



## Summary of Terrorist Events, January 2025

February 23, 2025

### Overview<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ During January 2025 fighting continued in the Gaza Strip, Judea and Samaria, along with Houthi attacks from Yemen. On January 19, 2025, a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip went into effect, also bringing an end to Houthi attacks. The ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah held firm, and pro-Iranian militias in Iraq did not attack Israel.
- ▶ **Israel, Judea, and Samaria:** Palestinian terrorists carried out five attacks in which three Israelis were killed, compared to nine attacks the previous month. Two of the attacks took place in Tel Aviv. Israeli security forces continued counterterrorism operations throughout Judea and Samaria and launched a large-scale operation in northern Samaria, eliminating terror operatives from the air and on the ground, including commanders of terrorist networks and perpetrators of terrorist attacks.
- ▶ **Gaza Strip:** Until the ceasefire on January 19 went into effect, 11 rockets were fired into Israeli territory, compared to 20 rockets in December 2024. Targeted killings of leading military figures in Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) continued. Among those eliminated were the commander of the Hamas police force in Gaza and the head of the Hamas internal security force, as well as terrorist operatives who participated in the October 7, 2023 attack. Hamas confirmed the deaths of its military wing chief, Mohammed Deif, and other senior military leaders.
- ▶ **Lebanon:** The ceasefire which went into effect on November 27, 2024, held firm. Terrorist groups operating alongside Hezbollah announced the deaths of operatives in Israeli airstrikes.
- ▶ **Shi'ite militias:** The Houthis claimed responsibility for 18 missile and drone attacks on Israeli targets (until January 19, 2025), compared to 20 attacks in December 2024. Once the

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<sup>1</sup> This document complements and summarizes the data presented in the information Center's weekly reviews, including Spotlight on Terrorism: Hezbollah and Lebanon, Spotlight on Syria (Following the fall of the Assad regime), Spotlight on Terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and Spotlight on Iran and the Shi'ite Axis. The monthly summary has been published every month since September 2024 and serves as a database of terrorist activity against the State of Israel.

ceasefire went into effect in the Gaza Strip, the Houthis stopped attacking Israel. Pro-Iranian militias in Iraq have not claimed responsibility for attacks on Israel since November 24, 2024, ceding to pressure from the Iraqi government and concerned over potential Israeli retaliation.

## Palestinian Terrorism

### Judea, Samaria and Israel

#### Terrorist attacks

► During January 2025 Palestinian terrorists carried out five attacks, compared to nine in December 2024. Three Israelis were killed. Two of the attacks were in Tel Aviv, one carried out by a foreign national:

- ◆ **Stabbing attack in Deir Qaddis** (January 5, 2025): A 16-year-old Palestinian girl from the village of al-Midya attacked an Israeli civilian at a car wash in the village of Deir Qaddis, near Ramallah north of Modiin Illit. She used a knife to stab him in the stomach, but the owner of the car wash and bystanders chased her away. Israeli security forces initiated a manhunt and the Palestinian security forces later transferred her to Israel (Israeli media, January 5-6, 2025; Israel Police Force spokesperson's unit, February 7, 2025). The Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) strongly condemned the PA for transferring her to the "occupation forces" because she had carried out a "heroic operation," and warned of the dangers of security coordination between the Palestinian Authority (PA) and Israel (PIJ Telegram channel, January 7, 2025).

- ◆ **Shooting near Kedumim** (January 6, 2025): Three Palestinian terrorists opened fire on a bus and vehicles on Route 55 near the village of al-Funduq, close to Kedumim. A police officer and two Israeli civilians were killed, and seven others were injured. The attackers fled the scene (IDF spokesperson and Israeli media, January 6, 2025). The Galilee Forces Revolutionary Council claimed responsibility for the attack, claiming it had been carried out by "lone wolves" as a "legitimate and patriotic response to the crimes of the occupation in Judea and Samaria" and an expression of solidarity with the residents of the Gaza Strip (Galilee Forces Telegram channel, January 6, 2025).<sup>2</sup> Later, the Hamas military wing claimed responsibility for the attack, claiming it had been carried out in cooperation with the PIJ's Jerusalem Brigades and Fatah's al-Aqsa Martyrs

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<sup>2</sup> For further information about the Galilee Forces, see the March 2023 ITIC report, "[An organization named the Galilee Forces – Lone Wolves claimed responsibility for the terrorist attack at the Megiddo Junction.](#)"

Brigades. Hamas reported that "the mujahideen returned safely to their bases" and that the "heroic operation" showed "solid unity on the ground" among the organizations. Hamas' Izz al-Din al-Qassam Brigades also promised further joint operations, which would be "the most eloquent messages of unity and solidarity among the resistance factions<sup>3</sup> against those who seek to harm the resistance and extinguish its burning flames" (Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 8, 2025).

◆ **Vehicular attack at the Eliyahu checkpoint** (January 16, 2025): An Arab-Israeli driver approached the Eliyahu checkpoint on Route 55 from Judea and Samaria. Suddenly, he veered out of his lane to hit a security guard. The driver, Jawad Azzam, 54 years old, from Taybeh, was detained and the investigation confirmed it was a terrorist attack (Israeli media, January 16, 2025; Police and Shin Bet spokespersons units, February 4, 2025).

