The Truth About Hamas’s War Against Israel

Designated Terrorist Group: Since 1987, the U.S. State Department has continuously listed Hamas as a designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations whose terrorist activities threaten U.S. nationals or U.S. national security. Providing material support to Hamas is a federal crime. The European Union, Canada and Egypt also all designate Hamas as a terrorist organization.

All Deaths Are Hamas’ Fault: If Hamas did not launch unprovoked attacks against Israeli civilians, then Israel would not have been forced to respond defensively to protect its civilians. Every death, both Arab and Israeli, is Hamas’s fault.

Hamas’ Covenant/Charter Calls for Murdering Every Jew and Obliterating Israel: Key Excerpts:

• Intro: “Islam will obliterate [Israel].”; “Our struggle against the Jews is very great and very serious. It needs all sincere efforts . . . until the enemy is vanquished.”

• Article 7: The Prophet . . . has said: ‘The Day of Judgement will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him.’

• Article 13: “so-called peaceful solutions . . . are in contradiction to the principles of the Islamic Resistance Movement. . . . There is no solution for the Palestinian question except through Jihad [war].”

Hamas Leaders Continue to Insist on Israel’s and Jews’ Destruction:

• The new Palestinian unity government “will not recognize ‘Israel’ and will not give up the resistance.” - Top Hamas official Hassan Yousef, 4/23/14

• [W]e will not cede a single part of Palestine [meaning all of Israel], we will not cede Jerusalem, we will continue to fight and we will not lay down our arms . . . Hamas will not recognize Israel.” - Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, Jan. 2012, addressing rally in Tunis

Hamas Deliberately Targets Innocent Israeli Civilians:

• Hamas, together with allies Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), People’s Resistance Committees and Fatah (Mahmoud Abbas’ party) fired over 15,000 rockets at Israeli civilian areas from 2001 through mid-July 2014, and 4,000 rockets in July-August 2014. From 2004 -
mid-July 2014 (prior to the recent war), Hamas rockets killed 28 Israelis and wounded over 1,900 Israelis, mostly civilians including children. Victims include a 4-year-old boy and his grandfather, small children aged 2 and 4 who were killed while playing in the street, and teenage girl Ayala-Haya Abukasis who was killed while shielding her younger brother.

- Hamas rockets often deliberately target Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon, Israel.
- On April 7, 2011, Hamas deliberately fired an advanced anti-tank missile into an Israeli school bus, fatally wounding 16-year-old Daniel Vlific, who died 10 days later.
- Hamas’ frequent rockets attacks on Israeli town Sderot caused high miscarriage rates and almost every child there to suffer post-traumatic stress disorder. In Sderot, Israeli children cannot play outside due to frequent Hamas rocket attacks. The town had to build underground play areas for its traumatized children.
- Hamas rockets target major Israeli population areas, including Ashkelon, Haifa, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem, and Ben Gurion airport, as well as southern Israel towns.
- On Aug. 3, 2014, Hamas’ threatened to fire rockets at all Israeli cities within range of its rockets. Hamas indeed has been doing this.
- Hamas tunnels aimed at Israeli civilians, including children’s kindergartens, kibbutzes and civilian towns. Hamas planned to use its elaborately constructed tunnel network to inflict mass civilian casualties and kidnappings on Rosh Hashana.

Israel Protects Palestinian Civilians:

- The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) makes extraordinary efforts to avoid Palestinian civilian casualties, including: hundreds of thousands of robo-calls, texts and leaflets warning Palestinian civilians to evacuate targeted areas, and “roof-knocking” (hitting a building with a non-lethal strike as a warning to evacuate, before the target is destroyed).
- Hamas tells or forces Palestinian civilians to ignore Israeli warnings, and to protect Hamas missiles with their bodies.

