



Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center
at the Center for Special Studies (C.S.S)

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Thwarted Palestinian terrorist organizations attempts to perpetrate suicide bombing attacks and abduct Israelis during the war in Lebanon; some of these attempts were directed by Hezbollah with the purpose of opening yet another front in Israel¹

Overview

1. In the course of the war against Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Israeli security forces thwarted suicide bombing attacks and attempts to abduct soldiers and civilians to negotiate the release of Palestinian prisoners. **Some of these terrorist attacks were thwarted shortly before their planned execution.**
2. The thwarted terrorist attacks were planned by the terrorist organizations' cells in Gaza and the West Bank, the most prominent being the Fatah's Tanzim cell in Nablus. **Some of them (including the Fatah cell in Nablus) are directed by Hezbollah, which instructed terrorist infrastructures in the West Bank to intensify their activity during the war in Lebanon and perpetrate suicide bombing attacks and abductions so as to open another front against Israel.**
3. During the war, the Israeli security forces thwarted nine abduction and suicide bombing attacks **on the verge of implementation** (see details below). Also thwarted or disrupted were over **twenty attack plans** in various stages of development. Detained within the context of the counter-terrorism activities were **396 terrorist operatives, including 12 potential suicide bombers** detained before embarking on their missions. **The detainees belong to Fatah's**

¹ Source: Israel Security Agency report.

Tanzim (177), to Hamas (76), to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (62), and to other terrorist organizations.

Details on nine abduction and suicide bombing attacks thwarted shortly prior to implementation

Thwarted suicide bombing attack at an IDF roadblock in the vicinity of Nablus (August 9)

4. On August 9, the Israeli security forces detained a female suicide bomber and her collaborator at the Beit Iba roadblock in the vicinity of Nablus. The two were dispatched by a **Fatah Tanzim** cell.

Thwarted suicide bombing in Elon Moreh (August 5)

5. Following a specific security alert, the Israeli security forces conducted intensive activities in the course of which they detained a suicide bomber with a powerful explosive belt. The suicide bomber was on his way to perpetrate the suicide bombing attack after he had been videotaped with a rifle and an explosive belt, reading his will and claiming responsibility for the terrorist attack. In his interrogation, the suicide bomber admitted that the intended site of the terrorist attack was the Samaria settlement of **Elon Moreh**.

Thwarted suicide bombing attack in Rehovot

6. The security forces thwarted a suicide bombing attempt in the city of Rehovot, planned by the **Hezbollah-directed Fatah Tanzim** infrastructure from the Balata refugee camp in Nablus. Intensive activities carried out following a specific security alert led to the arrest of a suicide bomber and a collaborator who was supposed to guide him to the site of the terrorist attack. In their possession was a bag with an explosive belt.
7. In his interrogation by the Israel Security Agency, the Palestinian who was to guide the suicide bomber related that he had been illegally working in Rehovot without a residence permit. He had been approached by **Ibrahim Nimr Abu**

Munif (nicknamed Ibrahim Nayba), the head of the **Fatah Tanzim** infrastructure in the Balata refugee camp near Nablus, and asked to lead a suicide bomber to a terrorist attack in Israel. He was planning to bring him to Rehovot, leave him on the main street, and proceed to his workplace.

Thwarted suicide bombing attack in Israel (July 26)

8. **Hamade Shtaiwi**, from Kafr Qaddum village in the Qalqilya region, was planning to lead a suicide bomber to Israel in the immediate time frame, on behalf of the **Palestinian Islamic Jihad** cell in Jenin. He was shot dead by an IDF force when he attempted to evade arrest.

Thwarted abduction in Tel-Aviv (July 21)

9. Following a specific security alert, a 21-year-old female terrorist from Nablus was detained on the Tel-Aviv promenade. In her interrogation, she admitted that she had been dispatched by **Ibrahim Nayba**, the leader of the **Hezbollah-directed Fatah Tanzim** infrastructure in the Balata refugee camp (Nablus). She was assisted by an Israeli Arab who drove her to Tel-Aviv and was supposed to drive her back to Nablus.
10. The terrorist intended to meet with a Jewish acquaintance, sedate him using sleeping pills, abduct him, and bring him back to Nablus where she was to deliver him to **Fatah Tanzim** operatives.

Thwarted abduction attempt by a terrorist who attempted to infiltrate into Israel through Sinai (July 20)

11. **Ramez Nabahin**, a resident of the Gaza Strip village of Deir al-Balah, was detained near the Israeli-Egyptian border while attempting to infiltrate into Israel from Sinai. In his interrogation, he admitted that he was sent to Israel by a **Popular Resistance Committees** operative in the Gaza Strip in order to abduct an Israeli and smuggle him to the Gaza Strip to negotiate the release of

Palestinian prisoners. He was directed to abduct a soldier or, failing that, murder him and transfer his documents to the Gaza Strip for purposes of negotiation.

12. Ramez Nabahin made several unsuccessful attempts to cross into Egyptian territory through the Rafah crossing. His dispatchers attempted to secure a fake medical pass for him but met with no success. Ultimately, he was able to cross the border to Egypt on the day the crossing was opened for humanitarian needs (in order to provide those Palestinians “stuck” on the Egyptian side with a possibility to return).
13. Having crossed into Egypt, Nabahin planned to enter Israel and abduct one of the two Israeli cab drivers with whom he was in touch. He planned to order a cab ride, abduct the driver, bring him to the south, and transfer him to Egypt and subsequently to the Gaza Strip.

Thwarted suicide bombing against an IDF force near the settlement of Oranit (July 19)

14. A specific security alert led to the arrest in Hod Hasharon of **Rami Abu Hajle**, from the village of Azun near Qalqilya. He was supposed to lead a suicide bomber on behalf of the **Hezbollah-directed Fatah Tanzim** cell in the Balata refugee camp (Nablus), led by **Ibrahim Nayba**.
15. In his interrogation by the Israel Security Agency, Abu Hajle admitted that he had collected extensive information on an IDF force in the vicinity of the settlement of **Oranit** on his way to his workplace on Hod Hasharon, where he was illegally residing. After his return from work, Abu Hajle was to meet with the suicide bomber in the village of Azun and lead him back to the Oranit region to perpetrate a suicide bombing attack against IDF soldiers.

Thwarted abduction attempt on the Ramallah-Nablus road (July 18)

16. On July 19, the Israeli security forces arrested **Shaher Hajj**, the head of a **Fatah Tanzim** cell in **Ramallah**. In his interrogation, he admitted to planning to abduct Israelis on the road between Ramallah and Nablus. The abduction was supposed to take place several days after his arrest, after the acquisition of a suitable vehicle by the terrorist cell. The security forces arrested some of the cell members and some of its collaborators.

Thwarted suicide bombing attack in the city of Bnei Brak (July 17)

17. **Ashraf Hanani**, a resident of the village of Beit Furik in the Nablus region, was arrested on Jaffa St. in Jerusalem with a bag containing some 13-15 lbs. of explosives. In his interrogation, he admitted that he had been sent to perpetrate the terrorist attack by **Popular Resistance Committees** operatives in Beit Furik, Ramallah, and the Gaza Strip. He was instructed to enter Jerusalem and proceed to the city of Bnei Brak, where he was to get off on Geha Bridge (one of the busiest traffic areas in the center of Israel) and detonate himself near a large group of people.