

September 2024 Israel-Lebanon Update

October 2, 2024



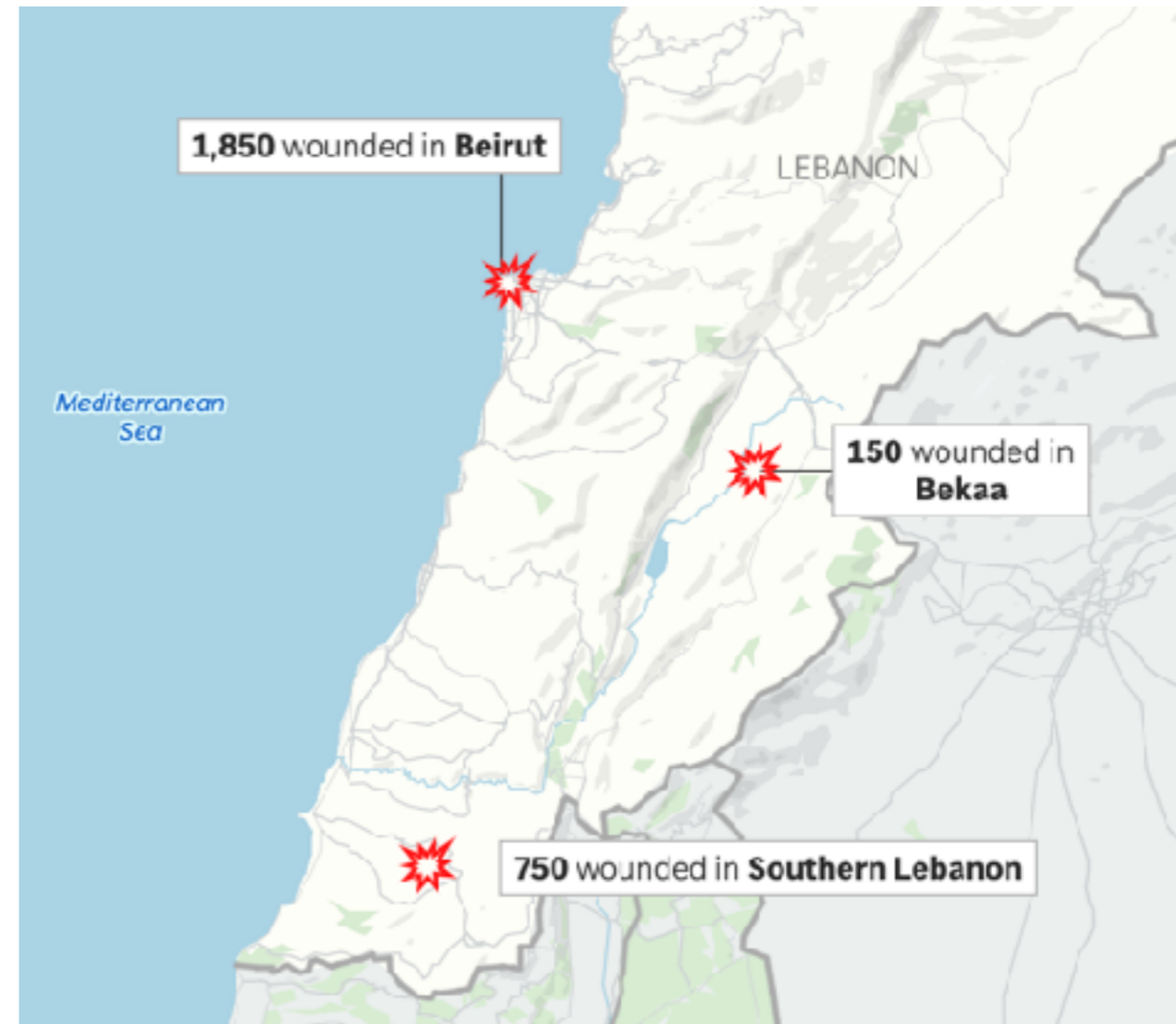
Background

- Since October 7, 2023 **Hezbollah fired ~9,000 rockets, missiles, and attack drones** into Israel, mostly into Northern Israel. The Lebanese Government says **over 1,500 Lebanese terrorists and civilians have died** since October 7, 2024. For 11 months the IDF responded with restraint, attacking Hezbollah positions, terrorists, and weapons caches nearly exclusively in Southern Lebanon. Most strikes were conducted by the Israeli Air Force, although some 70 IDF raids just inside Lebanon occurred. 70,000-100,000 Israeli residents of Northern Israel were displaced because of October 7, 2023 while over 100,000 Lebanese fled to Syria and many more were internally displaced.
- September 16: The Israeli government made **"the safe return of residents to the north of the country" an official goal of the war.** This led to a change of Israeli strategy from aggressive defense to a strategy of offense with an operation called "Northern Arrows."



