

EXPOSURE OF JUDEA AND SAMARIA-BASED HAMAS MILITARY TERROR INFRASTRUCTURES; PREVENTION OF SUICIDE BOMBING IN JERUSALEM

September
2011



Main information

2

- Since May 2011 ISA, with the cooperation of IDF and the police, exposed 13 Hamas military infrastructures in Judea and Samaria; these infrastructures were in various stages of planning for the execution of military activity: recruiting cells, obtaining weapons and planning attacks.
- The activity of all the above infrastructures (apart from the one which succeeded to carry out the March 2011 IED attack in Jerusalem) was prevented and the members were arrested before succeeding to implement their intentions.
- As part of Israeli CT activity, in recent months dozens of Hamas activists were arrested.



Main information

3

- The interrogations of the detained infrastructures' activists revealed Hamas intensive efforts to restore the organization's military infrastructures in Judea and Samaria aiming to advance attacks against Israeli targets.
- Various elements in the organization are part of these efforts and they encourage Judea and Samaria-based Hamas activists to carry out the activity:

Abroad

Hamas HQ abroad (operating mainly from Syria, Saudi Arabia and Turkey) provides funding, guidance and training.

Prison

Imprisoned Hamas activists encourage their friends in the field to act, attributing top priority to kidnapping attack. Activists released from prison join their friends in the field and guide their activity.

Gaza Strip

Gaza Strip-based Hamas assists in guiding and funding as well as facilitates attempts to transfer weapons to be used in Judea and Samaria.

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL



Main information

4

- Instructions forwarded to the emerging infrastructures' activists reveal the importance of a kidnapping attack leading to negotiations for prisoners' release.
- Below are some examples of military Hamas infrastructures whose activity was recently thwarted:



EXPOSURE OF PRISON- BASED HAMAS INFRASTRUCTURE GUIDING MILITARY INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE FIELD



Background

6

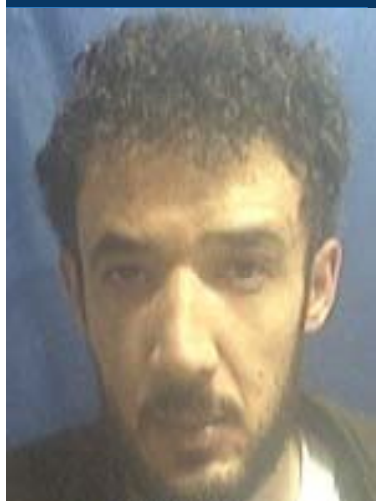
- As of mid 2010, ISA – with the assistance of and coordination with the Israeli Prison Service (IPS) – exposed Hamas military infrastructure operating from *Ksiot* prison.
- More than 20 activists from all over Judea and Samaria, most of them prisoners with a short term left to serve, were recruited prior to their release from prison, and were guided to carry out terror attacks in Judea and Samaria, particularly kidnapping a soldier for negotiations on prisoners' release.
- The funding for the establishment and activity of the infrastructure came partly from Gaza Strip-based Hamas elements.



The detainees

7

Saber Diyab



- Resident of Qalqilya, 30 years old.
- Imprisoned in *Ksiot* (until 2014) due to military activity, including: IED attacks and planning of a suicide bombing.
- Co-heads the infrastructure which was established in prison for the execution of attacks in Judea and Samaria.
- Traced and recruited activists for the infrastructure (mainly prisoners from Judea and Samaria who are about to be released) and assisted in passing theoretical trainings on IED production.
- Acted to obtain funding for the establishment and activity of the infrastructure from Gaza Strip-based Hamas.

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL



The detainees

8

Ihab Sada



- Resident of Qalqilya, 25 years old. He was imprisoned from 2007 until Jan. 2011.
- Sada was recruited to the infrastructure while in prison in July 2010; in prison he also passed theoretical trainings on the production of IEDs.
- Upon his release, he was guided to purchase weapons for the infrastructure's cells with funds forwarded to him by Gaza Strip-based Hamas elements.
- He was guided to join a cell which will kidnap a soldier and then demand to release Palestinian prisoners in exchange for the release of the soldier.
- Sada was arrested in May 2011.