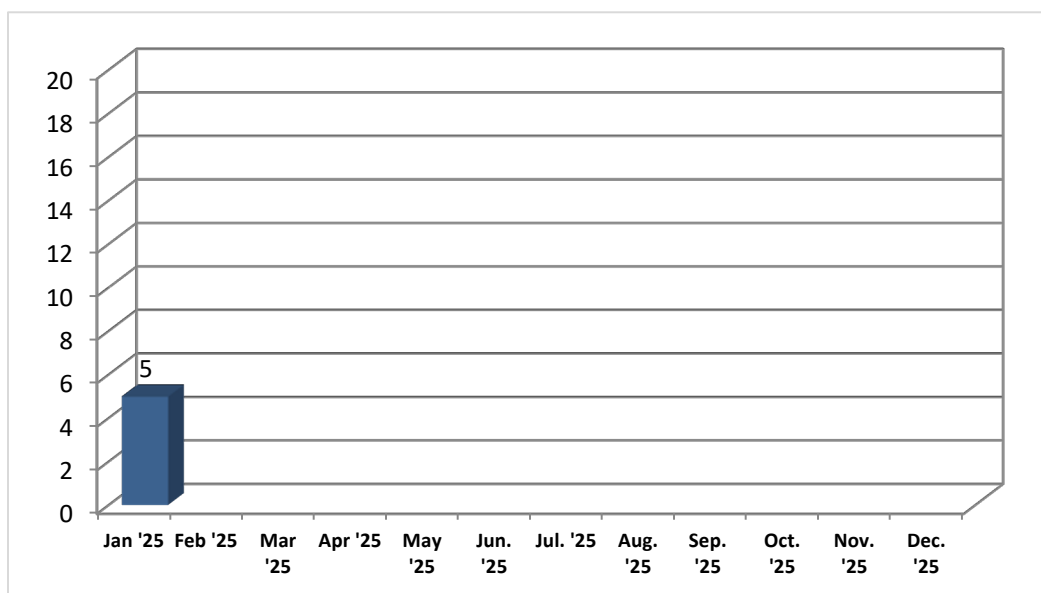
◆ **Stabbing in Tel Aviv** (January 18, 2025): A Palestinian illegally in Israel stabbed and critically wounded an Israeli civilian in south Tel Aviv. An armed civilian shot and killed the terrorist, a 19 year-old from Tulkarm (Israeli media, January 18, 2025). Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack and identified the terrorist as Salah Yahya from Tulkarm. Hamas claimed the attack was a "natural response to Israeli massacres" and said attacks would continue "until the end of the occupation and the liberation of Palestine." Hamas added that Judea and Samaria would remain an active front against Israel, particularly in light of the prisoner exchange deal that led to the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip (Hamas Telegram channel, January 18, 2025).

◆ **Stabbing in Tel Aviv** (January 21, 2025): A foreign tourist stabbed passersby on Nahalat Binyamin Street in Tel Aviv. Two people were seriously wounded and two others sustained superficial injuries. Soldiers at the scene shot and killed the terrorist. The assailant was identified as Abd al-Aziz Qadi, of a United States resident of Moroccan origin, who had arrived in Israel a few days earlier (Israeli media, January 21, 2025). Hamas praised the "heroic stabbing operation" in Tel Aviv and mourned "the Moroccan shaheed," Abd al-Qadi Aziz, claiming the attack proved that "the resistance continues and intensifies as long as the occupation persists in its crimes and aggression" (Hamas Telegram channel, January 21, 2025).

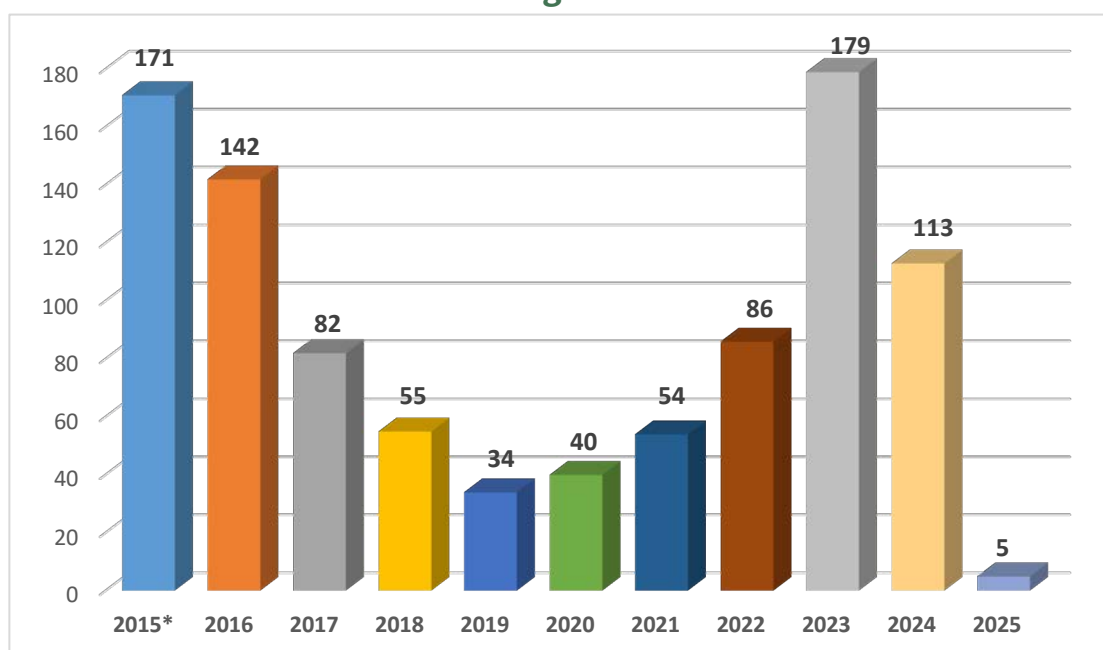
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<sup>3</sup> Terrorist organizations.

### Significant terrorist attacks, 2025<sup>4</sup>



### Annual distribution of significant terrorist attacks



## Counterterrorism

► During January 2025 Israeli security forces continued counterterrorism operations throughout Judea and Samaria, eliminating terrorist operatives, detaining wanted

<sup>4</sup> Significant attacks are defined by the Information Center as shooting, stabbing, ramming and explosive device attacks, or combined attacks. They do not include stone-throwing or Molotov cocktail incidents. The data also do not include shooting incidents targeting IDF forces during counterterrorism operations in Judea and Samaria.

individuals and exposing explosives, laboratories and weapon manufacturing workshops, and finding funds for financing terrorist activities. On January 21, 2025, Israeli security forces launched Operation Iron Wall to combat terrorism in northern Samaria. The operation began in Jenin and the Jenin refugee camp, later expanding to Tulkarm, the Tulkarm and Nur Shams refugee camps, and the Tubas and Tamun areas in the northern Jordan Valley. According to the IDF, at least 35 terrorist operatives were eliminated, over 100 wanted individuals were detained, and hundreds of explosive devices were destroyed (IDF spokesperson, January 31, 2025).

- ◆ On January 5, Israeli security forces eliminated an armed terrorist during an operation in the village of Maythalun (IDF spokesperson, January 5, 2025). The al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades announced the death of "commander" Hassan Ali Rabay'ah (al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades Telegram channel, January 5, 2025). A Palestinian security spokesperson stated that Rabay'ah was an officer in Palestinian Preventive Security (Wafa, January 5, 2025).
- ◆ On January 5, Hamas issued a mourning notice for "shaheed fighter" Mu'taz Ahmed Abd al-Wahab, who was killed by "occupation forces" during clashes near the new Askar refugee camp, east of Nablus (al-Aqsa 106.7 FM Telegram channel, January 5, 2025).

