Soldier lightly injured in stabbing attack in Hebron; assailant shot dead

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An Israeli soldier was lightly injured in an apparent stabbing attack in the West Bank city of Hebron on Monday morning, the army said.

The assailant was shot and subdued by the serviceman and other troops on the scene, according to the Israel Defense Forces.

“A terrorist tried to stab a soldier near the Tomb of the Patriarchs and lightly wounded him. The soldier and additional forces at the scene responded with live fire,” the army said.

The soldier was a member of the Defense Ministry’s liaison unit, known formally as the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories.

He was walking with an officer from COGAT’s Hebron coordination office when he was attacked. After a brief struggle, the soldier distanced himself from the assailant and shot him.

Pictures from the scene that were posted to social media appeared to show the alleged stabber dead, his body covered by black plastic sheeting.

The Israeli military would not confirm the assailant had been killed, saying only that he had been “neutralized.”

The Tomb of the Patriarchs pilgrimage site in Hebron is a frequent flashpoint, as both Palestinians and Israelis regularly pass through the area.