The detainees

9

Mohammad Tamizi



- Resident of *Idna/Hebron*, 22 years old. He was imprisoned from May 2008 until May 2010.
- Tamizi was recruited to the infrastructure while in prison; in prison he also passed theoretical trainings on the preparation of IEDs.
- He received the following instructions:
 - Establish a cell which will execute shooting, IED and soldier kidnapping attacks.
 - Trace a safe haven, with several escapes, to hide the kidnapped soldier.
 - Execute shooting against an IDF jeep aiming to kidnap a soldier and bring him to the safe haven.



The detainees

10

Baha Alfroukh



- Resident of Zurif/Hebron; 22 years old.
- He was incarcerated from December 2008 until August 2010 and while in prison was recruited to the infrastructure.
- After his release, he established a military Hamas cell.
- He planned to obtain weapons for his cell through: stealing weapons from the Palestinian security apparatuses, collecting ammunition from IDF training bases and stealing explosives from IDF base in *Ezion* camp.
- He planned to execute various attacks such as: shooting attack against a patrol jeep passing close to the separation fence in the area of *Jaba* checkpoint, close to *Gush Ezion*, and kidnapping a soldier from an IDF unit entering the village.
- He was arrested in June 2011.



Prison

Detainee

Saber Diyab/Qalqilya

Prison infrastructure

Recruitment
Theoretical training on the preparations of IEDs
Instructions to execute shooting, IED and kidnapping attacks

Detainee

Baha Alfrookh/
Zurif

Detainee

Mohammad
Tamizi/ Idna

Detainee

Ihab Sada/ Qalqilya

- Establishment of a cell
- Collection of weapons
- Planning to execute a shooting attack and kidnapping of a soldier from the patrol unit entering the village.

- Instructions to establish a cell
- Execution of attacks
- Tracing a safe haven to hide the soldier

- Promise to receive funds from Gaza Strip-based Hamas to purchase weapons.
- Joining a cell which will execute a kidnapping attack.
- Setting conditions for the negotiations:
- Release of all the female Palestinian prisoners and 50 prisoners from all organizations.



EXPOSURE OF A GAZA STRIP-GUIDED AND HEBRON-BASED HAMAS INFRASTRUCTURE THAT PLANNED A KIDNAPPING ATTACK



Background

13

- In June 2011, ISA with the assistance of IDF exposed a Hamas military cell in Hebron, at its advanced stages of forming, and carrying out attacks.
- The cell was operated by Gaza Strip-based military Hamas infrastructure and received instructions to carry out a kidnapping attack.
- The Gaza Strip-based infrastructure intended to transfer weapons to the cell in Hebron by smuggling them from the Gaza Strip through Sinai.



Individuals guiding the attack from the Gaza Strip

14

Abu Yahye and Abu Osama – tracing and recruiting perpetrators in Saudi Arabia

- Hamas military wing activists – Izz ad-Din al-Qassam; residents of the Gaza Strip.
- They traced and recruited the perpetrators from Judea and Samaria for the execution of a military activity.
- In Saudi Arabia they met with Ahmad Madhoun/Hebron and recruited him for Hamas military activity; he was tasked with forming a military cell and kidnapping a soldier for negotiations purposes.



Detainees

15

Ahmad Madhoun – Head of the Cell



- Resident of Hebron, 44 years old, military Hamas activist, former detainee.
- He was recruited in Saudi Arabia for Hamas military activity by two military Hamas activists from the Gaza Strip, who guided him to form a military cell and kidnap a soldier for negotiations purposes.
- He received 10,000 dollars for the forming and armament of the cell as well as documents on military topics, including instructions on the production of explosives and other weapons.
- Upon his return to the field, he recruited Shaher Skafi.