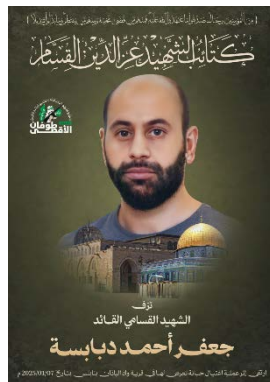


**Mourning notice issued for al-Wahab by Hamas  
(al-Aqsa 106.7 FM Telegram channel, January 5, 2025)**

- ◆ On January 7 a group of armed terrorists in the village of Tamun were attacked from the air; two were killed (IDF spokesperson, January 7, 2025). "Palestinian sources" reported that one of the deceased was Suleiman Mustafa Qteishat (Wafa, January 7, 2025). The ministry of health in Ramallah reported the death of 24 year-old Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Eid Bani Ouda, who was fatally wounded by "enemy bullets" in Tamun (Shehab News Agency, January 8, 2025). Hamas issued a mourning notice for

Bani 'Ouda, reporting that he was killed in an Israeli airstrike ( Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 8, 2025).

◆ On January 7, a terrorist was eliminated at close quarters in the village of Tallousa near Nablus. An IDF soldier was seriously wounded in the exchange of fire (IDF spokesperson, January 7, 2025). "Palestinian sources" reported that a special undercover unit infiltrated the town of Wadi al-Badhan, near Nablus, and shot former prisoner Ja'far Ahmed Faleh Dababsah to death at his home (Wafa, January 7, 2025). Hamas issued a mourning notice for "commander" Ja'far Ahmed Dababsah, a member of its military wing, noting that he began his "resistance against the Zionist enemy" during the al-Aqsa Intifada [the second intifada] and continued during Operation al-Aqsa Flood [the Hamas terrorist attack and massacre of October 7, 2023] ( Hamas West Bank Telegram channel, January 7, 2025). The Hamas military wing later claimed that he was responsible for the shooting attack in al-Funduq on January 6, 2025 ( Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 8, 2025).



**Mourning notice issued by Hamas for Dababsah  
( Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 7, 2025)**

◆ On January 14, Jenin was targeted from the air (IDF spokesperson, January 14, 2025). Palestinian media reported that the attack in the Jenin refugee camp killed Mahmoud Ashraf Mustafa Gharbiya, 15 years old; Abu al-Hijaa brothers Mu'min, 28 years old, Amir, 27 years old, and Bahaa, 33 years old; Hussam Hassan Issa Kanouh, 34 years old; and Ibrahim Mustafa Qaniri, 23 years old, brother of Amjad Qaniri, who had previously carried out an attack against Israel, and the son of Mustafa Qaniri, a senior officer who had previously defected from the PA security forces (Jenin Post Telegram channel, January 14, 2025). The Hamas military wing claimed the Abu al-Hija brothers and Ibrahim Qaniri as its operatives, with Bahaa Abu al-Hija referred to as a "commander" ( Hamas West in Judea and Samaria channel, January 15, 2025). Qaniri's body was

wrapped in an ISIS flag during his funeral (Quds News Agency YouTube channel, January 15, 2025).



**Right: Hamas mourning notice for the six deceased (Hamas Telegram channel, January 15, 2025); Left: Qaniri's body wrapped in an ISIS flag (Fatah X account, January 15, 2025)**

◆ On January 15, the Jenin area was attacked from the air (IDF spokesperson, January 15, 2025). The ministry of health in Ramallah reported that the attack targeted a building in the Damaj neighborhood of the Jenin refugee camp, killing Osama Abu Darubi, Mustafa Muhammad Fayyad al-Masri, Mahmoud Ahmed Fayyad (Turqman), Ahmed Yassin Ar'arawi, Oudh Abu Zayd, and Muhammad Younis Ar'arawi (Wafa, January 15, 2025). The Jerusalem Brigades, the PIJ's military wing, announced that "commander" Mustafa al-Masri (26) was a member of the Jenin Battalion's military council, while Muhammad Younis Ar'arawi (33), Ahmed Yassin Ar'arawi (37), and Mahmoud Ahmed Turqman (22) were operatives in the Jenin Battalion (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 16, 2025).



**Hamas mourning notice for the six terrorist operatives killed in the attack (Hamas Formal Telegram channel, January 15, 2025)**

◆ On January 21, Israeli security forces launched Operation Iron Wall to counter terrorism in Jenin. On the first day of operations, Hamas announced the deaths of nine "jihad fighters" from "enemy bullets during its ongoing aggression on Jenin and its refugee camp." The deceased were identified as Ahmed al-Shayeb, Mu'taz Abu Tbeikh,

Ra'ed Abu Shaba', Abd al-Wahab al-Sa'di, Amin Zuweida, Hussein Abu al-Hijaa, Khalil al-Sa'di, Yusuf Abu 'Awad, and Khalaf Ahmed Jamhawi ( Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 22, 2025).



**Mourning notices issued by Hamas for the nine terrorist operatives (Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 22, 2025)**

◆ On January 23, the Israeli security forces eliminated Muhammad Nazzal and Qutaiba Shalabi, PIJ operatives from Qabatyah, who had barricaded themselves in a building in Burqin. According to the IDF, the two were responsible for the shooting attack in al-Funduc on January 6, 2025; an IDF soldier was wounded during the operation (IDF spokesperson, January 23, 2025). Hamas' military wing confirmed that Qutaiba Walid al-Shalabi and Mohammed As'ad Nazzal were its operatives and had carried out the al-Funduc attack (Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 23, 2025). The PIJ's military wing also confirmed that Muhammad As'ad Mahmoud Nazzal was a commander in the Qabatyah Unit of the Jenin Battalion (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 23, 2025).



**Right: Mourning notice issued by Hamas for Muhammad As'ad Nazal and Qutaiba Walid al-Shalabi (Hamas official Telegram channel, January 23, 2025). Left: Mourning notice issued by**



**the PIJ for Muhammad As'ad Mahmoud Nazzal (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 23, 2025)**

◆ On January 24, the IDF attacked a vehicle in Qabatyah carrying a terrorist cell (IDF spokesperson, January 24, 2025). "Palestinian sources" reported two fatalities (al-Jazeera, January 24, 2025). The PIJ's military wing confirmed that Muhammad Ragheb Kamil, 23 years old, and Muhammad Amer Zakarna, 18 years old, had been operatives in the Qabatyah Unit of the Jenin Battalion (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 25, 2025).



