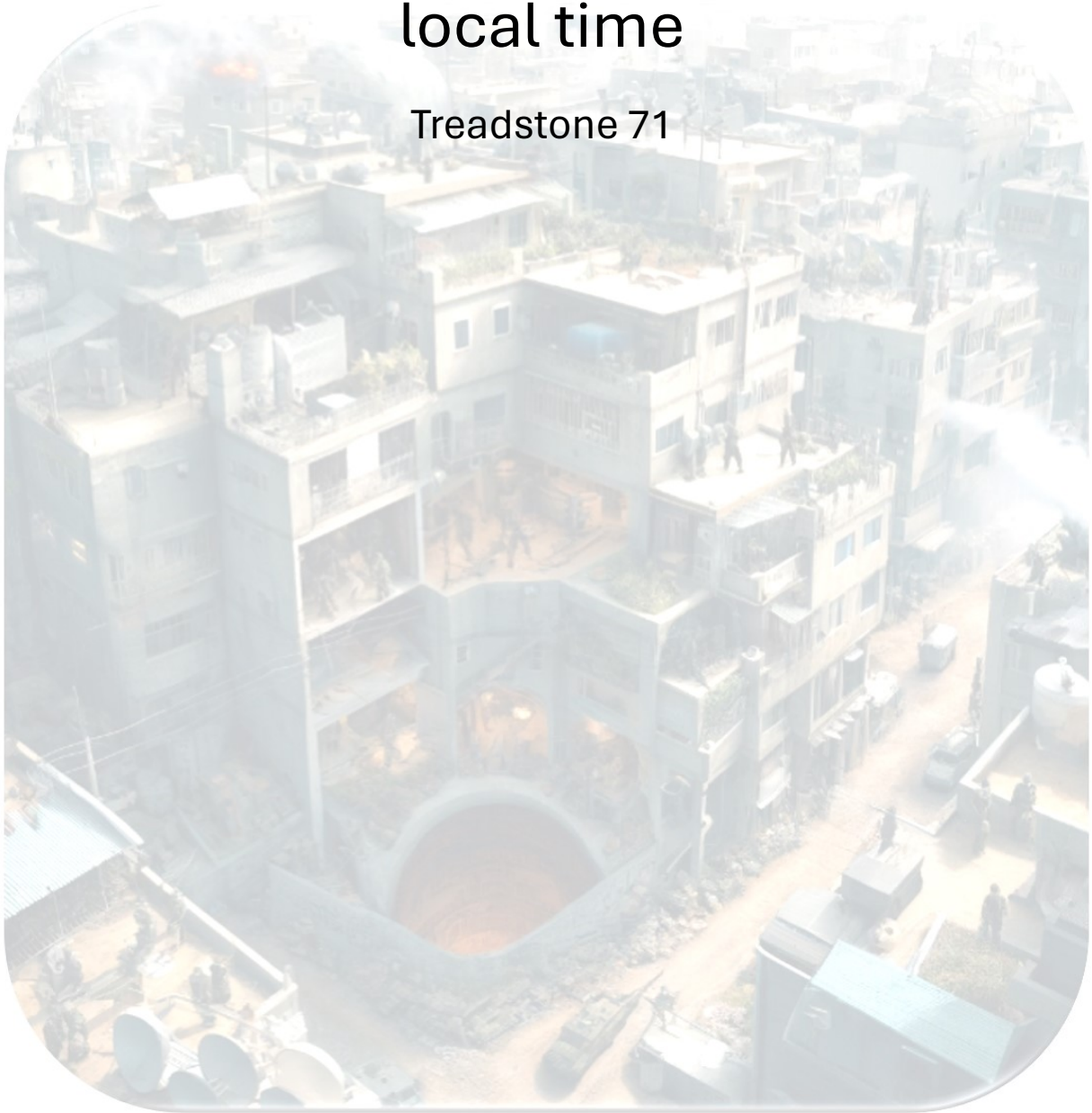


Adaptive Strategies and Tactics of Al-Qassam Brigades May 1-June 7 14 00

local time

Treadstone 71



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Introduction

The Treadstone 71 analysis examines the strategic, operational, and tactical patterns of the Al-Qassam Brigades from May 1 through the afternoon of June 7, focusing on weaponry, timings, and regional integration. The data reveals a sustained and coordinated effort to maintain pressure on adversaries, supported by an extensive smuggling network and local production capabilities.

Long-term engagement emphasizes continuous attacks, resource allocation, and regional alliances. Integrated propaganda and military strategies synchronize media releases with military actions, targeting enemy morale through psychological operations. Coordination with groups like the Islamic Resistance in Iraq, Yemeni armed forces, and Hezbollah boosts operational capabilities and reinforces strategic solidarity.

Diverse weaponry includes advanced missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), drones, and IEDs. Complex, multi-phase attacks involve artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements supported by real-time intelligence. Joint operations between Al-Qassam and Al-Quds Brigades indicate high coordination levels.

They use luring enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes and using decoys as standard ambush and deception tactics. Asymmetrical warfare employs guerrilla tactics and urban warfare, exploiting enemy weaknesses. High mobility and flexibility allow rapid deployment and adaptive responses.

Weapons range from 60mm and 82mm mortar shells to heavy-caliber mortars, TBG and Al-Yassin 105 missiles, Rajum missile systems, Katyusha rockets, and various IEDs. Each weapon type varies in materials, country of origin, and assembly methods. Smuggling networks from Iran, North Korea, and other sympathetic nations supply components, which are often assembled in Gaza's clandestine workshops.

