

Iran, Proxies Blame Israel for Deadly Damascus Airstrike, Promise Revenge

JERUSALEM, Israel – Iran is blaming Israel and threatening revenge for an airstrike on a building close to the Iranian Embassy in Damascus Monday that killed senior Iranian commanders.

The attack in the Syrian capital is considered an attack on sovereign Iranian territory.

Israel is not taking credit for the blast that killed Mohammed Reza Zahedi, a top leader of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Quds Force responsible for overseeing Lebanon and Syria.

Iran backs, trains and supplies Arab terror groups to operate against Israel.

Zahedi and his deputy were meeting with terrorist leaders inside the consulate, likely planning further strikes on Israel.

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Iran is threatening a “harsh” retaliation, and Hezbollah said the “enemy” would receive “punishment and revenge,” accusing Israel of escalating its war against Iranian proxies.

Still, CBN News war correspondent Chuck Holton believes Iran doesn’t want a one-on-one war with Israel, preferring instead to use Arab terrorist forces arrayed around the Jewish state.

“They want to continue through this proxy war, through fighting Israel through the Houthis, through Hezbollah, and through Hamas,” Holton said.

Iran also operates through the particularly lethal move of heavily arming terrorists inside Judea and Samaria, the so-called West Bank.

Israeli security forces keep finding weapons there shipped by Iran.

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Holton described it as “massive amounts of explosives. He added, “They’re starting to find mines—land mines, hand grenades, rockets, light anti-tank weapons— all sorts of weapons like that. And that bodes very poorly for Israel.”

If a force the size of the one from Gaza that struck Israel on Oct. 7 came out of Judea and Samaria instead, the destruction and death toll could be much worse.

“Because it basically surrounds Jerusalem on three sides,” Holton explained. “If 1500 bad guys had come across into Jerusalem and started going crazy, they could easily have killed a lot more people. They could absolutely wreak havoc in Jerusalem, the capital city.”

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