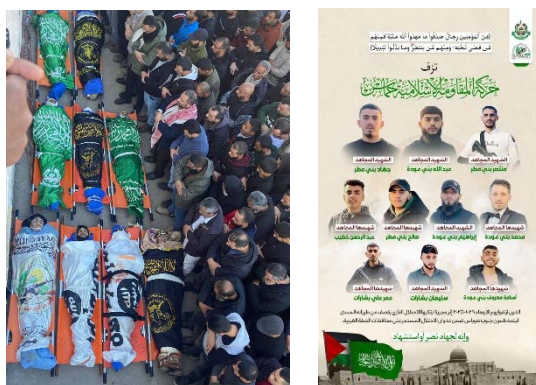
**Mourning notices issued by the PIJ for the two terrorist operatives killed in Qabatyah (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 25, 2025)**

◆ On January 27, Ihab Abu Atiwi, head of a Hamas terrorist cell in Tulkarm, was eliminated in an airstrike in the Nur Shams refugee camp. Another terrorist operative was also killed. Abu Atiwi was involved in multiple shooting attacks, including the July 16, 2024 shooting at Ramin Junction, which wounded three Israeli civilians (IDF spokesperson, January 27, 2025). The Hamas military wing confirmed the deaths of Ihab Muhammad Atiwi and Ramez Bassam Damiri (Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 27, 2025).



**Mourning notices issued by Hamas for Atiwi and Damiri (al-Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 27, 2025)**

◆ On January 29, an armed terrorist cell in Tamun was attacked from the air, eliminating ten terrorist operatives. Among them were Omar Basharat and Muntaser Bani 'Ouda, who were involved in multiple attacks against IDF forces, including the January 20, 2025 IED explosion in Tamun, which killed one IDF soldier and wounded three others (IDF spokesperson, January 29, 2025). The PIJ military wing confirmed that six operatives from the Tamun Unit of the Tubas Battalion were killed. They were "commanders" Omar Ali Basharat, Muntaser Ali Bani Matar, and Methqal Bani 'Ouda; operatives Jihad Yusuf Bani Matar, Abdallah Mahmoud Bani 'Ouda, and Suleiman Ahmed Basharat (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 30, 2025). The Hamas military wing confirmed the deaths of operatives Saleh Khader Bani Matar, Abd al-Rahman Mahmoud Khatib, Osama Maarouf Bani 'Ouda, and Muhammad Methqal Bani Ouda (al-Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 30, 2025). Hamas said Ibrahim Bani 'Ouda was also a member of Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades ( Hamas in Judea and Samaria Telegram channel, January 30, 2025). Pictures from the funeral showed three bodies wrapped in PIJ flags, three wrapped in Hamas flags, one in an Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades flag, and two wrapped in ISIS flags (Tulkarm News Telegram channel, January 30, 2025).



**Right: Mourning notice issued by Hamas for the ten terrorist operatives eliminated in Tamun (Hamas Telegram channel, January 30, 2025). Left: The funeral held for the terrorist operatives (Quds News Agency, January 30, 2025)**

◆ On January 30, 2025, Israeli security forces eliminated Qassem 'Aklik in Nablus. He was involved in planning and promoting terrorist attacks on Israeli targets. Armed with a hand gun he attempted to escape, but he was shot and killed (IDF spokesperson, January 30, 2025). The PIJ's military wing confirmed his death, identifying him as "commander" Qassem About al-'Aklik, 42 years old, of the Nablus Battalion of Jerusalem Brigades (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 30, 2025).

◆ On January 31, during an operation in Jenin, Israeli security forces encountered two armed terrorists who barricaded themselves inside a building. The forces attacked the building and eliminated the terrorists. One IDF soldier was killed and five were wounded (IDF spokesperson, January 31, 2025). The PIJ's military wing claimed the two had been "commanders" Amir Ahmed Abu Hassan (37) and Yazan Hatem Atiyah al-Hassan, 21 years old, of the al-Yamun Unit of the Jenin Battalion. According to the PIJ, the two "successfully trapped a Zionist infantry unit in a complex ambush" on al-Samaran Road in the Jenin refugee camp, killing one Israeli soldier and wounding six others after detonating a booby-trapped house and engaging in an extended battle for over ten hours (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 31, 2025).

## The Gaza Strip

### Rocket fire

► During January 2025, **11 rockets** were fired at Israel from the Gaza Strip, compared with 20 rockets in December 2024. No casualties were reported. Following the ceasefire on January 19, 2025, no additional rocket fire was recorded.

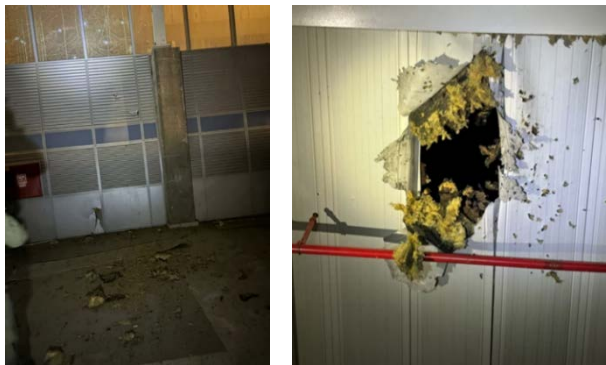
◆ **January 1:** Two rockets were fired from the central Gaza Strip. One was intercepted and the other landed in an open area (IDF spokesperson, January 1, 2025). The Hamas military wing claimed responsibility, stating they fired Q18 rockets at [the southern Israeli city] Netivot in response to "Zionist massacres of civilians" (Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 1, 2025).



**Pictures of the rocket fire targeting Netivot**  
(Izz al-Din Qassam Brigades Telegram channel, January 2, 2025)

◆ **January 2:** A rocket fired at the western Negev from the southern Gaza Strip was intercepted (IDF spokesperson, January 2, 2025). The PIJ claimed responsibility, saying they fired a barrage of 107mm rockets at the western Negev (Paltoday Telegram channel, January 2, 2025).

