

Israel Strikes Hezbollah, Hamas As White House Designates Muslim Brotherhood as Terrorist Group

JERUSALEM, Israel – Tensions in Israel are escalating, both in the north and in the south, from a major targeted strike in Lebanon to new threats against an already-fragile ceasefire in Gaza. And in the U.S., the White House announced a major policy shift on the Muslim Brotherhood.

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The Israel Defense Forces have confirmed a targeted killing in Beirut on Sunday, eliminating Hezbollah's Chief of Staff, Haytham Tabatabai. He was considered the number two commander in the Iranian-backed terror network.

Hezbollah later identified four other operatives killed in the strike. The U.S. had placed a \$5 million reward on Tabatabai.

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In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to continue acting decisively against Hezbollah and Hamas.

"The immediate actions to thwart the attacks are taken by the IDF automatically," Netanyahu declared. "As for the responses,

it goes through the Minister of Defense and ultimately reaches me, and we decide independently of any source, and that's how it should be. Israel is responsible for its own security."

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Hezbollah claimed the attack "crosses a new red line." As a result, Israeli security officials say they are bracing for a possible retaliation. Missile defense systems across Israel are now on high alert.

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