.

INGRAHAM: Nathan, two wars, America might be fighting a proxy war in Ukraine, and at the same time, a war in the Middle East. We're going to see how that goes. Great to see you.

All right, after Hezbollah called for a Day of Anger, violent clashes broke out across Israeli embassies around the world, including in Beirut, where protesters threw rocks, Molotov cocktails, and now there are new reports from Lebanese TV that air strikes from Israeli sources are targeting southern Lebanon.

Joining me now live from Beirut is Fox News Chief International Correspondent Steve Harrigan, who never sleeps. Steve, what can you tell us?

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STEVE HARRIGAN, FOX NEWS CHIEF INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Laura, the U.S. Embassy here in Beirut was once again the target of violent protests. They used rocks but more than that Molotov cocktails as well managed to set a building near the U.S. Embassy on fire. They cut through razor wire along a road to the U.S. Embassy, removed the security wall. No U.S. embassy personnel injured. In this clash. It took Lebanese security forces to push back those protesters. They hurled cans of tear gas and also used water cannons to push those angry crowds back.

And the U.S. says all non-essential personnel can now leave the embassy. Saudi Arabia also calling for its citizens to leave Lebanon as well. And a very bad sign, some airlines stopping flying here including Lufthansa. The real concern in Israel is that Hezbollah backed by Iran, and seen as a terrorist organization by the U.S. could open up a second front along the north of Israel, with its tens of thousands of long-range rockets and precision guided missiles. Laura, back to you.

INGRAHAM: Of course, Steve, people are harkening back to the horrors of the Iranian hostage crisis in the late 70s, when Jimmy Carter was president, and obviously nobody wants to see anything like that ever happen again. So, thank you for that reporting, Steve.

And the cost of Hamas propaganda being parroted by our media and some lawmakers extends beyond protests at our embassies. American lives are actually at stake. Now as we mentioned earlier, the U.S. shot down a total of three kamikaze drones targeting two U.S. bases in Iraq, where proximately 2500 troops are still located.

CENTCOM is revealing tonight that some of our troops did suffer injuries. Joining me now Victor Davis Hanson, Hoover Institution Senior Fellow. Victor, we call it the fog of war. This is the fog of a lot more than war. Here, there's enormous amount of propaganda. You see it on TikTok. I wouldn't doubt that the Chinese are pushing some of this. But this is now a dangerous moment. Do we have a serious administration to confront to?

VICTOR DAVIS HANSON, HOOVER INSTITUTION SENIOR FELLOW: Yes, I think people in the Middle East wanted to know whether the Afghan humiliation, the Putin invasion, the Chinese balloon, our open border was an aberration or did we really lose deterrence, and have adopted full scale appeasement, and now they look at Biden's failed Middle East effort, the idea of giving Iran \$6 billion, which he hasn't canceled, the restoration of money to the Palestinians.

And by the way, I might add, the message is going out in the Middle East is, if you have a lie that the Israelis hit a hospital, and you promulgated all the way, the Western and the Middle Eastern worlds, and you get protests and the American President humiliated, because he has no deterrence, then he will give you \$100 million dangled. And the funny thing is, that in a weird way, Laura, we're basically saying to the Palestinians, go kill Israeli children and women, and we're going to reward you out with \$100 million.

And what's even worse is, we're saying to the world, if that missile that was intended to kill Jewish civilians in Tel Aviv, had not missed the target and accidentally hurt some or killed some Palestinians, then we wouldn't even give them money probably, we're only giving money because we're paranoid, they're angry over a lie that the Israelis did something.

But if it wasn't a lie, and they had really killed Israelis as intended, we probably would have said, well, that's OK. We don't really mind that. And so, it's really a morally bankrupt administration. I hate to say that because we all have to be -- stick together. But when you look at what they're doing to our troops in Iraq, and you look at what's going on here on our campuses, and then New York, and even at the Capitol, you get the impression where this is much worse than 1980 with Jimmy Carter, you have a complete meltdown. of U.S. deterrence throughout the world. It's very dangerous, very dangerous in the next 15 months in general, and specifically the next week.

INGRAHAM: And Victor, we're watching scenes of some of these protests breaking out in New York right now. So far, they seem to be peaceful, but that many people in the dark, tempers flaring, we don't know, anything is possible.

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Victor, I want to ask about this money that Biden is going to be after tomorrow night, he's going to go to the nation with a teleprompter. And he's going to say we need this 100 billion plus, which will be 500 billion before you blink, for both Ukraine and Israel that that is critical money and we need it for the stability of the world, for peace. I wouldn't be surprised if he didn't call it some type of investment in the future. How will that go down with the American people?

HANSON: I think it won't go down too well, because there's such an asymmetry. We never told Ukraine, there's a cycle of violence, you can't retaliate when Putin comes in. We always say, discount Putin's nuclear threats, that will never happen. He would never dare, but yet we -- Iran doesn't have the bomb and we're told, be careful about Iran, they're threatening us.

So there's such an asymmetry to the reactions of both of these wars. And we never said to the Ukrainians, we don't want you to do this. And when you hit a infrastructure or a bridge or something, we want you to phone civilians and get them out of the way. So there's only one explanation, I'm afraid, and that is there's an endemic antisemitism in the asymmetry that we treat our bet closest ally Israel, versus, a friend, but Ukraine doesn't have the relationship. And we don't apply the same restrictions on Ukraine than we do on Israel. And it makes no sense. And to ask money --

INGRAHAM: Yes, they're not --

HANSON: After, you know --

INGRAHAM: Yes, they're not a NATO ally --

HANSON: These people are lying about us --

INGRAHAM: Yes --

HANSON: They're not --

INGRAHAM: Alright --

HANSON: It's just -- I don't think it's going to sell --

INGRAHAM: Alright, Victor --

HANSON: Especially when you have a president that's in coherent --

INGRAHAM: Weak --

HANSON: Can't articulate what the proposition --

INGRAHAM: Alright, Victor, we've got to go, we've got a breaking news --

HANSON: And the rational is for.

INGRAHAM: We've got to go. Alright. What did Biden's visit to Israel actually accomplish? Well, very little. But it did reveal a lot about the power vacuum created by his presidency. My Angle on that is, next

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: Weak and wobbly, that's the focus of tonight's Angle. This is how little the progressives fear and respect the leader of their party when he's overseas. And a tweet directed at Biden, Rashida Tlaib refer to the Israeli-Hamas conflict as your war and accused our ally Israel of bombing the hospital. And today, she doubled down.