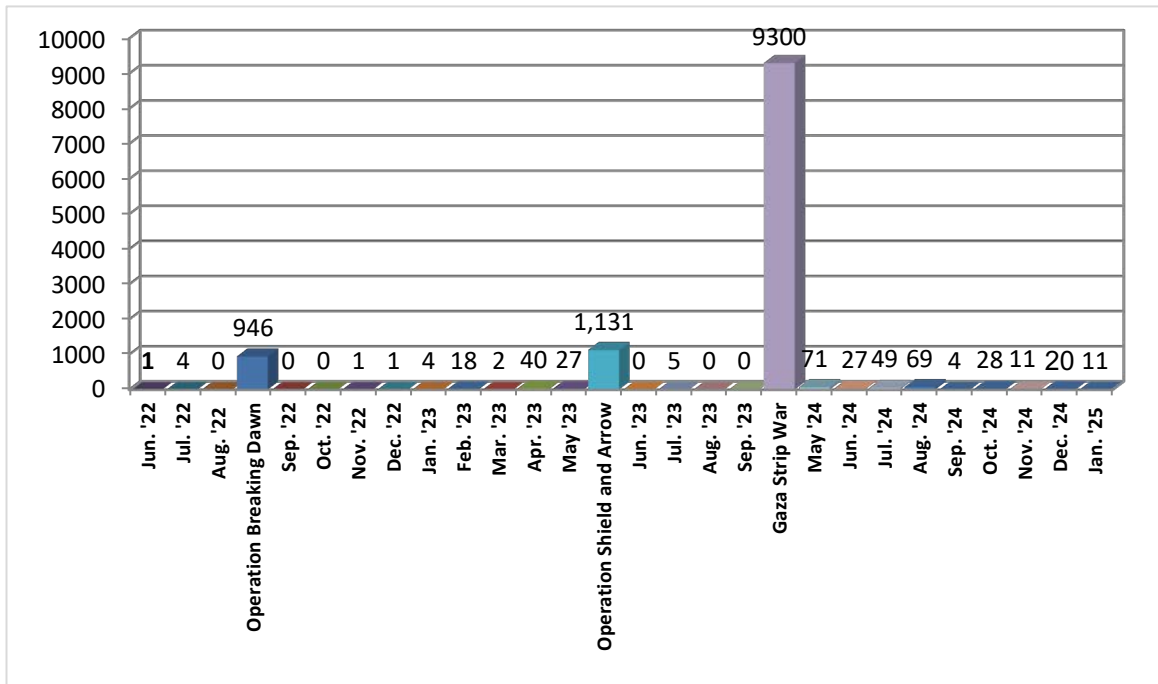
- ◆ **January 3:** Two rockets were fired at Israel communities in the western Negev from the northern Gaza Strip. One landed near Kibbutz Nir Am and the other landed in an open area (IDF spokesperson, January 3, 2025).
- ◆ **January 4:** A rocket was fired at the Erez Crossing, exploding near the humanitarian aid truck terminal (IDF spokesperson, January 4, 2025).



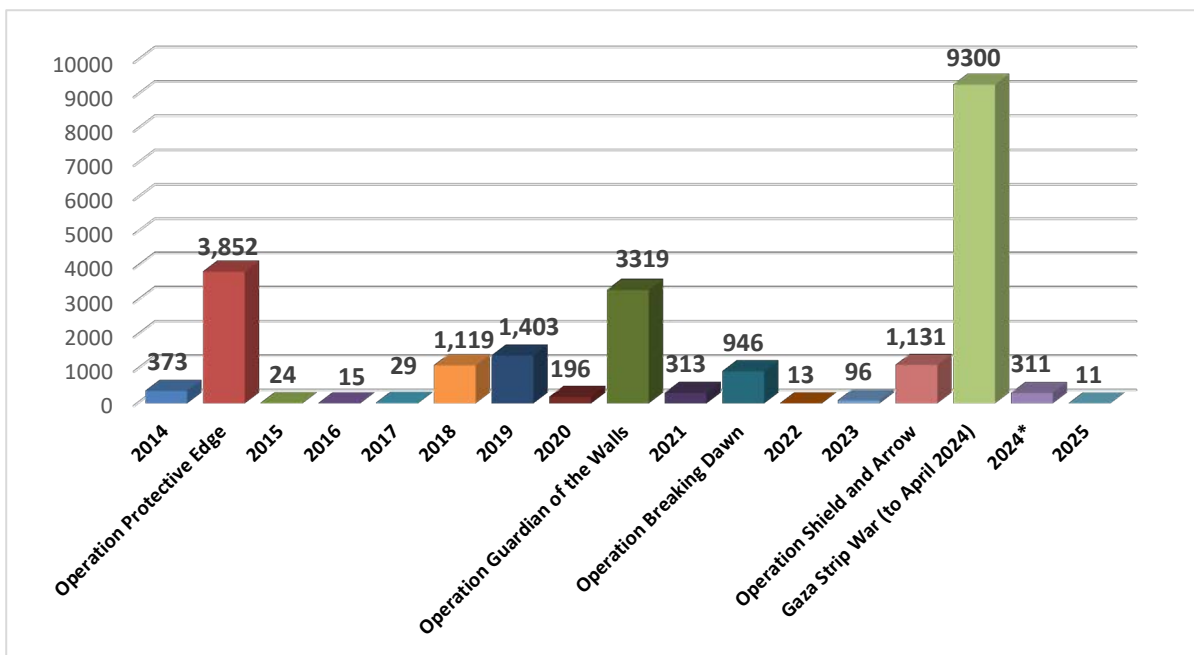
**Rocket damage to the Erez Crossing (IDF spokesperson, January 4, 2025)**

- ◆ **January 6:** Three rockets were fired at Israel communities in the western Negev from the northern Gaza Strip. One rocket was intercepted, another landed in Sderot and the third fell in an open area (IDF spokesperson, January 6, 2025).
- ◆ **January 8:** A rocket was intercepted after being launched from the southern Gaza Strip at Kerem Shalom (IDF spokesperson, January 8, 2025).
- ◆ **January 11:** A rocket was intercepted after being fired from the southern Gaza Strip at Kerem Shalom (IDF spokesperson, January 11, 2025).

### Monthly Distribution of Rocket and Mortar Shell Fire since June 2022



### Annual Distribution of Rocket Hits



### The elimination of terrorist operatives in the Gaza Strip

► On January 2, 2025, the Israeli security forces eliminated terrorist operatives in the Gaza Strip, some of whom participated in the terrorist attack and massacre on October 7, 2023. Some were eliminated while using civilian sites in the Gaza Strip as cover for planning and executing terrorist activities against IDF forces and the State of Israel. In all cases, measures

were taken to minimize harm to civilians.<sup>5</sup> On January 19, 2025, when the ceasefire went into effect, the IDF halted targeted eliminations and operated only against violations of the ceasefire and against armed operatives who posed a threat to forces remaining in the Gaza Strip:

- ◆ On January 2, 2025, an airstrike eliminated Hussam Shahwan, head of Hamas internal security in the southern Gaza Strip.<sup>6</sup> It was reported that he was hiding under the cover of the civilian population in the humanitarian zone in Khan Yunis. According to the IDF statement, Shahwan was responsible for intelligence gathering, together with other bodies of Hamas military wing, regarding IDF activity in the Gaza Strip (IDF spokesperson, January 2, 2025). Hamas Ministry of Interior reported that the attack also killed the commander of the Gaza Strip police, Lieutenant General Mahmoud Salah, and his deputy, Lieutenant General Hussam Mustafa Shahwan, a member of the police command council. Salah served in the Palestinian police for thirty years, since its establishment, and founded the Sahem (Arrow) Unit, a special anti-criminal force, and had served as the commander of the police in Gaza since 2019 (Hamas ministry of the interior Facebook page, January 2, 2025). On January 17, it was reported that, Bahjat Muhammad al-Madhoun, aka Abu al-Hilal, chief of Hamas internal security, had died from injuries sustained in an attack in Khan Yunis (Radio Sawt al-Sha'ab Telegram channel, January 17, 2025; al-Madhoun family Facebook page, January 18, 2025).