Detainees

16

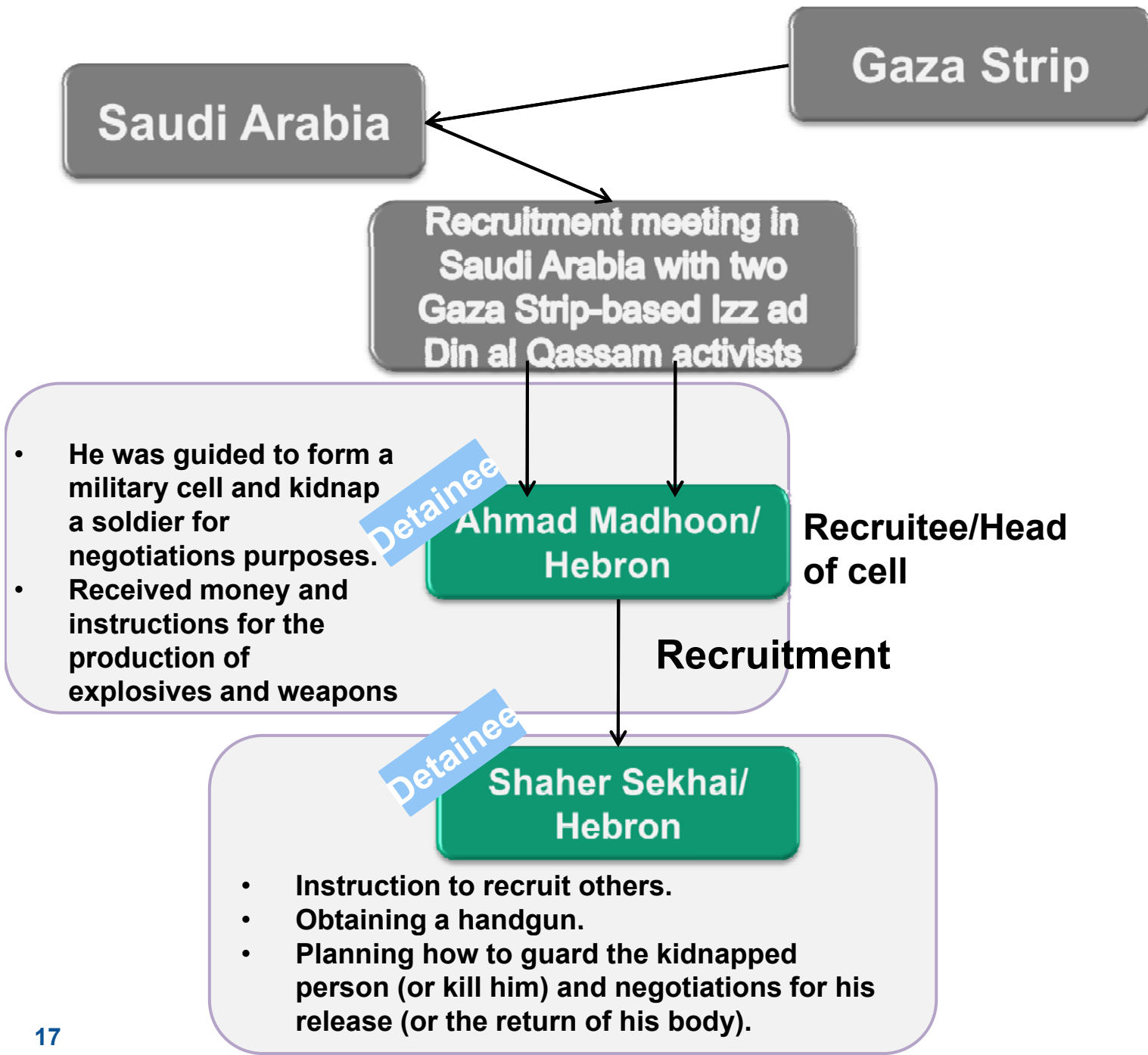
Shaher Skafi



- Resident of Hebron, 42 years old, Hamas military activist.
- He was recruited by Ahmad Madhoun due to former acquaintance and joint former membership in a Hamas military cell.
- He was guided by Madhoun to recruit more youths from Hebron to the cell and obtain a handgun.
- In his interrogation, he recounted advanced planning: how to guard the kidnapped individual or assassinate him and negotiate the return of the body.