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(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. RASHIDA TLAIB (D-MI): It's just this continue to watch people, think it's OK to bomb a hospital, with children. I can cry. We all can cry. President Biden, not all of America is with you on this one. And you need to wake up and understand that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Tlaib obviously holds Biden in utter contempt. She's certainly not afraid of any political consequences from him. But then again, why are we surprised? This is the problem that Biden is facing everywhere because everyone in the world knows that he's weak and that the U.S. is weak under his leadership, and filling his vacuum are America's adversaries.

Leaders from 140 countries, so that's all are gathered in Beijing to celebrate the 10th anniversary of China's trillion-dollar Belt and Road Initiative. Putin is there because he believes Xi is a serious man and that China is the future. Now it was no accident that their statements, Russia's and China's criticizing Israel and demanding a ceasefire almost seemed coordinated.

Taking the other side against America, after all gave them an opportunity to band together and show the world that America is on the downslope. And Iran under Biden, they feel the same way. They're not overly concerned by America's warnings. Those people just gave him \$6 billion. Heck, even the president of a NATO country Viktor Orban of Hungary, he seemed perfectly at ease appearing with Putin in Beijing yesterday. Now, might he have thought that would offend the White House. He clearly doesn't care.

But under Trump, none of them were so cavalier about this kind of stuff. During Trump's presidency, Xi rushed to meet at Mar-a-Lago in the spring of 2017. And Trump bombed Syria during desert. Putin wanted a closer relationship with the United States, but the deep state, they made sure that never happened with the phony Russia collusion stuff.

He never would have tried taking Ukraine, we all know this. If Trump were president, he would not dare. Strength gets results. Remember, it was because of Trump that NATO countries finally pledged to spend more money on their military, Canada and Mexico. They agreed to revamp NAFTA because Trump's team knew how to exercise leverage, do it from a position of strength. But now, both our allies and our adversaries know that America is not looking out for America. So they don't respect us. We don't respect ourselves. They don't respect Biden. They don't respect his top advisors either.

They look at someone like a Janet Yellen as a nice old lady, more interested in sucking up to China than protecting her own country's economy. They look at Tony Blinken, and they see a small weak man easily pushed around. Just a few days ago, a total snub by the Saudi Crown Prince, humiliating Biden -- Blinken excuse me by making him wait several hours before he finally met with him at his farm residence.

Now some of this might seem like small ball, but in the world of diplomacy, small gestures speak volumes. But presidents who are considered generally our best presidents have been able to unite Americans and defend our national interest. They had gravitas and were passionately pro-American,

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: If not what your country can do for you, half what you can do for your country.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Mr. Gorbachev, teared down this wall.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: In the 20th century, Americans got used to the idea that the president would represent our interests in the world, and would explain coherently the challenges that we all face. Doing that would then inspire confidence,

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make us all more willing to sacrifice, actually excited to sacrifice, especially in the foreign policy arena where so much is at stake. But unfortunately, the media and the unelected bureaucracy in Washington, they think that having a figurehead president is just fine. After all, it gives them more power and influence. This morning in Israel, it looks like Blinken was in-charge.

(VIDEO PLAYING)

INGRAHAM: But has Tony Blinken ever intimidated anyone in his life. Look at Jake Sullivan, the national security advisor's comments about how things were really calm in the Middle East a few weeks ago. Now under the best of circumstances, and I'm saying the best of circumstances where we had a president and a cabinet able to definitely assess the situation, this would be a really tough needle to thread. But with this guy...

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: I asked the Secretary of State when he and I work in the Senate to write something for him and said, your own line that I think is appropriate. He said, it's not, we need not just (inaudible) taking too much time

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Oh, my gosh, watching this, I'm thinking the poor Israeli have had to stand to listen to this. Haven't they suffered enough? And imagine what the press would say if a Republican president injected himself into the middle of an unfolding crisis, then referred to the barbaric terrorists, who spurred it, spurred on this way.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: I was deeply saddened and outraged by the explosion at the hospital in Gaza yesterday. And based on what I've seen, it appears as though it was done by the other team, not you. But there's a lot of people out there, not sure. So, we're going to overcome a lot of things.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Was he sleeping, the other team, they would crucify Trump if he said anything like that, if he acted that way. In fact, the global chaos though, that we're seeing under Biden, remember, that is exactly what the regime media said, when they predicted Trump would create this madness around the world.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RON BROWNSTEIN, CNN SENIOR POLITICAL ANALYST: President Trump has essentially minimize, minimize or sublimated the idea of the U.S. as kind of the underpinning of a rules-based international order.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: President Trump, we've had bad presidents before, bad foreign policy presidents. We have absolutely hit bottom and it's frightening.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Donald Trump is really ruining and destroying American foreign policy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Yes, well, what are we seeing around us now? Peace and calm? Are they breaking out all over the place with Joe Biden as president? We had peace when Donald Trump was president. But now the Middle East is on fire. Ukraine is in the middle of a war. But for Reagan, it was peace through strength. Remember, for Biden, it's chaos through weakness, or actually, that's much too much for him to remember. So...

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: My message to any state or any other hostile actor, thinking about attacking Israel remains the same as it was a week ago. Don't, don't, don't.

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(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: The press as usual dutifully campaigns and covers for him.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The Democratic President of the United States attempting to conduct global diplomacy, attempting to be in some ways a peacemaker in the Middle East. He is out there representing United States of America.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: And of course, the historians open up a second line of defense.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JON MEACHAM, PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Presidents now done this twice. He went to Kyiv. This is a remarkable moment in the history of the American presidency for a president to go this soon into this kind of climate.

MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, AMERICAN HISTORIAN: Joe Biden went to both places in the middle of a war, risked his life to try to bring some order to the chaos.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: That truth is, and they all know it. Biden did not go to Israel because he's strong. He went to Israel because he's weak, and he's desperately trying to resurrect his failing presidency, by playing peacemaker. While most of the important players are just ignoring him. And that's the Angle. All right, up next, hundreds of pro-Palestinian protesters swarming the Capitol building, the details next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(INAUDIBLE)

UNKNOWN: Free Palestine.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Now, that was at the Capitol today where pro-Palestinian protesters staged a sit-in, hanging banners, refusing to move, making general jerks of themselves. At least three of them actually assaulted police officers. Merrick Garland, will he push the DOJ to prosecute these people for interfering with congressional proceedings? Don't hold your breath.

Joining me now, Ari Fleischer, former White House press secretary. Mollie Hemingway, editor-in-chief of The Federalist. Both are Fox News contributors. Mollie, 300 were arrested. But I don't think they're going to get the book thrown at them, do you?