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<sup>5</sup> For details about attacks on terrorist operatives and infrastructure within civilian areas, see the ITIC weekly reports, "Terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." Terrorist use of civilian infrastructure, contrary to international law, is endemic in Gaza, carried out particularly by Hamas. The terrorist organizations exploit the attacks for propaganda and incitement, exaggerating casualty figures, falsely claiming numerous civilian victims, and, in most cases, concealing the identities of the terrorists who were targeted.

<sup>6</sup> The IDF reported that Hamas internal security conducted violent interrogations of Gazans, severely violating human rights and suppressing Hamas opponents.



**Right: Mahmoud Salah. Center: Hussam Mustafa Shahwan (Watan Media Agency Telegram channel, January 2, 2025). Left: Bahjat Muhammad al-Madhoun (MyPalestine0 X account, January 17, 2025)**

- ◆ On January 5, it was reported that IDF forces eliminated Saad Said Zaki Dahnoun, a PIJ company commander and deputy commander of the rocket array in northern Gaza. He participated in the October 7, 2023 terrorist attack and massacre in Israel, and planned and led multiple ambushes against IDF forces in Beit Lahia. During the operation, an improvised explosive device was found. Another terrorist operative with him was detained and taken for interrogation (IDF spokesperson, January 5, 2025).
- ◆ On January 9, 2025, four Hamas terrorist operatives from the al-Sabra Battalion of the Hamas Gaza City Brigade were eliminated in airstrikes. They were battalion commander Osama Abu Namous, responsible for terrorist activity in the Netzarim Corridor area; his deputy, Muhammad al-Turk, who planned and carried out terrorist attacks in the Netzarim Corridor; and Hamza Diri and Mahmoud Shahin, commanders in the nukhba force of the al-Sabra Battalion (IDF spokesperson, January 9, 2025).



**Hamas al-Sabra Battalion operatives eliminated in the IDF operation (IDF spokesperson, January 9, 2025)**

- ◆ On January 15, Palestinian media reported that Ali al-Mughrabi, one of the deportees from the Gilad Shalit exchange deal, was killed in an airstrike on a soup kitchen distributing food to displaced persons near the Kuwaiti Hospital in Khan Yunis. In

November 2003, al-Mughrabi, originally from the Dheisheh refugee camp in Bethlehem, was sentenced to two life sentences plus 32 years for escorting a suicide bomber who blew himself up in Rishon LeZion in May 2002, killing two people. He was released in the Gilad Shalit exchange deal in 2011 and deported to the Gaza Strip, where he served as a spokesman for the ministry of prisoners' affairs (Ultra Palestine, January 15, 2025; alresala.net, January 16, 2025; Palinfo, March 28, 2020).



**Hamas mourning notice for Ali al-Mughrabi  
(Hamas Telegram channel in the West Bank, January 16, 2025)**

- ◆ On January 16, Muhammad Hisham Zahdi Abu al-Rous was killed in an aerial attack. He was a Hamas nukhba operative who participated in the October 7, 2023, terrorist attack in Israel and the massacre at the Nova music festival in Re'im (IDF spokesperson and Shin Bet, January 16, 2025).
- ◆ The IDF spokesperson reported that shortly before the ceasefire went into effect on January 19, an airstrike eliminated Hazem Hijazi Rajab, a nukhba operative from Hamas al-Shejaiya Battalion, who was involved in the abduction of female observers from the Nahal Oz base during the October 7, 2023, terrorist attack and massacre (IDF spokesperson, January 30, 2025).
- ▶ On January 30, 2025, after months of denials, Abu Obeida, spokesman for Hamas' military wing, officially announced the death of "senior military commander" Muhammed Deif, the commander of Hamas' military wing. Abu Obeida announced the deaths of other senior commanders in the military wing, including Deif's deputy, Marwan Issa; Ghazi Abu Tama'ah, chief of weapons and combat services; Raed Thabet, head of personnel; Rafe' Salameh, Khan Yunis Brigade commander; Ahmed al-Ghandour Northern Gaza Brigade commander; and Ayman Nawfal, Central Gaza Brigade commander.<sup>7</sup> Abu Obeida claimed they had died in "the

<sup>7</sup> On August 1, 2024, the IDF announced that Deif was killed in a strike in Khan Yunis on July 13, 2024, in which Ra'fa Salameh was also killed (the IDF's announcement of his death was issued on July 14, 2024).



greatest battle our people have known in their history, for the most sacred cause on earth, at the hands of the most despicable creatures whom Allah and his servants hate most." He added that with the death of each leader, their determination grew stronger and inflicted more damage on "the enemy," emphasizing that for every leader killed, there were many others to take their place ( Hamas Telegram channel, January 30, 2025). Hamas stated that Deif was the first "to sow the seeds of the blessed military activity," along with other senior figures who were killed and that under his supervision, "the structure grew, expanded and became stronger." It further claimed that Deif "instilled terror and fear" in Israeli leaders and that his story "will continue to inspire all generations of our people and the nation" ( Hamas Telegram channel, January 30, 2025).



