ISRAEL’S MULTI-FRONT THREATS

IRAN • GAZA • LEBANON • YEMEN • WEST BANK • SYRIA • IRAQ

THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Iran and its terrorist proxies are waging a multi-front war against the Jewish state.

Since the October 7 massacre, Iran and its proxies have attacked Israel from seven fronts: Gaza, Lebanon, the West Bank, Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Iran.

As Iran dramatically advances its nuclear program, it is also continuing to fund terror throughout the region, threatening Israelis, Americans and international commerce.

America must stand with our ally Israel and confront the serious threats posed by Iran and its terrorist proxies.
Israel has been forced to dramatically increase its defense spending to protect its people from continued threats emanating from seven regional fronts — all backed by Iran.

**LATEST ESTIMATES**

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**YEMEN**

Since October 7, the Houthi terrorist group has emerged as a significant threat to Israelis, Americans and global commerce. With Iranian weapons, training and intelligence, the Houthis have launched direct attacks on Israel and significantly disrupted one of the world’s most heavily trafficked shipping lanes.

**FUNDING FROM IRAN:**

- **$100 million annually**

**FORCE SIZE:**

- **100,000, plus Iranian advisors on the ground**

**ARSENAL:**

- Cruise and ballistic missiles, drones, attack boats and more.

**ATTACKS SINCE OCTOBER 7:**

- Dozens of missile and drone strikes at Israel, repeated attacks on maritime shipping and U.S. Navy vessels with missiles, drones and attack boats.
Hezbollah effectively controls the state of Lebanon, is stronger than many national armies and poses a significantly greater threat than Hamas. A war with this Iranian-backed proxy, which is deeply embedded throughout the towns of southern Lebanon, is more likely than any time since the 2006 Second Lebanon War. Like Hamas and Iran's other proxies, Hezbollah's stated goal is the complete destruction of the Jewish state.

**LEBANON**

- **Funding from Iran:** $700 million annually
- **Force Size:** 30,000 - 45,000
- **Arsenal:** 150,000 missiles and rockets, anti-tank guided missiles, mortars, armed drones and more.
- **Attacks since October 7:** Near daily attacks into Israel, using anti-tank missiles, rockets, mortars and drones, killing 15 Israelis and indefinitely displacing nearly 100,000 Israelis from their homes.

The October 7 massacre clearly demonstrated the immense threat posed by Hamas, which has ruled Gaza since 2007. Israel is currently working to remove the threat posed by Hamas and free the remaining hostages, but the threat remains until Hamas is fully defeated and Gaza is demilitarized. Hamas has spent the past 15 years diverting billions of dollars in aid to fund its terror infrastructure and systematically uses civilians as human shields.

**GAZA**

- **Funding from Iran:** $100 million annually
- **Force Size:** 30,000 - 40,000 (prior to October 7)
- **Arsenal:** Rockets, anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons, mortars, drones, RPGs and more.
- **Recent Attacks:** The deadliest slaughter of Jews since the Holocaust; kidnapping of over 240 people; over 13,500 rockets and missiles launched into Israel; continued assaults on IDF troops operating in Gaza, killing more than 240.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) has lost security control and credibility in several major West Bank cities. Today, Iran and its terror proxies have taken over these cities, most notably Jenin, and are looking to turn the West Bank into another Gaza Strip — heavily armed and much closer to Israel's major population centers.

**WEST BANK**

- **Funding from Iran:** A portion of the $100 million sent to Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad are earmarked for the West Bank.
- **Force Size:** At least 1,000 active operatives; 82% of Palestinians in the West Bank support Hamas' October 7 massacre, according to a December 2023 poll.
- **Arsenal:** Rockets, small arms, improvised explosive devices and more.
- **Attacks since October 7:** Attempted rocket launches into Israel; approximately 700 terrorist attacks, including stabbings, shootings, and car-ramming attacks, killing at least eight Israelis.
Iraqi Shia militias — funded and controlled by Iran — threaten and undermine the Iraqi government and use rockets, drones and improvised explosive devices to attack American troops and allies.

**IRAQ**

| MILITARY BUDGET: | $6.85 billion in 2022 |
| FORCE SIZE: | 1,000,000+ |
| ARSENAL: | Advanced missiles and rockets, warships, submarines, fighter jets, tanks, drones and more. |
| ESCALATIONS SINCE OCTOBER 7: | Increased production of enriched uranium and can now produce enough weapons-grade uranium for three nuclear bombs in just a few weeks, according to the IAEA; repeated cyberattacks against Israel and America; repeated attempts to target Israelis and Jews around the world; continued support for its terrorist proxies. |

Iranian-backed militias were originally sent to Syria to support the brutal Assad regime. They have remained in Syria to establish additional terrorist forces along the border with Israel and to maintain Iran's land bridge to the Mediterranean, allowing the regime to more easily smuggle weapons to Hezbollah in Lebanon.

**SYRIA**

| FUNDING FROM IRAN: | $50 billion since 2012 |
| FORCE SIZE: | 18,000 - 26,000 |
| ARSENAL: | Missiles, rockets, drones, small arms and more. Allied with Russian forces stationed there. |
| ATTACKS SINCE OCTOBER 7: | More than 77 attacks on bases housing American forces. Drone, mortar and missile attacks on Israel. |

The Iranian regime poses the greatest threat to America and Israel in the region, and this threat is continuing to grow with the regime’s advancing nuclear program and its deepening relationships with Russia and China. The Iranian regime is openly dedicated to the destruction of Israel and America.

**IRAN**

| FUNDING FROM IRAN: | $150 million annually |
| FORCE SIZE: | 35,000 – 75,000 |
| ARSENAL: | Rockets, missiles, drones, advanced artillery, small arms and more. |
| ATTACKS SINCE OCTOBER 7: | More than 50 attacks on U.S. troops and allies, including one which killed three American troops, and drone attacks on Israel. |
THE WAY FORWARD

AMERICA MUST STAND WITH ISRAEL AND COUNTER THE IRANIAN THREAT:

STA ND WITH OUR ALLY
Ensure Israel has the time, resources and diplomatic support needed to defeat Hamas and free the hostages. The president’s emergency security package and annual security assistance to Israel, without added conditions, help ensure our ally’s security.

ENFORCE SANCTIONS
Fully enforce sanctions on Tehran and its terror proxies, including by cracking down on Iran’s illicit oil exports, to limit the resources available to the regime.

DETER WITH A CREDIBLE MILITARY THREAT
Create effective deterrence through the credible threat of military force against Iran and by taking military action when necessary to protect American interests and allies.

ISOLATE IRAN DIPLOMATICALLY
Increase the diplomatic pressure on Iran to persuade the regime to end its regional aggression, its quest for nuclear weapons, and its systemic human rights abuses against the Iranian people.

EXPAND REGIONAL ALLIANCES
Work with Israel and our other regional partners to build upon the Abraham Accords and expand the circle of peace in the Middle East.