MOLLIE HEMINGWAY, THE FEDERALIST EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Well, we've seen -- we have a pattern here where people on the left are allowed to protest. They may even be arrested and released, maybe not even given a fine or not even charged, versus what we have seen with right-wing protests where people might be sent to prison. It is a very serious problem that we have two standards of justice in this country.

There is no reason why Merrick Garland and Christopher Wray could not be destroying these people's lives and putting them in prison and trying to keep them, you know, in prison for a very long time over the same charges that



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they did against J6 protesters, which would be about parading inside a congressional building, which is what they're doing here.

INGRAHAM: And Ari, Rashida Tlaib actually whipped these people up into a frenzy beforehand. And I'm thinking she's outside of the Capitol. I'm thinking, is she like -- was that her ellipse speech? Are they going to be treating her like, you know, incitement to take over the Capitol, like they would Trump in the January 6th?

ARI FLEISCHER, FORMER WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: Of course, she did. And this is what you can expect from the progressive elements inside the Democratic Party. They are fundamentally anti-Israel. And what's the real threat to democracy here? I mean, if these people had their way, the Israeli democracy would be slaughtered.

But Laura, I want to make some points about Biden's trip over there, because he committed three blunders that have to be brought out to people's attention. You know, when he said that Israelis should not be consumed by rage, who the hell does he think he is? I sat in on every single summit meeting with foreign leaders when they came to the United States after September 11th and met with President Bush, not one of them, not one said to President Bush, the Americans shouldn't be consumed with rage. Instead, they just came to support us. So, President Biden, who said some good things, never should admonish or lecture Israel about how to react like that.

The second thing he did that was just horrendous was inside that statement where he talked about the other team, which is a weird way to put it. He talked about how it didn't appear that Israel bombed the hospital, but then he said, quote, "there's a lot of people out there who are not so sure." He's talking about the protesters in the streets of Lebanon and in Jordan. Why is he giving them any credence whatsoever? Why is he even citing them as being a source that should be worried about? Why doesn't he just say they're wrong? Israel didn't do it and stop right there.

The third is the hundred million dollars. Massive mistake. It's typical foreign policy establishment think.

INGRAHAM: I wish it was a hundred million, a hundred billion, but yeah, it's -- by the way, Ari, to your point. It's not just overseas protests that are getting out of hand. We're seeing in Chicago something that looks like it's from Beirut. Doesn't look like Chicago that I remember.

But, Mollie, this is what we're seeing now in our own streets. Intifada chants, you know, anti-Israel chants. Your reaction to that, Mollie, given the explosion of pro-Palestinian propaganda on TikTok and beyond.

HEMINGWAY: So, I think it's important to remember that the vast majority of Americans, for instance, do support Israel. They are horrified by what they saw with this terrorist attack on civilians, women, children, people at a rave. There is this loud vocal minority. And the issue is that this loud vocal minority does have a lot of control over our academy, over colleges, over our media. They are also elected to Congress in some cases.

And so, it's really incumbent upon Democrats, like President Biden, to speak forcefully against some of these lies and misinformation that have been put out there about, for instance, this strike that was near the hospital, apparently an accidental strike by Palestinians who didn't intend to strike their own parking lot near the hospital.

But it's important to get that information out because you have embassies being attacked, you have protests like this. And you have Rashida Tlaib not being chastised in any way. Biden hasn't said anything against her, but neither has Hakeem Jeffries, neither has Nancy Pelosi, and it's important that they hold people to account.

INGRAHAM: Well, she should be censured, or frankly, removed from Congress, Ari, because she's putting our service members in harm's way by her comments. And Nancy Pelosi, Hakeem Jeffries would not condemn her comments. They wouldn't do it. That's how unified the Democrats are.

FLEISCHER: They need to be condemned. Democrats need to do it. Some of them are doing it. I know that Senator John Fetterman in Pennsylvania criticized them, and good for him. Laura, I will disagree about throwing

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them out of Congress. I've always believed that no matter how outrageous somebody does something, it should be up to the people to decide that.

So, I would draw a line there. Let her constituents or somebody in a primary take her out. But I would love to see Congress censure her and Democrats to speak out against her. They should.

INGRAHAM: I mean, you are seeing the wages of decades of university propaganda on the streets of Chicago. Mollie, Ari, great to see both of you. All right, with another war in the Middle East, it sure would be nice if Biden hadn't sold off most of our country's strategic petroleum reserve. So, what can consumers expect in the weeks and months ahead? The price of gas, the price of heating oil, the price of everything that comes to you by train or car or truck. Next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNKNOWN: Our strategic petroleum reserve is the largest in the world. It still is the largest in the world. And we do have a plan. We will be buying more when we feel like it is best advantageous for the taxpayers. I'm not worried about the reserve levels at all.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: That's right, nothing to see here, folks. We're just at a 17-day supply in our reserves. That's the lowest level in 40 years. So, what the heck is going on here? Have we just given up on refilling it after Biden used it to try to stem the losses in the last midterms?

Joining me now is David Bahnsen, chief investment officer of the Bahnsen Group. David, so Biden drained the SPR purely for political reasons. So, it was not an emergency. But he said it was to curb gas prices when the Ukraine war broke out. But with this emergency that we're seeing now in the Middle East, what danger -- what are the people's danger because of the earlier draining of this?

DAVID BAHNSEN, THE BAHNSEN GROUP CIO: Well, I think that now, if you have a real emergency, you don't have the reserves that the entire purpose of them is for. They're going to be gone. We had 650 million barrels, Laura. They took 300 million barrels, so basically about half, and they did it when there was no real emergency involving us. And it was a price shock, as you said, in a midterm election. That's the whole reason they did it.

The problem now is that if this Middle Eastern escalation goes on for a long period of time, those prices will go over \$100 a barrel. That will create a recession. And they won't have the reserves to fall back on.

You had the whole world shut down with COVID in 2020. And we still viewed the SPR as something that was really there for an extreme type emergency. Now you have the Biden administration that's treated it like a piggy bank to try to manipulate gas prices. And I think the chickens are coming home to roost.

INGRAHAM: So, let's say that they just let this go on for a while without refilling the reserves. Then the price of gas goes up, goes higher, so the cost becomes exponentially worse for the American taxpayers.

And we're still watching these protests on the street in New York City, by the way, David, that are going on now. Just while we're doing this interview about the price of oil because of this brewing problem in the Middle East and the SPR draining, some pretty boisterous protesters out there in Chicago and New York tonight.

David -- yeah, so this is now at a point where this is going to really cost us, but are they even going to bother trying to refill it?

Violent Protests Continue Across The World; U.S. On The Verge Of Being Dragged Into Holy War; Biden Announces \$100 Million In Aid To Gaza; Biden's Media Acolyte....