September 17 & 18: Hezbollah's Beepers Explode

- At 3:30pm, **3,000-4,000 pagers used by Hezbollah operatives in Lebanon and Syria exploded simultaneously**, killing at least 9 people and injuring 3,000, including Iran's Ambassador to Lebanon. Israel's Mossad spy agency had planted a small amount of explosives inside 5,000 Taiwan-made pagers ordered by Hezbollah.
- At 5pm, approximately **1,000 Hezbollah walkie talkies exploded** across the country in a second wave of attack. In response to the attacks, Hezbollah began to double its daily artillery strikes onto Northern Israel.



Results of the beeper explosions.

September 20: Hezbollah's Radwan Force Decimated

- The **IDF struck a meeting of Hezbollah's elite Radwan Force** in the Dahya suburb of Beirut, killing 14 commanders including **Ibrahim Aqil, a senior Hezbollah leader.**
- **Aqil was the 2nd in command of Hezbollah's armed forces and head of all of its operations** who had a \$7M reward on his head from the US government for his involvement in the 1983 attacks at the US Embassy and Marine Corps barracks. Hezbollah unsuccessfully tried to respond by firing rockets at Tel Aviv.



Senior Hezbollah leader Ibrahim Aqil, Deputy Commander of Hezbollah's Armed Forces.

September 23: Lebanese Residents Warned to Evacuate

- For the first time, **the IDF warned civilians in Southern and Eastern Lebanon to evacuate** via Arabic spokespeople and by sending 80,000 text and voice messages to Lebanese mobile phones. Residents of specific buildings in Dahya suburb of Beirut received warnings that the buildings concealed Hezbollah weapons and they needed to evacuate.
- **The Israeli Air Force conducted 650 sorties attacking 1,100 Hezbollah targets**, including weapons caches and rocket launchers. In response, Hezbollah fired more rockets into Israel, including at Haifa.



September 24-26: Lebanese Residents Warned to Evacuate, Israeli Air Force Attacks

- September 24: **Israeli Air Force conducted 600 strikes against Hezbollah targets**, including killing Ibrahim Qabisi, Commander of Hezbollah's Missiles and Rocket force who was also in charge of the abduction of 3 Israeli soldiers in 2000.
- September 25 & 26: The Israeli Air Force conducted 220-250 strikes daily against Hezbollah targets while Hezbollah fired 150-300 rockets at Israel each day.



Hezbollah Commander Ibrahim
Muhammad Qabisi

September 27: Hassan Nasrallah Eliminated

- The **IDF struck Hezbollah headquarters in the Dahya suburb of Beirut with 80 bombs, killing Hassan Nasrallah,** Hezbollah's supreme political and military leader and General Secretary since 1992, and Ali Karki, the commander of Hezbollah's Southern command.

White House: **"Hassan Nasrallah and the terrorist group he led, Hezbollah, were responsible for killing hundreds of Americans"**



