As Iran’s proxy strategy weakens, focus shifts to nuclear program

written by Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser | 16.10.2024

Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser: Hezbollah has been significantly weakened and this undermines Iran’s deterrence and could prompt the regime to explore the nuclear option as a form of ultimate deterrence.

In light of Israeli successes, and in light of the fact that Trump could win the U.S. elections [scheduled for less than a month from now], this could strengthen those [in Iran] who support a breakout now. At the same time, they also have considerations that pull them in the opposite direction. Even if they discussed this, there is no expression that, at this time, they took a certain decision to move forward.

It’s a very high risk, especially in the current environment.

Published in JNS, October 16, 2024.



U.S. Pressure: A Lifeline for Hamas at Israel’s Expense

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 16.10.2024

Ruth Wasserman Lande: The American elections are extremely challenging and sensitive. Does Israel need the United States by its side? Yes, it does. Is the United States currently sending a problematic message to Israel, preventing it from fully succeeding? Yes, it is. One of the main examples, aside from Iran, is in the Gaza Strip. If the United States had allowed Israel to act decisively and much earlier, it would have been the only leverage, aside from military force, that could push Hamas to release the hostages. Instead, American pressure is essentially providing Hamas with a lifeline, allowing them to steal humanitarian aid, sustain

themselves, and continue engaging in terrorism, rather than creating sustainable sources of income for the people.

The interview took place on the I24 channel in English on October 16, 2024.

I expects Israel to strike Iran’s nuclear sites

written by Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser | 16.10.2024
Brig. Gen. (res.) Yossi Kuperwasser: I expects Israel to strike Iranian nuclear sites in one of its “rounds” of attacks against Iran. Not only do I expect that, but I expect the international community to support us.

I believe this is true, because everybody has to understand this is not going to be a one-time attack by Israel.

Given Israel will be launching multiple rounds of attacks against Iran, we have to make sure the Americans know we are attentive to their concerns about wide-scale regional war.

The nuclear sites will have to be dealt with in the next round, if it’s not going to be dealt with this round.

Published in BBC, October 15, 2024.



The latest on Hezbollah, Iran and the role of UNIFIL

written by Arsen Ostrovsky | 16.10.2024

Arsen Ostrovsky: Hezbollah is not the Salvation Army. They are a genocidal terror group, sworn to Israel’s destruction and acting at the behest of the Iran regime. And that they are doing all this right under the noses of UNIFIL.

The interview took place on Sky News (Australia), October 14, 2024.

Israel’s actions against Iran will depend on the level of cooperation between Israel and the USA

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: Israel’s actions against Iran and the targets it chooses will depend on the level of cooperation between Israel and the United States. If Israel is able to reach an understanding with the U.S. regarding the destruction of Iran’s nuclear infrastructure—whether not in the initial phase of operations, but perhaps after Iran’s response—I assume that Israel will target military assets, and possibly symbolic targets as well, during the next stage of operations. However, if Israel is unable to reach an understanding with the U.S. by November 5th, the day of the U.S. presidential election, I assume Israel will proceed independently, targeting a broader range of sites, including Iran’s nuclear infrastructure.

The interview took place on the ILTV channel on october 13, 2024.

Why Israeli Forces Returned to Jabaliya?

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: There were reports about a month ago that Hamas has earned as much as $500,000 by selling the humanitarian aid it looted from the international organizations. With this money, it pays salaries to its remaining members and manages to mobilize new ones.

Hamas continues to take control of at least 50 percent of all the humanitarian aid that enters Gaza. The trucks with humanitarian aid are inspected by Israel before they enter the Gaza Strip. Once they are on the other side of the fence, they are supposed to be taken over by international organizations that distribute the aid.

But these organizations are not able to manage the enormous amount of aid that is being sent to Gaza.

Col. (res.) Prof. Gabi Siboni: It’s a strategic failure of the IDF that it refused to take control over the aid distribution, and the strategic failure of the international community which insists on delivering humanitarian aid to zones of the Strip where the IDF had ordered the civilians to evacuate.

Humanitarian aid should not at all be heading towards the north of the Strip, where the IDF ordered the civilians to evacuate to the south.

Published in TPS, October 13, 2024.



Is a shift in China’s rhetoric on Israel a policy change, or ‘wishful thinking?’

written by Joseph Rozen | 16.10.2024

Joseph Rozen: I agree with the general view that China is always trying to find the opportunity to work with different parties, but it doesn’t mean there was a more dramatic shift in its position vis-a-vis Israel.

China seeks to be “a global player that can talk with everyone, but its main interest is to compete with the U.S. Therefore, I try not to describe its position as anti-Israel, but more anti-American. They’re using the situation in the Middle East” to create problems for Washington.

Published in JewishInsider, October 11, 2024.



Israel Moves Toward All-Out War-With UNRWA

written by Prof. Kobi Michael | 16.10.2024

Prof. Kobi Michael: The entire Israeli strategy is totally different from what we knew before. It's not a question of being aggressive. It's a question of being much more determined and understanding that enough is enough and we don't have to tolerate this situation. If before Oct. 7, the Israeli strategy was to create change of a first order—which means to accept the existing system and try to make changes to the existing system—now the strategy is to create change of a second order, which means to change the entire system, to change the rules of the game, to change the existing balance of power.

In this regard there is also an opportunity to change the situation of the Palestinian refugees on the ground.

Published in The Washington Free Beacon, October 11, 2024.



‘Our enemies’ core assumptions have been shattered’

written by Meir Ben Shabbat | 16.10.2024

Hezbollah and Iran have been surprised by Israel’s ability to fight a long, multi-front war with growing success, former Israeli national security adviser Meir Ben Shabbat tells JNS.

Published in JNS, October 10, 2024.



Hezbollah hints at ceasefire

written by Ruth Wasserman Lande | 16.10.2024

Hezbollah hints at ceasefire after firing 13,000 rockets, missiles & drones at Israel's people – for a whole year. In this Daily Briefing, Citizen Spokeswoman Ruth Wasserman Lande explains what Hezbollah means and what will happen next.

October 9, 2024.

https://youtu.be/01clPNZD4tA