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL





EXPOSURE OF HAMAS INFRASTRUCTURE IN HEBRON AND JERUSALEM AND PREVENTION OF A SUICIDE ATTACK IN JERUSALEM



Main information

19

- **As of late August 2011 ISA, with the cooperation of IDF and the police, exposed Hebron-based Hamas military infrastructure intending to carry out mass murder and kidnapping attacks:**
 - **On Aug. 21 – a suicide attack in Jerusalem, *Pisgat Ze'ev* neighborhood.**
 - **Advanced stages of planning a kidnapping in the area of *Gush Ezion* and Hebron.**
 - **Several additional terror attacks.**
- **The explosive bag, which was destined for the suicide attack in Jerusalem was handed over on Aug. 20. Another IED and explosives which were probably destined for the execution of further attacks were seized by the security forces in a hiding place in Hebron.**
- **The potential suicide bomber, a Hebronite, who was infiltrated into Jerusalem, was arrested in Jerusalem on Aug. 22.**

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL



Main information

20

- The infrastructure which included a Jerusalem branch was responsible for the explosive bag attack near the International Convention Center (ICC; *Binyenei HaUmah*) carried out on March 23 2011 and resulting in the death of one British citizen and injury of 47 Israeli citizens.
- The infrastructure was guided by Syria-based Hamas HQ which sent an emissary to the field with funds and instructions to execute attacks.
- The exposure of the infrastructure was based on intensive intelligence activity and the interrogation of the emissary of the Syria-based Hamas HQ who was sent to fulfill tasks in Judea and Samaria; on July 27 2011 he was arrested for ISA questioning.



Detainees

21

Ayman al Adam – Emissary of Syria-based Hamas HQ



- 39 years old, holder of a Palestinian ID, originally from *Beit Ula/Hebron*.
- He was handled by Azzam Akra, senior military activist of Syria-based Hamas HQ; as part of this handling, he carried out operational activity in various world arenas such as: China, Syria and Turkey.
- He passed military trainings in Syria: weapons trainings and production of explosives.
- He was dispatched to Hebron on behalf of the HQ and transferred funds and instructions for the execution of terror attacks and kidnapping.

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL



Detainees

Housein Kawasme – senior of the infrastructure and explosives expert



- He is 36 years old, resident of Hebron, former detainee, military Hamas activist and the infrastructure's explosives expert.
- He was recruited for military activity by Hamas HQ abroad, by Mamoon Kafisha, a military Hamas activist, staying in Saudi Arabia and guiding Hamas military activity in Judea and Samaria.
- He served as the infrastructure's "engineer" and prepared the IED used for the ICC attack in March 2011.
- Another IED and TATP bag were seized at his home.



Detainees

23

Abd Razeq Kawasme



- 17 years old, high school student, the son of Housein Kawasme.
- In May 2011 he was recruited by his father to assist him in his e-mail correspondence.
- He opened several e-mail addresses; sent and received messages for his father as part of his father's contacts with his handlers abroad.



The Detainees

24

Nidal Shehade– one of the headmen



- **40 years old; resident of Hebron resident; a former detainee**
- **Recruiter**
- **Involved in the recruitment of Ishaq Arafah who executed the IED attack near the ICC/Jerusalem on March 23, 2011.**
- **Involved in the suicide attack plot which was to take place on August 21, 2011.**



The Detainees

25

Ishaq Arafah – Jerusalem branch: perpetrator and the suicide bomber's driver



- 23 years old; a Hamas military activist; a *Ras Al Amud/Jerusalem* resident; a blue ID card holder; worked at a reception hall until his arrest.
- Part of *Shabab Al Aqsa* – a group of young Hamas-affiliates who plan activity at the Temple Mount.
- Recruited by Housein Kawasme who gave Arafah military briefings and directed him to recruit other Jerusalem-based activists.
- He and Kawasme assembled the IED which exploded on March 23. Arafah had transported the IED to Jerusalem placing it next to a bus stop in the ICC area.
- Resulting from the attack: fatalities: one female-tourist; casualties: 47 civilians.