**Right: Mourning notice issued by Hamas for Deif and senior military wing commanders. Left: Mourning notice issued by Hamas for senior political bureau and military wing figures killed in the war ( Hamas Telegram channel, January 30, 2025)**

## Terrorism from Syria and Lebanon

### Syria

► Throughout January 2025, IDF forces continued operations in the buffer zone in the Golan Heights, conducting targeted raids in villages within and beyond the buffer zone (IDF spokesperson, January 31, 2025). On January 31, 2025, for the first time since the beginning of Israeli operations in the area in December 2024, IDF forces operating in the buffer zone on the Syrian side of the Golan Heights were shot at. IDF soldiers responded with gunfire; no casualties were reported (IDF spokesperson, January 31, 2025). A group calling itself the Syrian Popular Resistance claimed responsibility for the attack stating that one of its units carried out a "spontaneous and high-quality" operation against a "hostile Zionist force" in the village of Trunjah in the Quneitra area, resulting in injuries to several Israeli soldiers and

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The IDF also issued announcements regarding the deaths of Marwan 'Issa (March 26, 2024), Ra'ed Thabet (March 28, 2024), Ahmed al-Ghandour (November 26, 2023) and Ayman Nofal (October 17, 2023).

damage to a military vehicle. The statement further declared that "the resistance does not wait for orders but moves with blood and rage" and that "the occupation will not enjoy stability on this pure land" (Syrian Popular Resistance Telegram channel, February 1, 2025).<sup>8</sup> According to reports, IDF forces detained two wanted persons in the town of Trunjah on suspicion of involvement in the shooting (Sawt al-Asimi, Damascus, February 1, 2025).

## **Hezbollah**

► Throughout January 2025, the ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, which took effect on November 27, 2024, held firm. Hezbollah did not attack Israel or IDF forces in Lebanon. The IDF took action against Hezbollah's violations of the ceasefire by targeting terrorist operatives and destroying weapons and launchers, but Hezbollah did not issue statements about its casualties. On January 26, 2025, the designated period for the withdrawal of IDF forces from south Lebanon under the ceasefire agreement ended, but the deadline was extended until February 18, 2025.<sup>9</sup>

## **Terrorist operatives killed from other organizations**

### **The Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ)**

► During January 2025, the Jerusalem Brigades, the PIJ's military wing, announced the deaths of two operatives from the Shaheed Mahmoud al-Majdhoub Battalions in the organization's Lebanon branch. They were Rawad Shawqi Karim, aka Ali, 25 years old (January 27), and Rabi' Ali Sa'id, aka Sajed, 25 years old (January 31). Reportedly, they were killed on the borders of "occupied Palestine" while confronting "aggression" against Lebanon (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 31, 2025).

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<sup>8</sup> On December 17, 2024, the Syrian Social Nationalist Party called for the establishment of a Syrian front to confront "the blatant invasion of enemy forces." On January 9, 2025, the establishment of the Southern Liberation Front was announced, which changed its name to Men of Heroism – The Islamic Resistance Front in Syria on January 11, 2025.

<sup>9</sup> For further information, see the weekly ITIC reports, "Spotlight on Terrorism: Hezbollah and Lebanon."



Right: Rawad Shawqi Karim (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 27, 2025)

. Left: Rabi' Ali Sa'id (Jerusalem Brigades Telegram channel, January 31, 2025)

## Amal

► On January 26, 2025, the Amal Movement announced the death of "commander" Nizar Khalil Ya'qoub, aka Walaa, born in 1978 in the town of Houle. According to reports, he was killed while carrying out his "national and jihadist duty" in defense of Lebanon and the south. During January 2025, Amal announced the deaths of a member of the Amal Scouts and two civilian members of the movement caused by "Israeli aggression" (Amal Movement Telegram channel, January 31, 2025).



Right: Amal's announcement of Nizar Khalil Ya'qoub's death (Amal Movement Telegram channel, January 26, 2025). Left: Nizar Khalil Ya'qoub (Batoul Zeineddin's X account, January 26, 2025)

## The Shiite militias

### Anti-Israel activities<sup>10</sup>

#### The Houthis

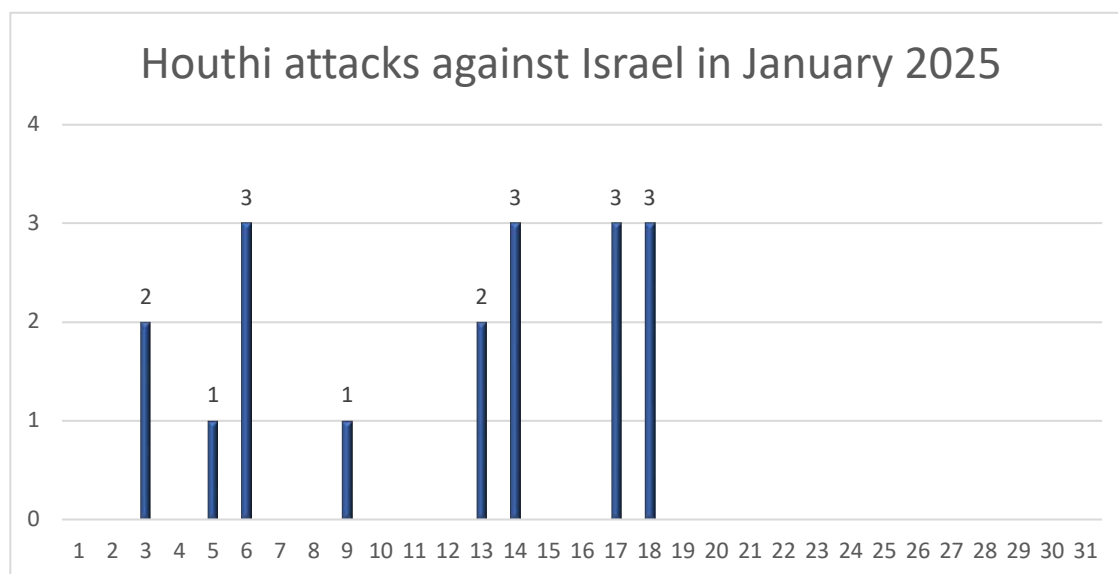
► In January 2025, the Houthis' military spokesman, Yahya Saria, claimed responsibility for **18 attacks** against targets in Israel using drones and ballistic missiles, compared to 20 attacks in December 2024 (Yahya Saria's Telegram channel, January 1-31, 2025). The IDF Spokesperson

