

'71 Killed Since Ceasefire' UN Concerned About Israeli Strikes on Civilians in Lebanon

GENEVA (Dispatches) – Zionist troops have killed dozens of civilians in Lebanon since a ceasefire took effect late last year, including a number of women and children, the United Nations said Tuesday.

The UN rights office reported that the Zionist regime's military operations had killed and injured civilians in Lebanon in the four months since the fragile truce between Israel and Hezbollah resistance movement on November 27.

"According to our initial review, at least 71 civilians have been killed by Israeli forces in Lebanon since the ceasefire came into effect," rights office spokesman Thameen al-Kheetan told reporters in Geneva.

"Among the victims are 14 women and 9 children," he said, urging that "the violence must stop immediately."

The delicate truce between Israel and Hezbollah came after more



People walk past debris at a site targeted on April 8, 2025, by an Israeli air strike in Hawsh Tal Safiyeh near Baalbek in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

than a year of Zionist aggression, including two months of war when Israel also sent in ground troops.

But months after the agreed end to fighting, Kheetan warned that people in Lebanon "remain gripped by fear, and over 92,000 are still

displaced from their homes."

The rights office noted that Israeli strikes on Lebanese territory had hit civilian infrastructure since the ceasefire, including residential buildings, medical facilities, roads and at least one cafe.

The southern suburbs of Beirut were also hit in early April for the first time since the ceasefire took effect, in two different incidents, Kheetan said, adding that the area targeted was near two schools.

"A strike on a residential building in the early morning of April 1 killed two civilians and caused significant damage to neighboring buildings," he said.

Two days later, "Israeli airstrikes hit a newly established medical center run by the Islamic Health Society in Naqoura in southern Lebanon, completely destroying the center and damaging two ambulances," he said.

He added that "multiple Israeli airstrikes on several towns in the south of Lebanon reportedly killed at least six people" between April 4 and 8.

The Zionist regime had also faced attacks since the truce took effect, Kheetan said.

Leader...

(Continued From Page One)

He said while lifting sanctions is beyond Iran's control, neutralizing their impact is within the capacity of its power. "Achieving this will render the country invulnerable to sanctions."

Ayatollah Khamenei also underscored the importance of expanding relations with neighboring countries as well as economic groups in Asia and Africa and beyond.

The Leader further commended President Masoud Pezeshkian's engagements with other heads of state and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its effective diplomacy, describing them as very good and impactful.

IRGC...

(Continued From Page One)

on the nuclear issue and the removal of U.S. sanctions, and has repeatedly rejected negotiations regarding any of its defense capabilities, such as its ballistic missile program.

U.S. envoy to the region Steve Witkoff told Fox News on Monday that the talks will focus on U.S. demands for oversight on Iranian uranium enrichment.

"[Iran] does not need to enrich past 3.67 percent. In some circumstances, they're at 60 percent, in other circumstances 20 percent. That cannot be ... You do not need to run – as they claim – a civil nuclear program where you're enriching past 3.67 percent," Witkoff said.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Monday that negotiations with the U.S. will continue indirectly, and called on Washington to stop taking "contradictory" positions by calling for direct talks and at the same time maintaining sanctions and threats against Iran.

The next round of U.S.–Iran talks will be held on April 19, and will again be hosted by Oman, the Iranian Foreign Ministry said, according to IRNA.

Zionist...

(Continued From Page One)

They were referring to Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu's insistence on continuing the brutal genocide against Palestinians in Gaza.

In response, Israeli chief of staff Eyal Zamir dismissed active-duty reservists who had signed the petition.

Netanyahu supported the dismissal, claiming that the petition was written by a "small group of radicals, operated by foreign-funded organizations" who are trying to "overthrow" his cabinet.

Separate petitions were signed by some 150 retired naval officers, over 250 reservists and veterans of the military's Unit 8200, and 1,525 Armored Corps veterans, including former prime minister and chief of staff Ehud Barak.

About 500 entrepreneurs, investors and workers from Israel's high-tech sector, as well as 2,000 Israeli military doctors, and more than 6,000 academics and education officials also wrote similar letters.

Other petitions were signed by hundreds of veterans from Israel's Mossad and Shin Bet spy agencies, along with over 1,500 veterans of the Israeli military's infantry units, the paratroopers and special forces.

The Zionist regime launched its deadly bombing campaign on the Gaza Strip on October 7, 2023, after the Hamas resistance group carried out a historic operation against the usurping entity in retaliation for its intensified atrocities against the Palestinian people.

In its operation, Hamas took 251 Zionists captive, 58 of whom now remain in Gaza, including the bodies of at least 34 confirmed dead by the occupation's military. Several of

the captives have been killed in the regime's strikes on the besieged territory.

On Tuesday, the armed wing of Hamas said it had lost contact with a group of resistance fighters holding Israeli-American captive Edan Alexander in the Gaza Strip.