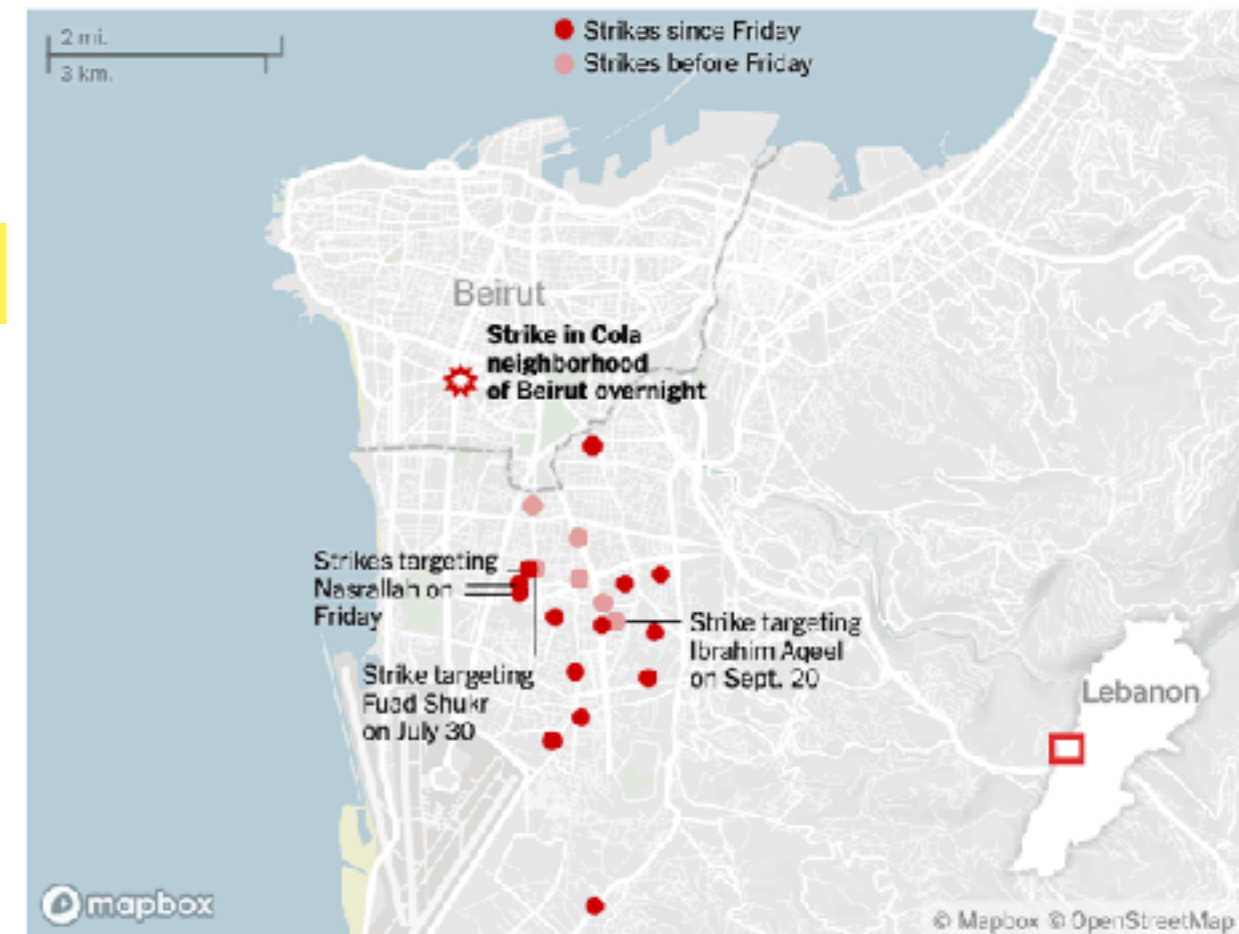
Hassan Nasrallah, General Secretary of Hezbollah prior to his death.

September 28-30: Commando Raids, Beirut Attacked, and the IDF Enters Lebanon

- **IDF commandos begin raids into Lebanon** to prepare territory for a ground invasion.
- The **IDF attacked the center of Beirut for the first time since 2006**, killing PFLP terrorist organization operatives. The IDF also killed **Hamas terrorist Fateh Sharif who was a UNRWA employee and Chairman of the UNRWA teachers union**.
- **IDF forces entered Lebanon** with the mission of destroying Hezbollah infrastructure, weapons, and terrorists along the Lebanon-Israel border. The Deputy Leader of Hezbollah, Sheikh Naim Kassem, addressed Hezbollah's followers and promised a new leader would be announced soon.

Strike in Beirut's Cola neighborhood

The strike appeared to be Israel's first in central Beirut since 2006.



Note: Locations are not comprehensive. Locations were verified through videos and photographs or were reported by the Israeli military. By Lauren Leatherby, Sanjana Varghese and Aric Toler

About the Council for a Secure America

The cornerstones of American national security are: a strong military, a vibrant economy, enduring alliances, and American ingenuity. The Council for Secure America was founded on the premise that American energy independence, in all of its forms, is the underpinning for U.S. security.

For decades, American foreign policy was forced to make concessions to foreign nations who fueled its economy. In 2019, thanks to the innovation of American energy producers, the United States achieved energy independence. This accomplishment made America the leading energy producer in the world, fortifying its national security and buttressing geo-political stability in the Middle East.

Amongst America's many allies, the US-Israel partnership is a strategic, long-lasting and ongoing bilateral alliance. Energy independence has only strengthened it.

CSA educates key audiences on the importance of domestic energy production and technologies to American and Israeli mutual national security interests.

Moreover, American energy statecraft has reshuffled the geopolitical landscape and sowed the seeds of peace in the Middle East, enabling old adversaries to become allies. In 2020, the United States brokered the Abraham Accords—promoting unprecedented normalization and multilateral ties between its closest ally, Israel, and Arab States including the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, Sudan, and the Kingdom of Morocco.

CSA champions the ideals of the Abraham Accords and their critical impact on geopolitical security and global trade. CSA is advancing these partnerships and is committed to bringing multi-faceted awareness to complex and evolving challenges.



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