The Detainees

26

Ishaq Arafah – Jerusalem branch: perpetrator and the suicide bomber's driver



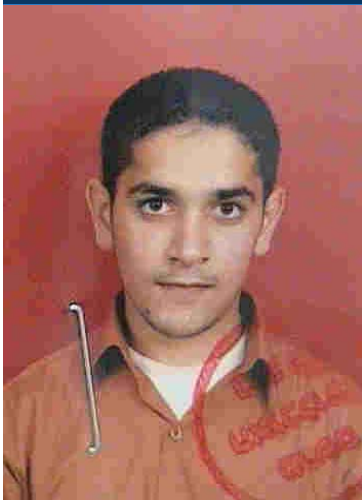
- Agreed to facilitate another attack for the infrastructure – this time a suicide attack in Jerusalem.
- Transported the IED to Jerusalem; hid it next to his house in *Ras Al Amud* area (IED's location was disclosed in the course of his interrogation)
- Tasked to meet the suicide bomber in East Jerusalem and lead him to the planned location of attack in *Pisgat Ze'ev* area.
- Admitted to having planned a kidnap attack and having inspected Gush Ezion crossroad as a potential kidnapping site.



The Detainees

27

Said Kawasme – the suicide bomber



- 20 years old; resident of Hebron; a Hamas activist.
- Tasked to commit the suicide attack in Jerusalem on August 21, 2011.
- Tasked to meet with Ishaq Arafah in East Jerusalem to receive the IED.
- Arafah was to drive Kawasme to *Pisgat Ze'ev*, the site of the attack.
- Detained on August 22, 2011 at the Temple Mount.



The Detainees

28

Mousab Abu Sheheidem



- 22 years old; a Hamas military activist; resident of Hebron.
- The infrastructure's prominent spotter. Spotted and recruited Ishaq Arafah and Said Kawasme.
- Took part in the planning of the kidnap attack with Housein Kawasme. Carried an electric shocker upon his arrest.
- Planned to keep the victim at his grandfather's house.
- Disclosed during the interrogation the existence of a handgun he received from Housein Kawasme.



The handgun Sheheidem handed over upon his interrogation

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL



The Weapons

29

The IED – the explosive bag

- The IED was destined to explode in a suicide attack in Jerusalem. It was composed of a fire extinguisher filled with TATP weighing approx. 6kg, surrounded with fragmentation.
- The IED's location was disclosed on August 20, at Ishaq Arafah's home in Jerusalem.
- Other IED and explosives were seized in Hebron; the explosives were meant to be used in other terror attacks plotted by the infrastructure.