Abu Ubaida, the armed wing's spokesperson, said on the Telegram that it lost contact after the Israeli military attacked the place where the fighters were holding Alexander, who is a New Jersey native and a 21-year-old soldier in the Zionist army.

The armed wing later released a video warning captives families that their "children will return in black coffins with their bodies torn apart from shrapnel from your army".

Hamas has previously blamed Israel for the deaths of captives held in Gaza, including as a direct result of military aggression.

President Donald Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff told reporters at the White House in March that gaining the release of Alexander, believed to be the last living American captive held by Hamas in Gaza, was a "top priority for us".

The Tikva Forum, a group representing some family members of those held in Gaza, had said earlier on Tuesday that Alexander was among up to 10 captives who could be released by Hamas if a new ceasefire was reached.

On Saturday Hamas released a video purportedly showing Alexander, who has been held in Gaza since he was captured by Palestinian fighters on October 7, 2023.

Chinese...

(Continued From Page 2)

He sharply criticized Washington's approach, saying the United States bore full responsibility for the current impasse following its unilateral withdrawal from the JCPOA.

Accordingly, he warned that without genuine commitment from Washington, diplomatic efforts would remain fruitless.

"Dialogue is always better than confrontation. But is this dialogue meaningful? That must be carefully examined."

He emphasized that Iran had remained committed to diplomacy, while it was the United States that had to prove its sincerity and uphold the principle of mutual respect.

Cong, meanwhile, warned against attempts to bypass diplomatic channels through institutions like the United Nations Security Council.

Referring to an initiative forwarded by China on the issue, he expressed strong opposition to the re-imposition of Security Council mechanisms such as the so-called "snapback" that would return the Council's sanctions against the Islamic Republic, arguing that such moves sabotaged confidence-building efforts.

"Resorting to the snapback mechanism renders diplomatic efforts useless, and we must be cautious in this regard."

The envoy also took aim at Washington's broader geopolitical behavior, saying Beijing would not be swayed by external pressures and was committed to confronting global bullying.

"We stand firm to stop the 'powerful' and take necessary actions to confront U.S. bullying," he asserted. "This is not only to protect China's rights, but also to safeguard the shared interests of the international community."

He warned against a return to "a jungle-like world where the strong prey on the weak," stressing that both China and Iran advocated for globalization, free trade, and a fair international order.

"We both seek to resist U.S. hegemony and are willing to work with Iran to take measures against U.S. bullying and unilateralism, and to support fairness and international justice."

Hamas Rejects Truce Proposal That Calls on Palestinian Groups to 'Surrender'

GAZA (Dispatches) – Hamas has rejected a ceasefire proposal that would see all armed groups in Gaza "surrender" to the Zionist regime, with the Palestinian movement accusing the occupying regime's prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu of sabotaging efforts to broker a truce and end the 18-month war.

Senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told Al Jazeera Arabic that the group was "open to all offers that alleviate the suffering of our people", but the latest draft Israeli proposal was demanding Palestinians agree to a "surrender."

"Netanyahu is setting impossible conditions to sabotage the ceasefire agreement," Abu Zuhri said. "In its latest proposal, the occupa-

tion [the Zionist regime] does not commit to a full cessation of war - it only wants to receive the captives. We are ready to release all the living and dead captives at once in exchange for ending the war and withdrawal from the Gaza Strip," he said. "Surrender is not an option for the Hamas movement, and we will not accept breaking the will of our people... Hamas will not surrender, will not raise the white flag, and will use all pressure cards against the occupation," he added.

According to the draft Israeli ceasefire proposal, a copy of which was seen by Middle East Eye, the initiative calls for 45 days of calm that would see all Israeli captives released as part of a phased deal.

The proposal, which comprises 12

points, said half of the Israeli captives need to be freed in the first week in exchange for food and aid to enter the war-battered enclave.

A senior member of Islamic Jihad also said that disarming the resistance movements in occupied Palestine and handing over their weapons to the "Zionist enemy" signals "complete surrender" and gives the "green light for the extermination of the Palestinian people."

Ihsan Ataya told Al-Resalah Net that even if this were to happen, it would not mean an end to the brutal aggression against the Palestinians in Gaza. The member of the movement's Political Bureau said that it would not only signify acceptance of the genocide and forced displacement to which the Palestinian people

have been subjected for decades, but also encourage the occupation regime to continue its massacres and put more pressure on the Palestinian people to displace them from their land.

"The Zionist enemy does not abide by any agreement or guarantees, as experience has proven, the most recent of which is its violation of the ceasefire agreement despite guarantees from three countries," said Ataya. He pointed out that what happened with the Oslo Accords, and what is happening today in the West Bank and Al-Quds, shows clearly that the occupation regime does not respect agreements, does not abide by any international commitments, and does not respect any country in the world.