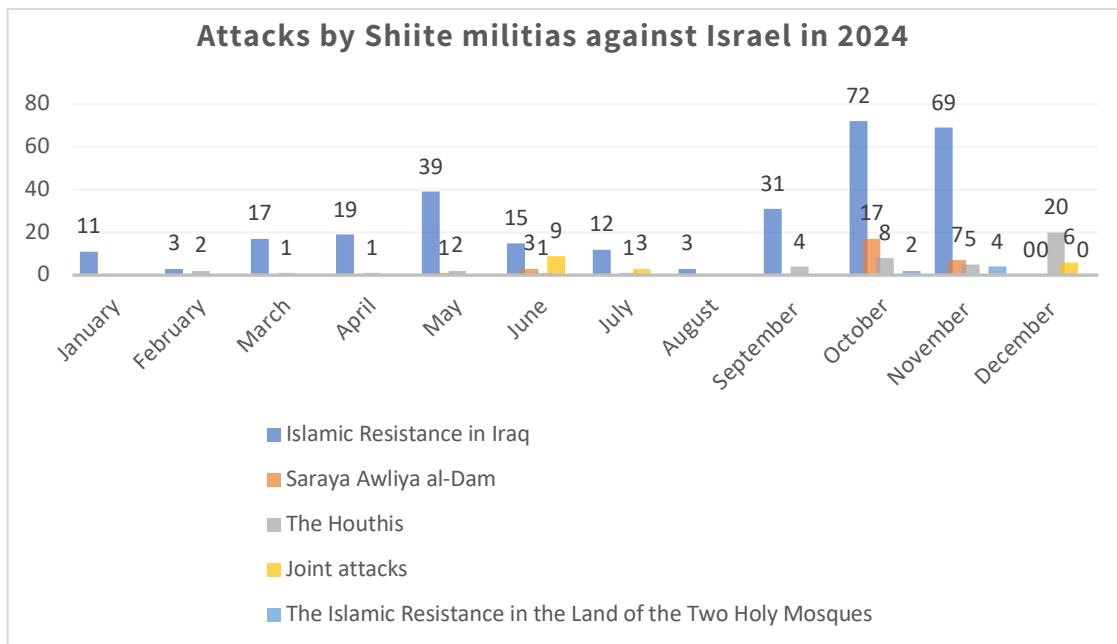
<sup>10</sup> As of November 24, 2024, the pro-Iranian militias of the Islamic Resistance in Iraq stopped issuing statements claiming responsibility for attacks against Israel amid pressure from the Iraqi government due to threats of Israeli attacks on Iraqi territory.

reported the interception of some of the missiles and drones (IDF Spokesperson and Israeli media, January 31, 2025). Following the entry into force of the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip on January 19, 2025, Houthi leader Abd al-Malik al-Houthi announced the **suspension of their military operations**. However, he warned that they were prepared to resume escalation at any moment if the “Israeli enemy” violated the agreement (Al-Masirah, January 20, 2025). The details are as follows:

- ◆ **January 3:** An attack on a “power plant east of Jaffa” with a Palestine-2 hypersonic ballistic missile. The IDF Spokesperson confirmed that a missile from Yemen had been intercepted and that there had been reports of interception debris falling in the Modi’in area.
- ◆ **January 3:** An attack against a “military target in the Jaffa area” using a Jaffa drone. The IDF Spokesperson confirmed that a drone launched from Yemen had been intercepted before it crossed into Israeli territory.
- ◆ **January 5:** An attack on the Orot Rabin power plant in Hadera with a Palestine-2 hypersonic ballistic missile. The IDF Spokesperson stated that a missile launched from Yemen had been intercepted before it crossed into Israeli territory.
- ◆ **January 6:** An attack on a “military target” in Jaffa using two drones.
- ◆ **January 6:** An attack against a “vital target” in Ashkelon using a drone.
- ◆ **January 6:** An attack on a “military target” in Jaffa using a drone.
- ◆ **January 9:** An attack on “several targets” in the Jaffa area using three drones. The IDF Spokesperson reported the interception of two drones launched “from the east” and another drone launched from Yemen. Two of the drones were reportedly intercepted over the Mediterranean.
- ◆ **January 13:** An attack against a “vital target in the occupied Jaffa area” using a Palestine-2 hypersonic ballistic missile and an attack against “vital targets in the occupied Jaffa area” using four drones. The IDF Spokesperson confirmed the interception of a drone launched from Yemen and the interception of a ballistic missile launched from Yemen.
- ◆ **January 14:** An attack on the “Defense Ministry of the Israeli enemy in occupied Jaffa” using a Palestine-2 hypersonic ballistic missile. The IDF Spokesperson stated that the Israeli Air Force intercepted a ballistic missile launched from Yemen. Interception debris fell in Moshav Mevo Beitar and south of Jerusalem. There were no casualties.

- ◆ **January 14:** An attack against “targets of the Israeli enemy in the occupied Jaffa area” using several drones and an attack on a power plant in Umm Rashrash (Eilat) using a cruise missile.
- ◆ **January 17:** An attack against “vital targets” in the Umm Rashrash area using four cruise missiles, an attack against “targets of the Israeli enemy in the occupied Jaffa area” using three drones, and an attack on a “vital target” in “occupied” Ashkelon using a drone.
- ◆ **January 18:** An attack against the “Ministry of Defense of the Israeli enemy in the occupied Jaffa area” using a Dhu al-Fiqar ballistic missile. The IDF Spokesperson confirmed that a ballistic missile launched from Yemen was intercepted.
- ◆ **January 18:** An attack on a “vital target” in Umm Rashrash using a Dhu al-Fiqar ballistic missile and an attack on a “vital target” in Umm Rashrash using a cruise missile. The IDF Spokesperson stated that a ballistic missile launched from Yemen was intercepted in the Eilat area.





\* The data on the attacks is based on militia announcements.

## Houthi attacks in the maritime area

► In January 2025, Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saria claimed responsibility for six attacks on military and civilian vessels, compared to five in the previous month. All the attacks were directed against the US aircraft carrier in the Red Sea. The following is the breakdown (Yahya Saria’s Telegram channel, January 1-31, 2025):

- ◆ **January 6:** An attack on the US aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman in the northern Red Sea using two cruise missiles and four drones. According to Saria, the Houthi attack thwarted the Americans’ preparations for an airstrike against Yemen. The claims have not been verified.
- ◆ **January 10:** An attack on the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman and several of its warships in the northern Red Sea using several cruise missiles and drones. According to Saria, the attack thwarted a new airstrike that was supposed to be launched from the aircraft carrier against Yemen. As a result, the aircraft carrier and the ships left the northern Red Sea.
- ◆ **January 11:** An attack on the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman and several of its warships in the northern Red Sea using several cruise missiles and drones. According to Saria, the attack lasted nine hours, forcing the aircraft carrier to leave the area and “flee” to the far north of the Red Sea.

- ◆ **January 15:** An attack on the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman and several of its warships in the northern Red Sea using several cruise missiles and drones. The attack was allegedly carried out during attempts to carry out airstrikes against Yemen.
- ◆ **January 17:** An attack on the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman in the northern Red Sea using several drones.
- ◆ **January 19:** An attack on the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman and several of its warships in the northern Red Sea using several drones and cruise missiles. The aircraft carrier was allegedly forced to leave the area.