BAHNSEN: Well, that's the point I want to make is what you suggest, is not merely hypothetical. Oil prices are 90 now, Laura, they were about \$70 for most of this year. They were between 68 and 72. You know how many barrels they bought in eight months? Three million barrels out of 300 million.

So, they sold 300 million last year and they had oil prices down \$25 a barrel, and they bought 1 percent of them back. Now oil prices have come back to 90 and could very well be back at 100.

So, I do not believe the administration has any intent to refill them, because inevitably if they do that, it puts pricing pressure the other way. They've given full control to OPEC Plus.

INGRAHAM: Well, so we lose our energy independence because of the attacks on the oil and gas industry. And now this. So, no energy independence and no real desire to refill those reserves. Unbelievable. David, thank you.

BAHNSEN: Thanks, Laura.

INGRAHAM: And Biden confirms his new wacky foreign policy doctrine. And the Mickey Mouse is a new dangerous business partner. Raymond Arroyo has it all. Seen and Unseen, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: It's time for Seen and Unseen, where we reveal the stories behind the headlines. For that, we turn to Fox News contributor and author of the new book, The Magnificent Mischief of Tad Lincoln, Raymond Arroyo.

All right, Ray, on Monday, we, half ingest, suggested that Biden had declared a new foreign policy doctrine.

RAYMOND ARROYO, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yeah. The don't, don't, don't doctrine, which he rambled out during a 60 minutes interview. For those who missed it earlier, Laura, he made the doctrine formal today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: My message to any state or any other hostile actor, thinking about attacking Israel remains the same as it was a week ago. Don't. Don't. Don't.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Didn't need it.

ARROYO: He couldn't have shrunk it down to one don't. This could be the bumper sticker for his next campaign, Laure. Biden 2024, don't, don't, don't.

INGRAHAM: All right. Raymond, I want to get your reaction to something else Biden said today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: The vast majority of Palestinians are not Hamas. Hamas does not represent the Palestinian people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ARROYO: Laura, what is he talking about? They won 76 seats of 132 back in 2006. That was the last time they had an election. Clearly, the majority of Palestinians wanted this terrorist organization. Now they got them.

And Hamas has been very successful. They scuttled the Saudi Arabia peace deal with Israel. And they, today, because they blew up their own hospital, stopped both Jordan and Egypt from meeting with the president. So far, they're running the narrative here. That's got to end.

INGRAHAM: Well, he was so convincing, though, overseas, President Biden. I mean, he had jet lag. When he does his speech tomorrow night, imagine the jet lag, but at least they'll have the teleprompter. It'll be better for him.

Violent Protests Continue Across The World; U.S. On The Verge Of Being Dragged Into Holy War; Biden Announces \$100 Million In Aid To Gaza; Biden's Media Acolyte....

ARROYO: Well, let's hope so. And while the president is spending billions on the war in Ukraine and Israel, Mickey Mouse is fattening the coffers of that unseen force behind so much of this, China.

Disney is announcing a deal with the Chinese controlled TikTok to create a new Disney destination for fans to engage Disney music, videos, games, etc., luring children to hand over their personal information, via the app, to the Chinese communists, while making Disney a bundle. This is horrendous.

INGRAHAM: Now, it was back in 2019, I believe, Raymond, four years ago that Mike Pompeo came on the show and said, if you're watching this and you're a parent, delete it from your phone immediately and probably throw away your phone. You probably can't even have your phone, get a new phone after deleting, downloading that, so it's horrible.

All right. I'm glad to see at least one politician, Raymond, is taking a stand on this though. Governor Sarah Huckabee in Arkansas is throwing the Chinese out of her state. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNKNOWN: I'm announcing that Syngenta, a Chinese state-owned agrochemical company, must give up its land holdings in Arkansas. Syngenta owns 160 acres in northeast Arkansas, which it uses primarily for seed research. Seeds are technology. Chinese state-owned corporations filtered that technology back to their homeland. Stealing American research and telling our enemies how to target American farms.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ARROYO: Other governors --

(CROSSTALK)

INGRAHAM: Good for Huckabee Sanders.

(CROSSTALK)

ARROYO: Yeah, there's that Arkansas law that forbids China from owning land in the cut -- in their state. This should be a national law. We should not have China gobbling up all of these lands across the country. And these corporations like Disney better get wise, too.

But, you know, the Chinese influence, Laura, is yet another reason why the Republicans should be wearing sackcloth and ashes this week for failing to elect a speaker. Today, Jim Jordan lost two votes to become speaker, 22 Republicans voted against him. And now there's talk that Congressman Dave Joyce of Pennsylvania is going to introduce legislation to expand the powers of the speaker pro-temp and make Patrick McHenry the temporary speaker with full powers. This is a ruinous idea, I think.

INGRAHAM: Well, he's the favorite candidate, I think, right now, Wall Street. And he's of the pro-China caucus because he really doesn't want to put any, you know, blockade or any regulations on businesses investing in China. So, he's been a real, you know, advocate for more American businesses to go over to China. That's a real problem especially when China's working against us in Ukraine, pretty much in the Israeli conflict, so I don't get this at all.

ARROYO: But Laura, he hasn't been elected. He was appointed by Kevin McCarthy. You need somebody's elected by the full House, and you can't change these rules. This is the guy who's third in line for the president.

The House Speaker controls all the business, the schedule, the bills, the money for the country. This is far too important a position to not have the full House vote on a candidate. Put one forward.

And the GOP is denying the American people a branch of government. This has got to end, right now. I got to tell you --

Violent Protests Continue Across The World; U.S. On The Verge Of Being Dragged Into Holy War; Biden Announces \$100 Million In Aid To Gaza; Biden's Media Acolyte....

INGRAHAM: Raymond, we're looking at these protests across the country right now. In New York City, they're growing. Protest across New York City tonight. And also, in Chicago where the protests are growing louder and bigger.

And to look at these scenes, Raymond, it seems like this is something like you'd expect in maybe the Middle East or, I don't know. You don't expect it in the United States of America, but there you have it, St. Paul, Minnesota.

ARROYO: They're responding to Hamas. They called for protests around the world, you're seeing them. This is very revealing and troubling.

INGRAHAM: The propaganda works. I mean, and St. Paul, Minnesota, who would have thunk it? But I think we have about 80,000 Somalis living in St. Paul now, more than that now. And that's what they think about that hospital bombing.

Raymond, great to see you as always. Thank you so much.

ARROYO: Thank you.