HAMAS = Hiding Among Mosques, Ambulances & Schools:

- Hamas deliberately places civilians as “human shields” around its missiles and military targets, violating international law. Hamas tells and/or forces civilians to ignore Israeli pre-strike evacuation warnings, to create more civilian deaths.
- Although there are sparsely populated areas in Gaza from which Hamas could launch rockets, Hamas consistently instead uses civilian homes, mosques, schools, etc. for launching rockets, tunnel entrances, military stockpiles and booby-traps.
- Hamas has major military headquarters in Shifa hospital’s basement in Gaza City.
- The UN found Hamas rockets found in UN schools on two occasions in July.
- The IDF reported that on Aug. 2, Palestinian terrorists launched 11 mortars from right next to an UN elementary school in Zeitoun, Gaza.
- Many Gaza homes have “missile rooms” where Hamas keeps rockets & launchers.
- On August 1, Hamas terrorists fired a rocket at Israel from the al-Mashtal hotel, which is frequented by foreign journalists in Gaza.

Hamas Broke 7 Recent Cease-Fires (including ones it called for):

- July 15: Israel accepted Egypt’s cease fire proposal and suspended air strikes for 6 hours, while Hamas fired 142 rockets into Israel, killing an Israeli civilian.
- July 20: Hamas fired on IDF soldiers with anti-tank missiles and automatic fire, violating a 2-hour humanitarian ceasefire less than 40 minutes into the agreement.
• July 28: Hamas fired 2 rockets at Tel Aviv and 5 rockets at southern Israel, breaking a 12-hour extended ceasefire (ending a Tel Aviv peace demonstration by people seeking to appease Hamas while Hamas was literally trying to kill them).

• Aug. 1: Hamas emerged from a tunnel to ambush and kill 3 Israeli soldiers, 90 minutes after the start of a scheduled 72-hour ceasefire.

• Aug. 4: Hamas continued rocket attacks against Israel during 7-hour truce.

• Aug. 7 at 4 a.m.: Hamas fired 2 rockets at Israel, breaking 3-day ceasefire 4 hours early (after Israel withdrew its troops from Gaza).

• Aug. 19: Hamas breaks 24-hour cease-fire extension scheduled to end at midnight by firing 50 rockets between before 4 p.m. and 11 p.m., including firing rockets at Tel Aviv, Jerusalem (where one landed), Ben Gurion airport and Ashkelon.

Israel Provides Humanitarian Aid; Hamas Destroys Aid Or Uses It For Terror:

• When Israel forcibly removed 9,000 Jews from their homes and unilaterally withdrew from every inch of Gaza in 2005, American Jewish donors bought (at a cost of $14 million) and transferred to the Palestinians over 3,000 high-tech greenhouses to provide Gazans with jobs, food and export income. Hamas/the Palestinians promptly looted and destroyed the greenhouses.

• Israel sends Gaza thousands of truckloads of food and humanitarian supplies (including 3,324 trucks of food and medicine from July 8, 2014 to mid-August 2014), and provides Gaza with electricity, even in the midst of war, while Hamas attacks Israel via tunnels and rockets. On Aug. 3 alone, Israel sent Gaza 186 truckloads of supplies. Year round, Israel transfers 100 sick Gazans per month to Israeli hospitals for medical treatment (or at the patients’ option, flies them to hospitals in Turkey after treating them at Ben Gurion airport).

• The IDF set up a field hospital with advanced medical treatment capability which treats injured Gazans, in the midst of war, while Hamas continued attacking Israel.

• On July 15, Israel’s Magen David Adom offered to collect blood from Israelis, or alternatively from Arabs, to send to Gaza, but the Palestinians rejected these offers.

• The 32 Hamas terror tunnels destroyed during Israeli ground operation cost about $90 million to build. Each tunnel used 350 tons of construction supplies (enough to build 100 homes, 10 mosques, 10 schools or 20 medical clinics if Hamas had used the supplies for peaceful purposes). Hamas tunnels were equipped for kidnapping and committing mass murder of Israelis, with mortars, rocket-propelled grenades, AK-47s, assault rifles, motorcycles, handcuffs, Israeli army uniforms and tranquilizers. Israel acknowledged that many more tunnels likely remain.

Hamas “Lies With Statistics,” and Media Outlets Repeat Hamas’s Lies:

• Hamas “reports” grossly inflates civilian casualty figures by using the seemingly respectable name “Palestinian Ministry of Health” (which is really part of Hamas) or the United Nations (which does not make its own estimates but rather relies on Hamas’ propaganda figures). Hamas counts terrorists as civilians, double and triple counts the same people, includes civilians killed by misfired Hamas rockets and as human shields, and invents casualties from whole cloth. In fact, over half of the casualties are Hamas terrorists. And Israel has done more that any army in history to protect civilian lives of its enemies. Many media outlets accept false Hamas figures without examination.

