13 hurt, 4 seriously, as Hezbollah drone hits community center in northern Israel

April 17, 2024

By Emanuel Fabian

The Times of Israel

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/7-hurt-2-seriously-as-hezbollah-drone-hits-community-center-in-northern-israel/>

Thirteen people were wounded as an apparent drone fired from Lebanon struck a community center in the northern border village of Arab al-Aramshe on Wednesday, medics and the military said.

The Magen David Adom ambulance service said that four of the victims were listed in serious condition. Another person was moderately hurt, and the remaining eight were in good condition, MDA said.

Hezbollah claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it targeted a building used by the Israeli military with guided missiles and explosive-laden drones.

The terror group said the attack was a response to the killing of three of its members, including two commanders, in Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon a day earlier.

The Israel Defense Forces said that several projectiles struck the border community, but did not immediately release information on casualties. According to media reports, a nearby vehicle was also hit in the attack.

Warning sirens did not sound. The IDF was investigating why the alarms were not activated before the strike.

Footage posted to social media showed what appeared to be an explosive-laden drone crashing down on the community center.

Not long after the strike, alarms warning of incoming rockets sounded twice in Arab al-Aramshe.

Following the attack, the IDF said it targeted the launch sites. Fighter jets also struck a building where Hezbollah operatives were gathered, in southern Lebanon’s Ayta ash-Shab, the military added.

Since October 8, Hezbollah has attacked Israeli communities and military posts along the border on a daily basis with rockets, drones, anti-tank missiles and other means, saying it is doing so to support Gaza amid the war there.

Earlier Wednesday, Hezbollah fired several rockets from Lebanon at the Biranit army base. The IDF said no injuries were caused, and troops shelled the launch sites with artillery.

Overnight, Israeli fighter jets struck several Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon, the IDF said Wednesday morning.

The targets included military compounds and buildings used by Hezbollah in Khiam, Mansouri, Aalma ash-Shab and Yater, according to the military.

The exchange of fire Wednesday came a day after Hezbollah launched [two explosive-laden drones at northern Israel](https://www.timesofisrael.com/hezbollah-commander-killed-in-idf-strike-as-attack-drones-injure-3-in-northern-israel/), wounding three people.

Also on Tuesday, the IDF killed two top Hezbollah commanders and a third member of the terror group in airstrikes in southern Lebanon.

Israel has threatened to go to war to force Hezbollah away from the border if it does not retreat and continues to threaten northern communities, from where some 70,000 people were evacuated to avoid the fighting.

So far, the skirmishes on the border have resulted in eight civilian deaths on the Israeli side, as well as the deaths of 10 IDF soldiers and reservists. There have also been several attacks from Syria, without any injuries.

Hezbollah has named 278 members who have been killed by Israel during the ongoing skirmishes, mostly in Lebanon, but some also in Syria. In Lebanon, another 54 operatives from other terror groups, a Lebanese soldier, and at least 60 civilians have been killed.