The IED at Arafah's home

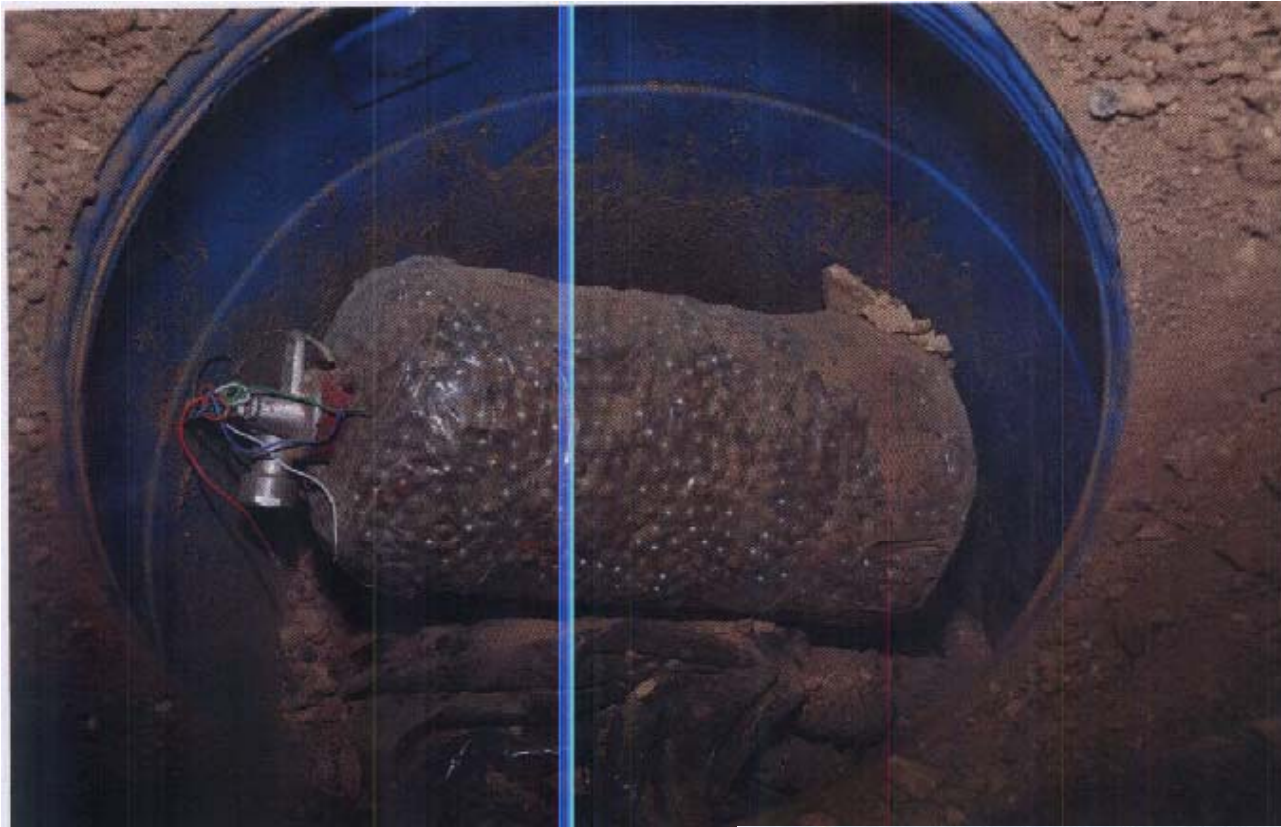


The explosive bag which contained the IED for the Jerusalem suicide attack