INGRAHAM: All right. Don't forget, set your DVR. We want you always to stay connected with us. Make sure to follow me on social media. Thank you for watching. It is America, now and forever. Jesse Watters, he takes it all from here.

**Load-Date:** October 19, 2023

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## Chinese embassy in US warns students against joining protests over Israel-Hamas conflict

South China Morning Post.com

October 17, 2023 Tuesday

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**Section:** EDT

**Length:** 443 words

**Byline:** Yuanyue Dang

### **Body**

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Students told to 'avoid going to crowded public places' where demonstrations are being held after a series of incidents at leading US universities. China's embassy in France also warned its citizens to be alert to security risks following a fatal knife attack on a teacher last week.

The Chinese embassy in the United States has advised Chinese students to stay away from protests related to the [conflict between Israel and Hamas](#).

"The embassy reminds students studying in the US to pay attention to campus protests and the local security situation, enhance their risk awareness, strengthen self-protection and avoid going to crowded public places involved in demonstrations," the Chinese embassy in the US said on its public WeChat account on Tuesday morning.

Violent protests have broken out on some US university campuses, the embassy said.

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"These conflicts have the potential to spread to campuses across the US. The safety of our students is at greater risk," the warning said.

The war has also prompted demonstrations at several leading universities, including the University of California, Los Angeles and Georgetown University in Washington.

Last Thursday the campus at Columbia University in New York was shut down after a confrontation between pro-Israeli and pro-Palestinian students following an attack on an Israeli student.

So far the violence that followed the [Hamas attack on Israel](#) has claimed more than 4,200 lives on both sides.

China has not publicly backed either side in the conflict and it appears to be trying to position itself as a mediator.

However, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in a phone call to his Saudi counterpart, Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, on Saturday that [Israel's actions had "gone beyond self-defence"](#).

## Chinese embassy in US warns students against joining protests over Israel-Hamas conflict

Apart from the embassy in Washington, other Chinese embassies have also warned Chinese citizens abroad to stay safe amid rising tensions over the Middle East conflict.

On Friday, [a teacher was stabbed to death at a school in the northern French city of Arras](#). A man in his 20s has been arrested over the attack, which President Emmanuel Macron blamed on "Islamist terrorism".

In response, the Chinese embassy in France issued a reminder on WeChat, saying Chinese nationals should "pay close attention to the social situation and personal safety, and avoid making sensitive and excessive remarks".

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**Load-Date:** October 18, 2023

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War between Israel and Hamas raises fears about rising US hostility; The war between Israel and Hamas is raising fears about rising hostility across the United ....

## War between Israel and Hamas raises fears about rising US hostility; The war between Israel and Hamas is raising fears about rising hostility across the United States

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)

October 19, 2023 Thursday

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**Section:** NATION WORLD

**Length:** 1094 words

**Byline:** HOLLY RAMER

### **Body**

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A fatal stabbing in Illinois, a gun pointed at protesters in Pennsylvania, vandalism at synagogues and harassment of staff at a Palestinian restaurant all are raising fears that the war between Israel and Hamas is sparking violence in the United States.

The tensions follow a familiar pattern of crimes against Jewish and Muslim communities rising when conflict erupts in the Middle East and Americans have been killed or taken hostage.

"We have a two pronged threat to American faith communities," said Brian Levin, founding director of the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernadino.

While its too soon to say with certainty whether anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish crimes have increased during the war, hate crimes overall increased in the U.S. last year. In its annual report released Monday, the FBI estimated that hate crimes increased by 7% to 11,634 cases in 2022 compared to the previous year. With 1,124 incidents, anti-Jewish attacks were the second most reported hate crime, after anti-Black cases. There were 158 reported incidents of anti-Muslim attacks, and 92 reports of anti-Arab cases, according to the report.

Civil rights organizations, however, believe that even before the Hamas attacks in Israel, crime data didn't reflect reality due to a lack of participation by local police departments and internalized fear among the Muslim population, said Robert McCaw, director of governmental affairs for the Council on American-Islamic Relations. In 2021, the Othering & Belonging Institute at the University of California, Berkeley, released a study in which 85% of those who were subjected to Islamophobia said they did not report it to authorities.

"The true number remains to be seen," McCaw said.

In one of the most troubling recent incidents, a landlord in Plainfield, Illinois, is accused of attacking a Palestinian American tenant and her son with a knife on Saturday, purportedly because of their Muslim faith, stabbing the 6-year-old boy to death and injuring the mother. The sheriff, prosecutors and family all said the boy and his mother were targeted for being Muslim. More specifically, prosecutors said the landlord was "angry ... for what was going



War between Israel and Hamas raises fears about rising US hostility; The war between Israel and Hamas is raising fears about rising hostility across the United ....

on in Jerusalem" and his wife told police her husband feared they would be attacked by people of Middle Eastern descent.

In Pennsylvania, a man was charged with felony ethnic intimidation after police said he pointed a gun and yelled slurs at attendees of a pro-Palestinian rally near the state Capitol on Friday. In Boston, the word "Nazis" was spray-painted across the sign for the Palestinian Cultural Center for Peace.

"There's a lot of fear. There's a lot of anxiety and uncertainty in everything that's happening," said Abed Ayoub, national executive director for the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. He said the group has received more than 100 reports including verbal harassment, threats, intimidation and physical attacks.

"It's very reminiscent of the early days of post-9/11, where people didn't want to go outside, they didn't want to send their kids to school," he said. "They're just worried about being in public and being approached."

In Dearborn, Michigan, which has the nation's highest Muslim population per capita, community and faith leaders met outside the city's police department Monday. The city has seen multiple threats of violence in recent days, including from a man accused of asking on social media if anyone in metro Detroit wanted to "go to Dearborn & hunt Palestinians."

"We have to understand that these issues that are overseas are not just overseas, they are very much also issues here," said Imran Salha, the imam of the Islamic Center of Detroit.

Historically, anti-Jewish hate crimes have increased during violent Israeli-Palestinian conflicts, said Levin, a professor emeritus at California State.

In March 1994, there was a spike in anti-Jewish hate crimes from 79 incidents to 147 a month after an American-Israeli extremist opened fire on Palestinian Muslims in a mosque, he said, citing FBI statistics. In October 2000, anti-Jewish hate crimes in the U.S. surged from 81 to 204 compared to the month before after a series of violent protests in Arab villages in northern Israel. Levin observed a similar trend in May 2021, particularly in cities with significant Jewish populations such as New York and Los Angeles.

In California last week, flyers spreading anti-Jewish rhetoric were left in neighborhoods and on vehicles in the city of Orange. And in Fresno, police said a man suspected of breaking windows and leaving an anti-Jewish note at a bakery also is a "person of interest" in the vandalism of a local synagogue.