• Hamas “stages” (falsifies) casualties by moving bodies to schoolyards, and by claiming as “Palestinian” casualties pictures of Syrians killed by Assad, and pictures of the Israeli Fogel children whose necks were slit by Palestinian terrorists.
Hamas Intimidates Journalists Into Not Reporting Hamas Attacks:

- Hamas spokeswoman Isra Al-Mudallal, head of foreign relations in the Hamas Information Ministry, told Lebanon’s satellite TV that Hamas deported journalists who filmed missile launch sites if the journalists refused to change their stories.

- After leaving Gaza, a Spanish journalist revealed why footage of Hamas in action is absent: “It’s very simple. We did see Hamas people there, launching rockets. They were close to our hotel, but if ever we dared pointing our camera on them, they would simply shoot at us and kill us.”

- French-Palestinian journalist Radjaa Abu Dagga wrote that Hamas forcibly blocked him from leaving Gaza, detained and interrogated him in a room in Shifa hospital. He then had his newspaper account removed for fear of Hamas retaliation.

- Italian reporter Gabriele Barbati confirmed that Israel told the truth that Hamas rockets caused the Al-Shati refugee camp deaths (which Hamas lies blamed on Israel) only when he was out of Gaza, beyond the reach of Hamas retaliation.

- After Australian reporter Peter Stefanovic tweeted he saw rockets fired into Israel from near his hotel, a pro-Hamas tweeter threatened: "In WWII, spies got shot."

The Foreign Press Association (“FPA”) issued a formal protest “protest[ing] in the strongest terms the blatant, incessant, forceful and unorthodox methods employed by the Hamas authorities and their representatives against visiting international journalists in Gaza.” The FPA noted that Hamas “harassed, threatened or questioned” foreign reporters working in Gaza. Norwegian journalist Paul Jørgensen also recently confirmed Hamas’ “strict orders” not to document Hamas’s violence.

Claims that Israel Targets Civilians in UN Schools, Camps & Hospitals are False:

- Claims that Israel targeted the Rafah school on Aug. 3 are false. As Wall St. Journal confirmed, Israel aimed at 3 Islamic Jihad terrorists who had fired at IDF soldiers and were fleeing on motorbike outside the school; Israel’s missile in fact hit outside the school, creating a hole in the road. Hamas moved bodies from elsewhere into the school courtyard to stage libelous propaganda that Israel targeted the school.

- The UN confirmed that misfired Hamas rockets fell and exploded in a UN Beit Hanoun school area on July 24. (Hamas caused the civilian deaths there.)

- About 20-30 percent of Hamas rockets were misfired and landed or exploded inside Gaza, killing Arab civilians. Hamas then blamed the deaths Hamas caused on Israel.

- IDF aerial photos demonstrated that Hamas rockets from Gaza hit the UN school playground in al-Shati refugee camp and Al Shifa Hospital on July 28. After leaving Gaza, “far from Hamas retaliation,” Italian journalist Gabriele Barbati confirmed that Hamas rockets hit and killed the Gazan children at al-Shati.

- At a Beit Hanun UN school, Hamas terrorists fired anti-tank missiles at IDF soldiers from within the school complex, and the IDF only then responded with mortar fire (while the schoolyard was empty).

Hamas Murders Arab Dissenters and Exploits Arab Children and Workers:

- When dozens of Palestinians demonstrated against Hamas at al-Shifa hospital on July 28, Hamas extracted 20 protestors from the crowd and executed (shot) the protestors on the spot. The next day, Hamas summarily executed more Arab civilians as “spies.”

- Hamas exploits child labor to dig its terror tunnels. Hamas admitted that over 160 children died during the last few years doing this dangerous work for Hamas. Hamas also abused adult tunnel-workers, gave them paltry wages, and executed hundreds of tunnel-diggers to prevent them from revealing tunnel locations.