UN Refuses to Blame Hezbollah for Attacking Peacekeepers in Lebanon

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By Corey Walker

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The United Nations announced on Tuesday that four Ghanaian peacekeepers were wounded ‘most likely by non-state actors within Lebanon,’ noticeably omitting any reference to the [Lebanese terrorist organization Hezbollah](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/03/20/hezbollah-using-lebanese-people-human-shields-placing-munitions-civilian-areas-israel-says/), which wields significant influence across the country and was identified by Israeli forces as responsible for the rocket attack.

‘Four Ghanaian peacekeepers on duty sustained injuries as a rocket — fired most likely by non-State actors within Lebanon — hit their base ‘UNP 5-42’ in the east of the village of Ramyah,’ the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said in a statement.

The UN force added that its ‘peacekeepers and facilities were targeted in three separate incidents in south Lebanon.’ The attacks were so severe that three peacekeepers were transferred to a local hospital, UNIFIL noted.

The peacekeeping mission added that its ‘Sector West Headquarters’ in the southern Lebanese village of Shama also endured an attack from several rockets on Tuesday, adding that no peacekeepers were physically harmed.

UNIFIL claimed that one of its bases has been targeted by so-called ‘non-state actors’ twice over the past week. In addition, the international force said that ‘when a UNIFIL patrol was passing through a road northeast of the village of Khirbat Silim, an armed person directly fired at the patrol’

‘The pattern of regular attacks — direct or indirect — against peacekeepers must end immediately,’ UNIFIL concluded.

The UN force’s apparent refusal to name Hezbollah received widespread scrutiny on social media, where many users noted that the Iran-backed terrorist organization has been involved in [active combat near UNIFIL facilities](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/10/14/israel-says-hezbollah-using-un-troops-lebanon-human-shields-unifil-refuses-leave-combat-zones/) and is by far the most powerful and widespread non-state actor in Lebanon.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said on Tuesday that Hezbollah was responsible for the rocket attacks on both Ramyah and Shama.

According to the IDF, the UNIFIL base in Shama, was hit by several rockets launched by Hezbollah from the Maaliyeh area. A source from Italy’s defense ministry told AFP that ‘Hezbollah was responsible for the attack,’ which involved eight rockets hitting the headquarters of the Italian contingent of UNIFL. No injuries were reported.

Last month, the IDF said that Hezbollah had [fired dozens of rockets and missiles](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/10/14/hezbollah-launched-25-attacks-unifil-posts-past-month/) at Israeli communities and forces from terrorist compounds embedded near UNIFIL posts in southern Lebanon. Israeli officials have repeatedly warned UN peacekeepers that Hezbollah is weaponizing their presence in the Iran-backed terrorist organization’s war against the Jewish state, using them as human shields.

Despite its omission of Hezbollah, UNIFIL has not shied away from calling out Israel for allegedly attacking peacekeepers in the region.

In an October statement bemoaning ‘escalation’ of violence in southern Lebanon, the UN force stated that ‘rockets continue to be launched towards Israel’ without naming Hezbollah, which has been targeting northern Israel with barrages of rockets, missiles, and drones for the past year. However, in the next sentence, UNIFIL blasted ‘incursions from Israel into Lebanon.’ The mission also condemned the IDF for allegedly firing ‘its weapon toward an observation tower at UNIFIL’s headquarters.’

Israeli officials have long accused the UN more broadly of having a [bias against the Jewish state](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/01/04/absurd-un-condemned-israel-twice-often-all-other-countries-combined-2023/). Last year, the UN General Assembly condemned Israel twice as often as it did all other countries. Meanwhile, of all the country-specific resolutions passed by the UNHRC, nearly half have condemned Israel, a seemingly disproportionate focus on the lone democracy in the Middle East.

Weeks following last year’s Oct. 7 attacks by Hamas on Israel, the [UN adopted](https://press.un.org/en/2023/ga12548.doc.htm) a resolution calling for a ‘ceasefire’ between Israel and the Palestinian terrorist group. The UN [failed to pass](https://press.un.org/en/2023/ga12548.doc.htm) a measure condemning the Hamas atrocities.

On Tuesday, UN spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric de la Rivière refused to assign blame to any party for allegedly ransacking and looting 90 humanitarian aid trucks in Gaza. Hamas, which rules Gaza, has a long [history of stealing humanitarian aid](https://www.algemeiner.com/2024/05/03/hamas-tried-steal-gaza-aid-shipment-jordan-us-says/) intended for the civilians of the beleaguered enclave, although it’s unclear who was responsible for the recent looting.

‘When people, when armed people, try to take over control of a vehicle and goods, we’re not asking questions and they’re not wearing insignias,’ he said to reporters.

The spokesperson added that the UN will not accept any security from Israel, stating that its employees would be ‘an even greater target if we were surrounded by armed soldiers.’ Nonetheless, he insisted that the Jewish state still ‘has a responsibility’ to ensure that the UN’s workers and humanitarian aid are safe.