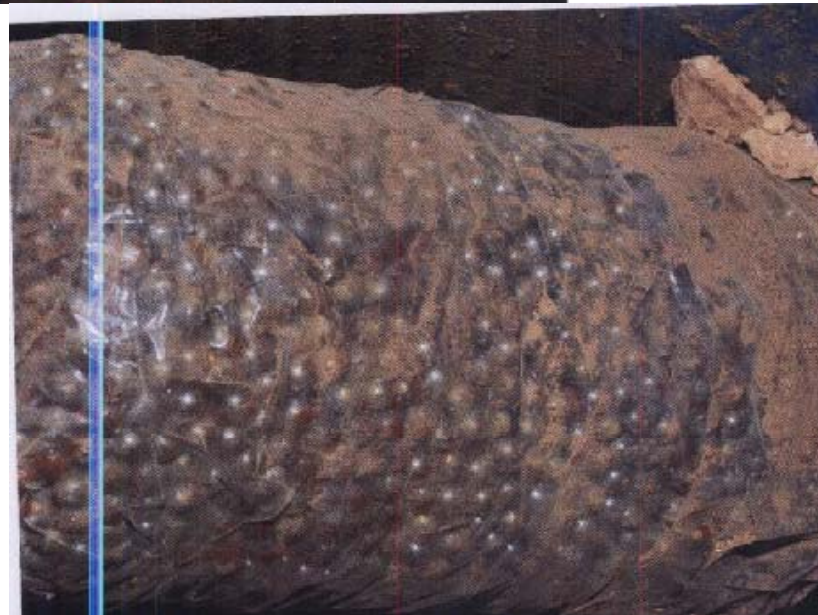


The Power switch of the bag





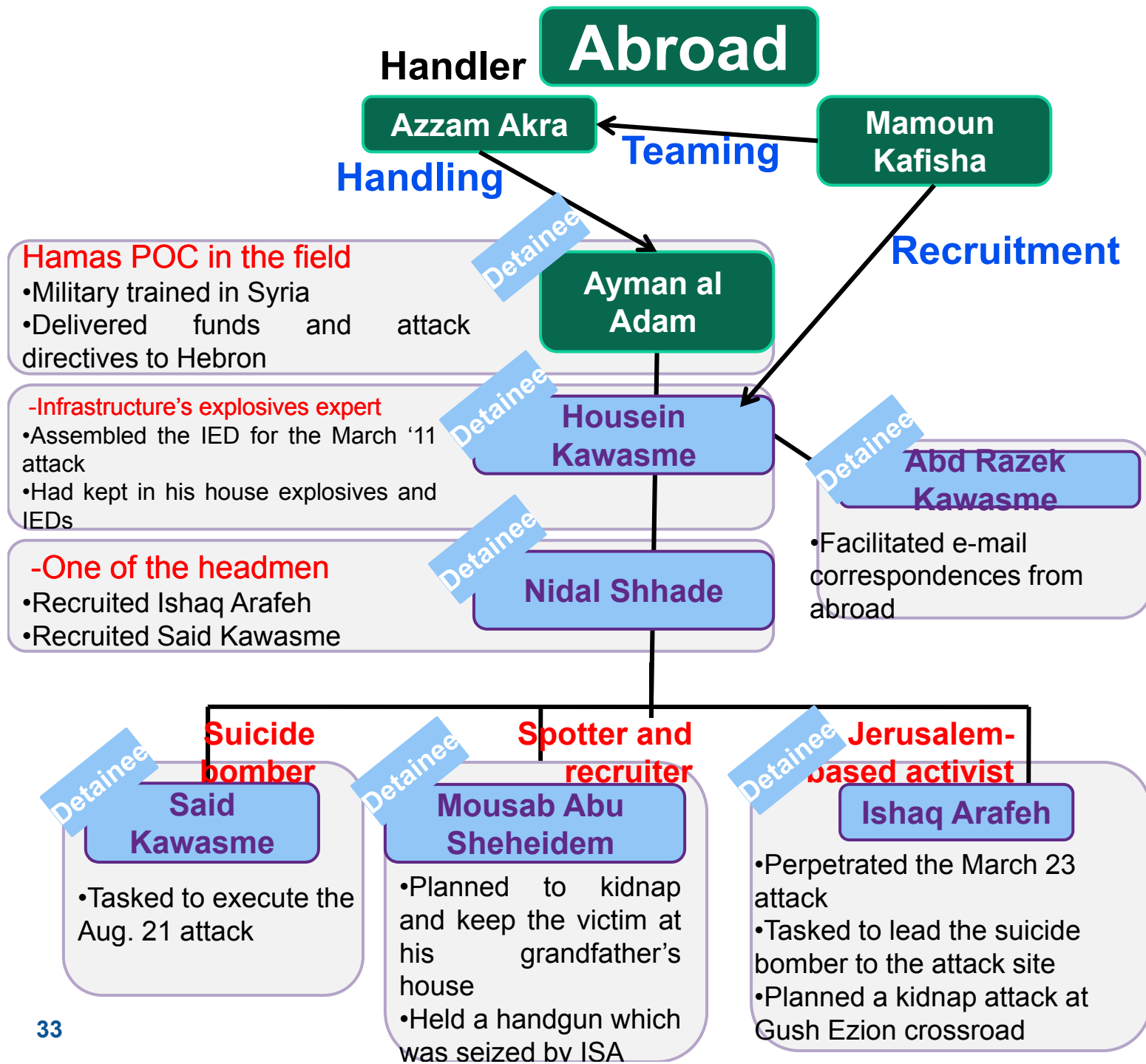
**The 6kg IED seized on
Aug. 21 in Hebron**