UAE Reportedly Deploys Israeli Radar Off Yemen Coast as Red Sea Tensions Rise

DUBAI (Dispatches) – The UAE has reportedly deployed an advanced Israeli-made radar system in the Puntland region of north-eastern Somalia, intensifying concerns over Abu Dhabi's growing military footprint in the Horn of Africa.

Open-source intelligence and aerial imagery confirm that the ELM-2084 3D AESA multi-mission radar — manufactured by Israeli defense firm ELTA, a subsidiary of Israel Aerospace Industries — has been installed near Bosaso Airport, adjacent to the UAE-run Bosaso Air Base.

The radar, integral to the Zionist regime's Iron Dome system, is capable of detecting missiles, drones and artillery threats. Sources say that the UAE is using the system to monitor Yemeni

ballistic missile and drone launches toward Israeli targets and shipping routes in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

Bulgarian Military notes that this development is part of a broader UAE-Israel security arrangement, particularly since the 2020 Abraham Accords.

Abu Dhabi has also pledged to establish a military base for Israel in Somaliland by mid-2024, reportedly offering support for international recognition of the breakaway state in exchange for allowing the Zionist regime's deployment near the Bab Al-Mandab Strait.

The radar's placement in Puntland — rather than federal Somali territory — highlights ongoing tensions between the semi-autonomous region and the central government in Mogadishu. The

UAE's direct military dealings with Puntland's leadership have fuelled speculation that it may be supporting the region's push for greater autonomy.

Observers warn that this move echoes Cold War-era tactics, where foreign powers backed local factions to secure access to strategic waterways. The Gulf of Aden and Red Sea have become flashpoints amid the Zionist regime's ongoing war on Gaza and retaliatory solidarity attacks by Yemen's Ansarullah armed forces.

Yemen's Health Ministry said on Monday 370 civilians, mostly women and children, have been killed and wounded in strikes launched by the United States on the impoverished country in support of Israel.

The ministry said the U.S. strikes on

civilian facilities in Yemen have killed 123 people and injured 247 others since March 16.

The ministry condemned the "blatant U.S. aggression against the homeland and its targeting of civilian objects and civilians through direct bombardment", including the attacks on a factory in the capital Sana'a on Sunday night.

Noting that six people were killed and 30 others wounded, including five children, in the attack, the ministry described it as "a full-fledged war crime" and "a flagrant violation of all international laws and conventions".

It urged Arab and Islamic nations as well as human rights organizations to take to the streets to decry the U.S. crimes against the Yemeni people.

Report: U.S. Gov't Case Against Mahmoud Khalil Lacks Solid Evidence

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – Mahmoud Khalil, a former Columbia University student and Palestinian activist facing deportation following his arrest on campus, has submitted evidence challenging the U.S. government's allegations, according to an NBC report.

In the deportation case against Khalil, the government submitted extensive documents, but his legal team responded with evidence such as his residency application, media coverage and work history, while highlighting flaws in the government's claims, including reliance on unverified tabloid sources and conflicting timelines, Anadolu Agency reports.

The Trump administration, which has targeted politically active international students, has made shifting allegations against Khalil, including claims he lied on his residency application, a charge that could lead to deportation.

Government officials accused Khalil of engaging in "activities aligned with Hamas", claiming his activism made Jewish students feel unsafe and that his presence "would have serious ad-

verse foreign policy consequences for the United States", though no evidence was provided.

A U.S. immigration judge ruled last week that Khalil can be deported under a rarely used federal law, at the discretion of Secretary of State, Marco Rubio.

Khalil's attorney submitted evidence, including a CNN article, to refute allegations of anti-Semitism, citing his statement that Palestinian and Jewish liberation are linked and anti-Semitism has no place in his movement.

Rubio's memo, the government's main evidence, argued that while Khalil's actions may be lawful, letting Khalil stay would undermine efforts to combat anti-Semitism and protect Jewish students from harassment and violence.

The government's case includes Khalil's March 2024 residency application, which lists his past role at the British Embassy in Beirut. It alleged he omitted continued employment beyond 2022, citing a profile for the 2025 Society for International Development conference that mistakenly stated he still works for the organization.

The British government, however, confirmed he had not worked there for more than two years.

The government accused Khalil of failing to disclose his 2023 role as a "political affairs officer" at United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, (UNRWA) and involvement with Columbia University Apartheid Divest (CUAD), citing his LinkedIn profile and articles.

UNRWA confirmed Khalil completed a six-month unpaid internship, not a staff position, and there is no "Political Affairs Officer" title at the agency. Khalil's legal team submitted evidence, including letters from UNRWA and Columbia University, confirming his internship and academic credits.

The government used articles from the New York Post, Times of India and the Washington Free Beacon newspapers to claim Khalil omitted his involvement with CUAD in his residency application. The articles were published after his application submission. A March 2025 New York Post article accused Khalil of leading CUAD.