Julie Platt, chair of the Jewish Federations of North America, said synagogues and Jewish community centers around the country have been strengthening their security programs, but that she does not want to see members of her community duck for cover.

"I think the whole point of this is to terrorize us psychologically," she said. "As long as I hear of no credible threats, I believe we should live our Jewish lives."

Several Palestinian-Americans interviewed Friday in a Brooklyn neighborhood with a large Arab population said the atmosphere has been tense in the last week.

Jumana Alkaram said she has not been personally threatened but that: "I know if I was to demonstrate my heritage or the Palestinian flag there would be some type of threat. Because the majority has the support of Israel and don't have the full legit story about what's happening in Gaza."

In New York City, a Palestinian restaurant, Ayat, was forced to disconnect its phone after receiving "nonstop" threatening voicemails, according to co-owner, Abdul Elenani. The storefront features a mural of a crying Palestinian and its menu includes calls to "end the occupation." On Friday, a man entered the dining room shouting "terrorist" at the people behind the counter, Elenani said.

War between Israel and Hamas raises fears about rising US hostility; The war between Israel and Hamas is raising fears about rising hostility across the United ....

Still, the hostile reception was overshadowed by the support he has received from his neighbors, many of whom are Jewish and share his views about minimizing civilian deaths, he said.

"In New York, we all live together, we work together, we grow together," Elenani said. "And we all want this violence to stop."

Ramer reported from Concord, New Hampshire. Associated Press writers Joey Cappelletti in Dearborn, Michigan; Deepa Bharath in Los Angeles; Jake Offenhartz, Noreen Nasir and Ayesha Mir and in New York; Marc Levy in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and Jim Salter in St. Louis, contributed to this report.

## Graphic

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A treehouse sits in the backyard of a home where a landlord stabbed a 6-year-old boy to death and seriously injured his 32-year-old mother Saturday after targeting them because they were Muslim, shown Sunday, Oct. 15, 2023, in Plainfield, Ill. According to the Will County Sheriff's Office the man was upset about the ongoing conflict involving Hamas and Israel. (Armando L. Sanchez/Chicago Tribune via AP)

**Load-Date:** October 20, 2023

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## War in the Middle East: Biden's ironclad backing for Israel, but with nuances and high risks in a region in turmoil

CE Noticias Financieras English

October 18, 2023 Wednesday

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**Length:** 1295 words

### **Body**

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WASHINGTON. Fully involved in the conflict **with Hamas**, U.S. President **Joe Biden** on Wednesday offered **strong support to Israel** in a speech in **Tel Aviv** in which he once again reaffirmed Washington's unwavering support for the Jewish State, condemned terrorism, called for the protection of civilians, advocated peace and announced the **delivery of humanitarian aid to the Palestinians in the Gaza** Strip amid a wave of anger in the region over the Israeli counteroffensive in which hundreds of civilians were killed.

**"I have come to Israel with one message, you are not alone. You are not alone," Biden began**, flanked by Israeli and U.S. flags. "As long as the United States is, and we will be forever, we **will not let you be alone**," the president reinforced.

**In an angry and inflamed region, Biden shielded Israel, the main ally of the United States in the region, drawing a delicate and very complicated balance with the Palestinian martyrdom to prevent an escalation** that, at times, seems irremediable. Biden sensibly qualified this support to Israel with **warnings and limits on its counter-offensive**, but the reading of his words could end up **inflaming the Middle East even more**.

Biden, who has always unequivocally supported Israel's right to defend itself, made two announcements: he announced that he will ask Congress for an **"unprecedented" military assistance package** to shore up Israeli forces, and at the same time he said that an agreement has been reached with Israel to open a **humanitarian corridor from Egypt to Gaza** for the civilian population and that the United States will provide 100 million dollars to **support one million refugees**.

Biden's speech closed a **whirlwind visit of less than eight hours to Israel** - he landed at 10:51 am (local time) at Ben Gurion Airport and at 6:15 pm he was already on his way back home aboard Air Force One - after the Israeli attack, which opened another violent and bloody chapter in the Middle East, on the brink of a new regional conflict.

**Biden's visit was disrupted by the explosion in a hospital in Gaza that left at least 500 dead**, according to Palestinian authorities, and unleashed on the responsibility for the tragedy. **Because of that attack, Jordan canceled a Biden summit with Arab leaders, including Palestinian National Authority (PNA) President Mahmoud Abbas**. Biden saw only Benjamin Netanyahu.

The reception of Biden set the mood in the region: while in Tel Aviv giant posters with the image of the head of the White House saying "Thank you, Mr. President" were seen in cities in Jordan, the West Bank, Egypt, Lebanon,

## War in the Middle East: Biden's ironclad backing for Israel, but with nuances and high risks in a region in turmoil

Turkey and Morocco, **violent protests and demonstrations against Israel and the United States** were seen in cities in Jordan, the West Bank, Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey and Morocco.

The original trip sought to offer support and solidarity to Israel, but at the same time to **avoid a regional escalation of the conflict by differentiating Hamas from the historical claim of the Palestinians** and also prioritizing the protection of civilians in Gaza, under bombardment and a "total siege" by Israel, which cut off water, electricity and medicines in the strip.

The attack on the Al-Ahli Baptist hospital altered the trip and unleashed furious protests that swept the world, but did not change much the White House discourse, **rooted in the unwavering support for Israel in this conflict**, although always remembering also that it must act as a democracy, and differentiating the Palestinian people from Hamas, a distinction for which Israel is accused of omitting.

In the face of global fury, Biden and his officials stood by Israel, blaming the hospital attack on an **"explosion"** and a **"dud rocket" fired from Gaza**.

**Such backing from Washington carries risks.** Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi warned on CNN of a growing perception in the Arab world of a war between the West and the Muslim world in the face of what many see as an **"ironclad endorsement" of Israel, without nuance.**

"People want to hear one thing and one thing only: **a decision to stop the war,**" he said.

Privately, **Biden and his team sought to temper the fury.** U.S. Secretary of State **Antony Blinken**, who has been on diplomatic efforts in the Middle East for several days, spoke with Abbas yesterday to express regret for the civilian lives lost in the hospital blast and "America's continued support for the Palestinian people."

**Blinken emphasized that Hamas does not represent the Palestinians or their legitimate aspirations,** the State Department said, a message Biden repeated in public.