Housein Kawasmeh's house in Hebron; the weapons and IED were hidden nearby







A terror attack near the ICC on March 23, 2011

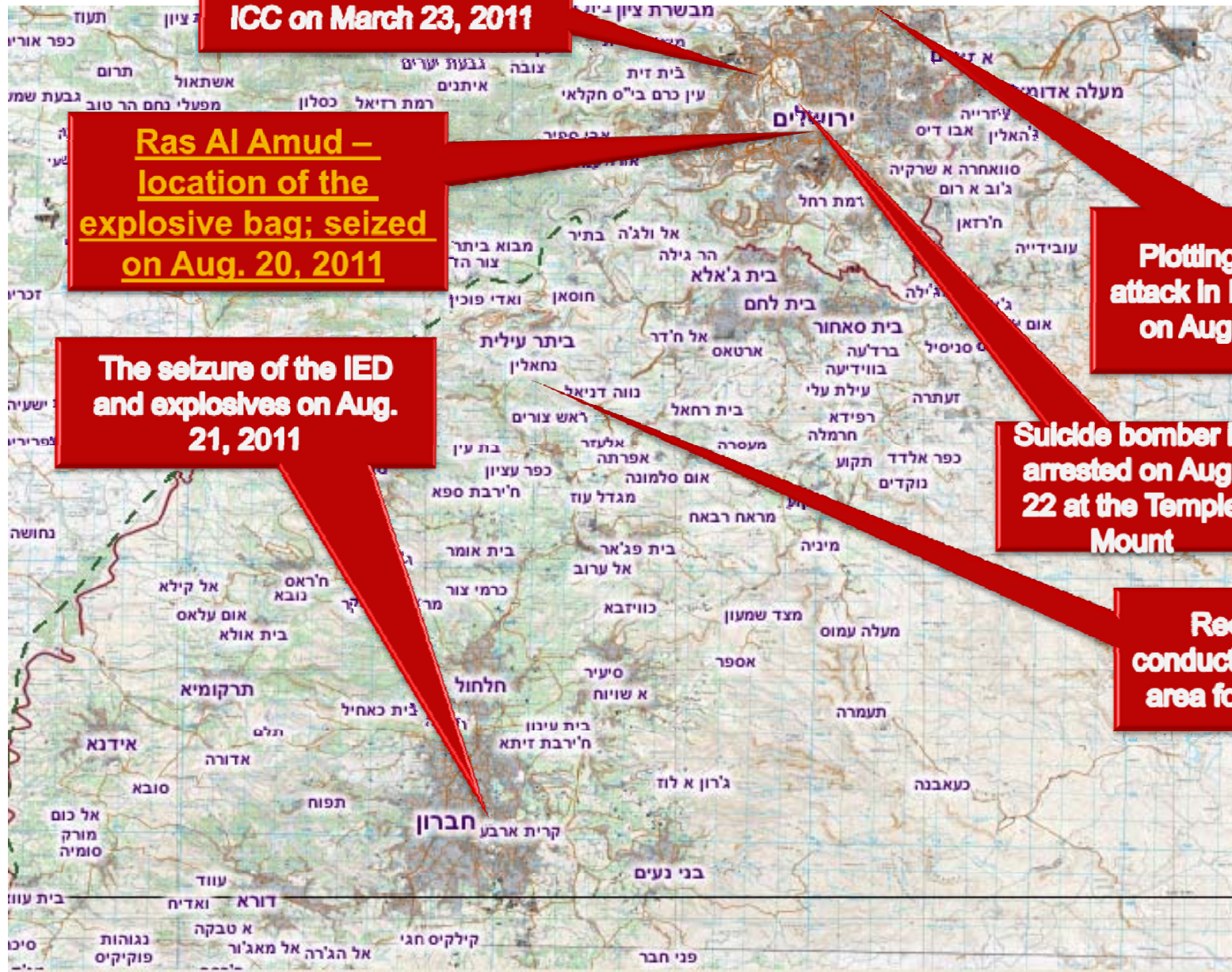
Ras Al Amud – location of the explosive bag; seized on Aug. 20, 2011

The seizure of the IED and explosives on Aug. 21, 2011

Plotting a suicide attack in Pisgat Ze'ev on Aug. 21, 2011

Suicide bomber is arrested on Aug. 22 at the Temple Mount

Reconnaissance conducted in Gush Ezion area for a kidnap attack



Summary

35

- The exposure of the terror infrastructures proves, once again, that Hamas HQ in Syria, the Gaza Strip, and imprisoned Hamas activists are devoting intensive efforts to restore West Bank-based Hamas military infrastructures aiming to commit lethal attacks within Israel.
- These late discoveries show that Hamas is upgrading its infrastructures' activity; it is also highly prepared and highly motivated to commit attacks, particularly kidnapping attacks.
- The CT activity against the terror infrastructures continues with great determination.

WWW.SHABAK.GOV.IL

