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Bring them home

Omer Shem Tov, age 21, kidnapped from the Nova music festival

Fractured future

It could be a nightmare for Jews in France

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IDF set to present probe of failure to defend Be'eri

• By YONAH JEREMY BOB

The IDF announced on Tuesday that it will present its first report in a series of October 7 probes – the investigation into the failure to defend Be'eri – on Thursday.

According to the military, the results will first be presented to the families of those who were killed in Be'eri on October 7, including the kibbutz residents, as well as the many security forces from the IDF, Shin Bet (Israel Security Agency), and the police.

This presentation will take place at a large amphitheater in the Dead Sea area early on Thursday afternoon.

On Thursday night, the results of the probe, including extensive diagrams and video footage, will be posted on the IDF's website.

The Be'eri probe is the first of a series of IDF probes into the October 7 failure to prevent Hamas's invasion, that will be released on a rolling basis through July and August.

According to the previous media leaks, the IDF probes will find numerous cases of friendly fire incidents leading to deaths, of groups of

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BURYING A HERO

Family and friends of Maj. Jalaa Ibrahim attend his funeral service in the Druze village of Sajur yesterday. **See story, Page 6.** (David Cohen/Flash90)

Coalition in crisis over revised Rabbis Law

Ben-Gvir threatens to oppose bill if he isn't appointed to war cabinet • Shas MKs walk out

• By ELIAV BREUER

The coalition on Monday entered crisis mode over an attempt by National Security Minister MK Itamar Ben-Gvir to force Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to make him a member of a small war cabinet.

Ben-Gvir's attempt came in the form of a threat to vote against a bill that was important to Shas, another of Netanyahu's key allies, unless his wish was fulfilled. The bill was similar to a bill known as the Rabbis Law, which fell several weeks ago after members of the Likud opposed it.

The ploy ultimately failed, and Ben-Gvir was not promoted to a more influential role. However, the Shas bill was removed from the agenda, as Ben-Gvir's threat to oppose it left the coalition without a majority.

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Hamas warns it could abandon talks

Burns, McGurk hold negotiations in Cairo • Doha summit expected tomorrow

• By TOVAH LAZAROFF

Hamas warned that the Gaza hostage deal talks held Monday in Cairo by CIA Director William Burns could collapse due to actions by the IDF and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

During a call with mediators, Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh said he held Netanyahu and Israel's army fully responsible for the potential collapse of negotiations, the group said.

In a message on its Telegram channel, it warned that IDF's renewed campaign in Gaza City could push mediated ceasefire talks back to square one.

A message posted there earlier in the day accused Netanyahu of "placing additional obstacles in the way of negotiations as he escalates his aggression and crimes against our people."

Hamas stressed that it had demonstrated "flexibility and positivity to facilitate reaching an agreement to halt the Zionist aggression" in Gaza as it called on mediating countries Qatar and Egypt to stop Netanyahu's "manipulations and crime."



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US National Security Communications Advisor John Kirby told reporters in Washington that he believed a deal was possible.

"We've been working this very, very hard, and there are still some gaps that remain in the two sides, in the positions, but we wouldn't have sent a team over there if we didn't think that we had a shot here," he said.

He noted that as part of the US efforts to close the deal, US Special Envoy Brett McGurk was in Cairo along with Burns. The CIA director is expected to hold a larger summit Wednesday in Doha to discuss the three-phased hostage deal US President Joe Biden first unveiled in Wash-

ington on May 31.

Kirby said, "on both sides, you see public comments that are not reflective of the conversations we are having privately with them or their interlocutors."

At home, Netanyahu was slammed by his right-wing coalition partners who threatened to collapse the government if he made the deal, and by the opposition who accused him of sabotaging it for political gain.

At issue for opponents of the three-phase proposal has been the question of whether it would prematurely end the Gaza war before Hamas has been eliminated.

IDF Spokesperson Rear-Admiral Daniel Hagari told ABC that Hamas would still be in Gaza five years from now. It was a statement that underscored the depth of Hamas's entrenchment in the enclave which it has ruled since it forcibly seized control of the enclave in a coup in 2007.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, who heads the Religious Zionist Party, and National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who leads

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Hamas's use of UN facilities

ANALYSIS

• By SETH J. FRANTZMAN

On Monday, July 8, the IDF said that it had begun an operation in Gaza City targeting terrorists and terrorist infrastructure. UNRWA's headquarters was among the sites targeted. Hamas and other terrorist groups have systematically used UN facilities throughout the war in Gaza. They have hidden in them and used tunnels underneath them, and their armed terrorists have been present at schools, shelters, warehouses, and other UN sites.

It will take time for the full details of how Hamas managed to embed itself inside UN institutions to come to light. However, news reports and IDF statements provide a lot of details on recent incidents. It is important to understand this in context. Hamas has always exploited international organizations and the UN in Gaza. It does this in many ways. It knows that UN compounds and schools are sites that would normally be protected during a war. Therefore, it appears that Hamas views these areas as a priority and has tried

to use areas near them, or underneath these sites, as command and control nodes.