### Signs of support

In his speech, Biden sought a balance. He **left several signals of support and expressions of solidarity and empathy to Israel for the brutal Hamas attack**, which left more than 1,400 dead and **199 hostages in the Gaza Strip**. He said it was the worst day for Jews since the Holocaust, which was tantamount to "fifteen 9/11s," and spoke of the pain, fury and horror sown by the attack. He pledged support and armaments, and asserted that **"the world will know that Israel is stronger than ever."** He also told Israelis that he will do everything in his power to ensure that the country returns "to being a safe place for the Jewish people".

But in the face of the civilian casualties left by the Israeli counteroffensive with bombings in Gaza - more than 3,000, according to Palestinian authorities, with more than 10,000 wounded - and criticism around the world of Israel's "total siege" of the enclave, **Biden also warned Israel "not to be consumed by rage" recalling the "mistakes" the United States made after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.**

"The State of Israel was born to be a safe space for the Jewish people of the world. It was born that way. For a long time it was said that if Israel did not exist, we would have to invent it. And although it may not seem like it today, **Israel must once again be a safe space for the Jewish people.** And I pledge to you that we will do everything in our power to make sure that it is," Biden said.

"But I caution you that while you feel that anger, don't be consumed by it. After 9/11, we in America felt anger. And while we sought justice and got justice, **we also made mistakes,**" he said.

Biden then left his message to the Palestinians. **"The vast majority of Palestinians are not Hamas. Hamas does not represent the Palestinian people,"** said the president, who remarked that **the terrorist group uses innocents in Gaza as human shields,** placing its command centers, weapons and communication tunnels in

War in the Middle East: Biden's ironclad backing for Israel, but with nuances and high risks in a region in  
turmoil

residential areas. "The Palestinian people are also suffering greatly," he acknowledged, and lamented the innocent Palestinian casualties.

**"The United States unequivocally stands for the protection of civilian life during conflict and I am sorry, truly sorry, for the families who were killed or injured in this tragedy.** The people of Gaza need food, water, medicine and shelter. Today I asked the Israeli cabinet to agree to deliver vital humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza," he said, and announced the opening of a corridor with Egypt.

**In closing, Biden reminded Israel that it is a democracy and, as such, must abide by the rules of war** and respect the dignity of life because that, he remarked, **is what separates democracies from terrorism.**

"They are a Jewish state, but they are also a democracy," Biden said. "Like the United States, **you don't live by the rules of terrorists, you live by the rule of law.** When conflict breaks out, you live by the rules of war. What sets us apart from terrorists is that we believe in the fundamental dignity of every human life, Israeli, Palestinian, Arab, Jew, Muslim, Christian, everyone. You can give up what makes you who you are. **If you give that up, then the terrorists will win.** And we can never let them win," he reinforced.

**Load-Date:** October 19, 2023

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Joe Biden tried to reassert US leadership in the Middle East, but left with fewer friends and greater risks

## Joe Biden tried to reassert US leadership in the Middle East, but left with fewer friends and greater risks

Analysis and Opinion

October 20, 2023 Friday

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**Length:** 1070 words

**Byline:** By former Middle East correspondent Eric Tlozek

**Highlight:** US President Joe Biden had hoped his Middle East visit would reinforce US leadership and calm a spiralling crisis in the wake of the Hamas terrorist attacks and Israel's bombing of Gaza. Instead it was derailed by the explosion at a Gaza hospital, writes Eric Tlozek.

### **Body**

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Joe Biden had hoped his Middle East visit would reinforce US leadership and calm a spiralling crisis in the wake of the Hamas terrorist attacks and Israel's bombing of Gaza.

Instead, it was derailed by the explosion at a Gaza hospital that, in an extraordinary snub, saw key Arab leaders spurn a summit with the US commander in chief.

While the White House said the cancellation of a meeting in Jordan between Mr Biden and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Egypt's Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Jordan's King Abdullah was "mutual", the language from those countries was telling.

"There is no use in talking now about anything except stopping the war," Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi told state television, signalling there was ongoing frustration with the US approach.

As violent protests outside Israeli and US embassies raged across the Middle East and the wider world, it was clear the governments of Arab countries wanted to distance themselves from America's whole-hearted support of Israel.

Egypt's president had already told US Secretary of State Antony Blinken that Israel's reaction in Gaza had "gone beyond the right to self-defence".

In Lebanon, protests rocked Beirut and the Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah traded fire with Israeli forces on the country's southern border.

There are also signs of growing regional unrest.

The United States Navy said one of its warships off Yemen shot down three cruise missiles and several drones that appeared to be heading north towards Israel, with the Pentagon blaming pro-Iranian Houthi rebels.

Joe Biden tried to reassert US leadership in the Middle East, but left with fewer friends and greater risks

In Iraq, three drones launched by Iranian-backed militias attacked two US bases, injuring three servicemen.

US forces said they also brought down two drones targeting a base in eastern Syria on Wednesday.

These could be the first steps towards a conflict across the Middle East, with some analysts suggesting Iran is already telling groups it supports to get ready.

"Many signs indicate that Iraq's 'resistance' militias are in fact preparing for a regional war in which they will support Hamas and Iran," Amir al Kaabi, Hamdi Malik and Michael Knights wrote for the Washington Institute think tank.

The US has taken such threats seriously, moving two aircraft carrier groups to the waters off Israel and Lebanon in a sizeable show of force.

On return, in a televised address to the nation, Mr Biden linked his support for Israel to US military aid to Ukraine, saying maintaining America's commitments is vital to its national security.

"The assault on Israel echoes nearly 20 months of war, tragedy and brutality inflicted on the people of Ukraine," he said.

"Hamas and [Russian President Vladimir] Putin represent different threats but they share this in common – they both want to annihilate a neighbouring democracy."

US support for Israel, which includes military aid and intelligence, is no surprise and is consistent with its longstanding approach to the Middle East.

What's different this time is the public reaction.

The US State Department took the unusual step of issuing a worldwide travel warning for Americans abroad, citing increased risks of attacks on US citizens and interests.

There are wider implications for the US in the Middle East, said Robert Bowker, a former Australian ambassador to Egypt and Jordan who also worked in Gaza with UNRWA, the UN's relief agency for Palestinian refugees.

"This event has triggered an upsurge [of unrest] which has clearly had an impact on the sense of security of regional leaderships," Dr Bowker said.

"It would have made sense for the leaders of Jordan, Egypt and the Palestinian Authority to meet with Biden in Amman but knowing they were unlikely to get from Biden anything that satisfied the concerns of their own populations ... they chose to stay away.

"That is a clear indication that the Biden approach has simply failed to read the mood both on the street and in the palaces of the Arab world.

"If we want our values to be respected we have to uphold them ourselves in practice and Biden has failed to do that and Australia has also fallen short on that score."

Recent US-backed efforts to get Middle Eastern states to recognise Israel, which have led to historic ties with the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Morocco and an increasingly likely move by Saudi Arabia, have, at best, stalled.

The UAE was among the first countries to condemn Israel after the blast at al-Ahli hospital, and Morocco and Saudi Arabia followed soon after, with protesters in major Moroccan cities demanding the country rescind its recent recognition of Israel.

The risks will only increase when Israel begins a ground offensive in Gaza, something that conjures memories of devastating urban warfare in the Iraqi cities of Mosul and Fallujah.

Joe Biden tried to reassert US leadership in the Middle East, but left with fewer friends and greater risks

"I would have preferred that Biden in Israel had delivered a firm message to the Israelis that the support they could expect from the United States and from Western countries and in the Arab world for a land-based campaign in Gaza has been severely truncated by the Hamas attack and Israel's immediate response to it," Dr Bowker said.

"If Israel goes ahead with an assault under these circumstances I believe it could only be sustained for a very short period before the cost to America's allies in Jordan and elsewhere becomes unacceptable in Washington.

"A short-term assault with no political objective to be gained from it will almost certainly rebound as a victory for Hamas."

Michael Fullilove, the executive director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, told the ABC the Gaza crisis had global political implications.

"Meanwhile, Moscow and Beijing are attempting to use the conflict to undermine America's global position, distract attention and resources from Ukraine's resistance to Russia's unlawful invasion, and cast themselves as leaders of the global south," he said.

"From Australia's point of view, the conflict will make it harder for our ally, the United States, to continue to wind down its presence in the Middle East in order to focus on the China challenge.

But Dr Fullilove was not critical of Mr Biden's approach.

"On the other hand, the way that events are unfolding demonstrates America's continuing centrality in the global system and President Biden has performed strongly, delivering several powerful speeches and travelling to Israel to demonstrate public support while also urging caution," he said

"This week, Biden's half-century of experience seems like an asset."

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## Strike on Gaza Hospital Sparks Protests Across Mideast

Voice of America News

October 18, 2023

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### **Body**

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October 18, 2023 6:28 PM

Protests erupted Wednesday throughout the Middle East against Israel and its key ally, the United States, after an explosion killed hundreds of Palestinians at a Gaza hospital in the single deadliest incident of the Israel-Hamas war.

Israeli forces killed two Palestinian teenagers near Ramallah in the West Bank during protests over Tuesday night's blast at the Gaza hospital, Palestinian officials said.

Lebanese broadcaster al-Jadeed showed security forces in Lebanon firing tear gas and water cannons at protesters who were throwing projectiles in a violent protest near the U.S. Embassy north of Beirut.

Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group called for a "day of rage" on Wednesday in condemnation of the strike on the hospital.

"America is the devil, the real devil, because it supported Israel, and then all the world is blind. You don't see what happened yesterday?" said Lebanese demonstrator Mohammed Taher.

Palestinian officials blamed an Israeli strike for the explosion at the hospital, while Israel said the blast was caused by a failed rocket launch by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group, which denied blame.

U.S. President Joe Biden, on a visit to Tel Aviv to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, sided with the Israeli explanation for the explosion and vowed continued U.S. support for the Jewish state in its fight against Hamas militants.

State-sponsored marches were held across Iran, which has financially supported Hamas, with demonstrators carrying banners that read "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

"Every drop of blood of Palestinians killed in this war, brings the Zionist regime (Israel) closer to its downfall," Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said in a televised speech.

In Iraq, about 300 supporters of Iran-backed Shiite militia groups protested near a bridge that leads to the fortified Green Zone, home to the U.S. Embassy and other foreign missions.

"Americans must know that their support to the terrorist Israel will bring them defeat and devastation," said militia member Said Ali Akbar, waving a Palestinian flag.

## Strike on Gaza Hospital Sparks Protests Across Mideast

In Amman, Jordanian protesters planning to march on the heavily fortified Israeli Embassy were pushed back by riot police. Police said several officers were injured in clashes with protesters who set property afire near the embassy.

"No Zionist embassy on Arab land," demonstrators chanted after noon prayers.

In Tunis, protesters burned Israeli and American flags and demanded the expulsion of the U.S. and French ambassadors for what they said was their unconditional support for Israel.

Palestinians "have no food or water, and they are getting bombed. This is genocide, not war. This is a crime. We must find a solution," said Ines Laswed, a demonstrator.

The protesters shouted slogans backing Hamas, including "Revenge ... revenge ... Oh Hamas, bomb Tel Aviv."

In Yemen, thousands marched in the capital Sanaa. Mohammed Ali Al-Rammah of the ruling Houthi movement denounced what he called Israeli lies and hatred.

Some information for this report came from The Associated Press, Agence France-Presse and Reuters.

**Load-Date:** October 19, 2023

## **PM Modi condoles loss of lives in explosion at hospital in Gaza**

The Indian Awaaz

October 18, 2023 Wednesday

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### **Body**

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NEW DELHI, Oct. 18 -- Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the loss of lives in an explosion at a hospital in Gaza, saying he was deeply shocked by the incident. He also expressed his concern over the mounting civilian casualties in the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict.

Taking to his official handle on X, he asked for the responsible parties involved in the attack to be held accountable. Responding to the attack on a Gaza hospital, US President Joe Biden also said that the incident was outrageous and deeply saddening.

The US President called up Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jordan's King Abdullah II regarding the attack. After the strike, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas immediately cancelled the planned meeting with US President Joe Biden. Jordan's King Abdullah also called off the summit that was supposed to bring Biden together with Egyptian and Palestinian leaders. US President Joe Biden will now only visit Israel. French President Emmanuel Macron also condemned the attack on the hospital, saying that the attack on civilians cannot be justified.

Initial reports suggest that the attack on the Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital in Gaza City resulted in 200 to 300 fatalities.

Violent protests erupt across Arab world

Meanwhile Violent protests have erupted across the Arab world amid a wave of anger after a bombing on a Gaza hospital killed at least 200 Palestinians on Tuesday evening.

Demonstrators have stormed the Israeli consulate in Jordan while Western embassies have been targeted in Turkey, Tunisia and Lebanon, with rioting also breaking out in the West Bank.

In Iran, hundreds of protesters gathered outside the British and French embassies in the early hours of Wednesday morning, chanting "death to France and England". Some people threw eggs at the walls of the French embassy compound.

There have also been protests overnight in Libya, Morocco, Yemen and Iraq and, beyond the Arab world, in the Netherlands, Colombia and Puerto Rico.

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PM Modi condoles loss of lives in explosion at hospital in Gaza

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