After October 7, Israel carried out an intense aerial campaign in Gaza, striking Hamas and other terrorist groups. Israel's ground operations began on October 27.

Then, in February, the ground operations were much reduced in intensity and the IDF withdrew from most of Gaza by April. This enabled Hamas to return to many areas. It returned in force to Shifa Hospital, for

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IDF tanks roll back into heart of Gaza City

• By YONAH JEREMY BOB, AVI ASHKENAZI and Jerusalem Post Staff

The IDF initiated a broad re-invasion of Gaza City center on Monday for the first time since January, including accompanying tanks and air strikes *The Jerusalem Post* has confirmed.

Reports started trickling in earlier Monday from Reuters citing Palestinian residents, who said IDF tanks had rolled into the city amid heavy fire.

This is the fifth re-invasion of the Gaza Strip by the IDF since it achieved operational

control over northern Gaza and central Gaza in January-February, but the first widespread incursion into the biggest city in the Strip.

Prior repeat incursions included: Shifa Hospital, Jabalya, Nuseirat, and a current operation in Shejaia.

The repeated incursions have been controversial. On one hand, the IDF says it shows it can break Hamas apart the second it tries to reconstitute itself. On the other hand, it seems to show that the IDF's initial ability to

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SMOKE RISES from the Gaza Strip yesterday after broad IDF incursion into Gaza City. (Amir Cohen/Reuters)

France faces coalition puzzle after left-wing election surge

• By ELIZABETH PINEAU and DOMINIQUE VIDALON

PARIS (Reuters) – The French Left said it wanted to run the government but conceded on Monday that talks would be tough and take time, after Sunday's election thwarted the far Right's quest for power but delivered a hung parliament.

Liberman calls on French Jews to flee,
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Macron's power has been diluted,
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Many of France's allies breathed a sigh of relief after Marine Le Pen's National Rally (RN) failed to win the snap election called by President Emmanuel Macron.

But with the leftist New



LFI FOUNDER Jean-Luc Melenchon addresses supporters in Paris on Sunday. (Sameer Al-Doumy/AFP via Getty Images)

Popular Front (NFP) alliance, hastily assembled before the election, unexpectedly coming first but far from an absolute majority, the election heralded a period of volatility and possible gridlock.

"It's not going to be simple, no, it's not going to be easy, and no, it's not going to be comfortable," said Green party leader Marine Tondelier. "It's going to take a bit of time."

Possibilities include the Left forming a minority gov-

ernment – which would be at the mercy of a no confidence vote from rivals unless they reach deals – and the cobbling together of an unwieldy coalition of parties with almost no common ground.

"We'll need some time," NFP lawmaker Pouria Amirshahi told Reuters as newly elected lawmakers arrived in parliament to pick up their badges and settle in, adding that any option was complex.

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CRIF head: Mélenchon is a threat to Jews

• By MICHAEL STARR

Moderate French political parties must form a government coalition without La France Insoumise, Representative Council of Jewish Institutions of France (CRIF) President Yonathan Arfi told *The Jerusalem Post* in an interview after the second round of parliamentary elections on Sunday, warning that the far-left party leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon was undemocratic and a threat to the republic's Jews.

The left-wing New Popular Front (NPF) coalition, which includes the far-left La France Insoumise (LFI), won the most seats in the National Assembly, according to exit polls, with President Emmanuel Macron's centrist Ensemble and the far-right National Rally (RN) securing the second and third most seats, respectively. None of the blocs hold enough seats to form a majority government and must form a joint coalition to pass legislation.

"We are awaiting the outcome of the negotiations. We do not know what type of government we will have," said Arfi. "Everything that happens next for the Jews depends on the government that is formed."

CRIF and other French Jewish groups had waged a campaign calling for support for moderates, and against RN and LFI. Now, with a RN majority parliament averted,

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As some question his ability, Biden says he won't drop out

• By RICHARD COWAN and JEFF MASON

WASHINGTON (Reuters) – US President Joe Biden said on Monday that he would not abandon his reelection campaign as he sought to stave off a possible revolt from fellow Democrats who worry the party could lose the White House and Congress in the November 5 US election.

Biden, 81, said any candidates who doubt his ability should challenge him at the Democratic National Convention in August – an effort that stands no chance of success unless he lets the delegates he won in primaries this year consider other candidates.

"The bottom line here is that I am not going anywhere," Biden said in a phone call he placed to MSNBC's *Morning Joe* program.

Separately he told wavering Democratic lawmakers in

a letter that they needed to close ranks behind his candidacy. Several have called for him to drop out, and more could do so in coming days as lawmakers return to Washington after a break.

Biden faces a critical week as he tries to shore up a campaign that has been on defense since a shaky June 27 debate against Republican Donald Trump, which raised questions about his ability to do the job for another four and a half years.

Though he has secured enough delegates to win the Democratic presidential nomination, some donors and lawmakers have called for him to step aside and let Vice President Kamala Harris or another candidate lead the ticket.

Several senior House Democrats called for Biden to drop out in a Sunday phone call,

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