Early morning and evening attacks use surprise and darkness, while morning and afternoon actions build on earlier engagements to sustain pressure. The highest frequency of attacks occurs in the morning, combining various tactics and weapons for maximum impact.

Coordination with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, Hezbollah, and Yemeni armed forces includes training, funding, and technical expertise. These alliances enhance operational capabilities and reinforce ideological commitments.

Frequent propaganda videos and social media use boost morale among supporters and intimidate opponents. Messages target Israeli civilians to instill fear and distrust, emphasizing the futility of resisting Hamas. Religious rhetoric frames actions as a holy struggle, reinforcing the narrative of victimhood and righteousness.¹

Hamas' strategic use of timing, diverse weaponry, and regional integration demonstrates a sophisticated and adaptive approach to sustained conflict. Their ability to maintain operational intensity despite resource constraints highlights their resilience and tactical innovation. The comprehensive analysis of their actions provides insights into their enduring effectiveness and strategic depth.

Chronological Analysis and Patterns

May 1, 2024

- **Actions** Both Al-Qassam and Al-Quds Brigades began their activities with a coordinated attack involving mortar shells at 01:55, targeting enemy positions near Sheikh Ajlins, followed by multiple attacks using 114 mm Rajum missile systems and heavy-caliber mortar shells targeting different enemy locations, including Kibbutz Holeit, the Netzarim axis, and a command headquarters near the Turkish Friendship Hospital.
- **Weapons Usage** Predominantly heavy-caliber mortar shells and 114 mm Rajum missile systems.
- **Methods of Attack** Mortar shelling and missile attacks.
- **Language and Religious Connotations** The use of terms like "Zionist enemy" and hashtags such as #Al-Aqsa Flood, indicate religious and political motivations.

May 2-4, 2024

- **Actions** Continued shelling and missile attacks on enemy positions. Significant events included a tribute to fallen fighters, emphasizing martyrdom and resistance.
- **Integration with Outside Groups** Coordination with Omar Al-Qasim's forces and involvement of Al-Jazeera for media coverage.
- **Patterns in Postings** Frequent updates on social media with detailed reports of each attack, often including videos.

¹ Due to some patterns, trends, and tendencies relevancy to multiple areas, there will be repetition in some areas.

May 5-8, 2024

- **Weapons and Calibers** Use "Al-Yassin 105" shells, RPGs, and heavy-caliber mortar shells. Introduction of anti-tank and anti-personnel weapons.
- **Methods** Complex attacks involving multiple types of weaponry and detailed tactical movements, such as targeting command centers, sniping, and destroying infrastructure like tanks and bulldozers.
- **Language** Continued emphasis on religious duty and martyrdom. Statements often included Quranic verses and expressions of pride and determination.
- **Trends** Increased intensity of attacks, with more sophisticated weaponry and coordinated assaults. Frequent mention of successful operations and casualties inflicted on the enemy.

May 9-11, 2024

- **Actions** Major military operations included bombings, complex ambushes, and targeting of strategic locations like command centers and supply lines.
- **Weapons Usage** A wider range of weaponry, including the Rajum missile system, RPGs, anti-tank missiles, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).
- **Integration with Outside Groups** Statements from the Islamic Resistance in Iraq showing solidarity and joint operations with Al-Qassam Brigades.
- **Patterns in Language** Consistent themes of resistance, jihad, and martyrdom. Increased use of social media for broadcasting their actions and maintaining high visibility.
- **Victimhood and Vilification** Strong emphasis on the suffering of Palestinian civilians and the vilification of Israeli forces, often accusing them of massacres and war crimes.

May 12-14, 2024

- **Actions** Continued heavy attacks focused on strategic targets and supply lines. Coordination with other groups, including the Martyr Jihad Jibril Brigades.
- **Weapons** Continued use of heavy-caliber mortars, short-range missiles, and advanced anti-tank weaponry.
- **Methods** Increased use of sniping, booby-trapped tunnels, and combined arms operations (ground and missile attacks).

- **Language** Statements frequently included Quranic verses and references to martyrdom and jihad. Consistent narrative of defending against oppression and fighting for liberation.

Trends and Tendencies

- **Patterns in Actions** Consistent use of coordinated attacks with a mix of mortar shells, missiles, and anti-tank weapons. Frequent targeting of enemy concentrations and strategic locations.
- **Integration with Outside Groups** Strong coordination with Al-Quds Brigades and other regional groups like the Islamic Resistance in Iraq. They often highlight joint operations in communications.
- **Language Use** Heavy use of religious connotations, emphasizing jihad, martyrdom, and resistance. Frequent accusations against Israeli forces, portraying them as oppressors and perpetrators of massacres.
- **Victimhood and Vilification** Narratives frequently portrayed Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression, using terms like "Zionist enemy" and emphasizing the impact on civilians. Statements often included emotional appeals and calls for continued resistance.
- **Weapon Usage and Methods** Increasing sophistication in weaponry and tactics, with a notable trend towards using more advanced and destructive weapons. Combined arms operations and detailed tactical movements were common.

Comprehensive Details

The document reveals a well-coordinated and highly organized series of military operations by the Al-Qassam and Al-Quds Brigades, reflecting their strategic focus on disrupting enemy forces and infrastructure. The language in their communications motivates and unifies their supporters while attempting to delegitimize and vilify their opponents. Frequently integrating outside groups indicates a broad network of alliances, enhancing their operational capabilities and reinforcing their ideological narrative. The trend points to an escalating conflict with increasingly sophisticated tactics and weaponry.

Patterns in Actions and Postings

1. Consistent and Coordinated Attacks

- Regularly timed attacks, often during the early morning and late at night, indicate a strategic approach to maximize impact.

- Coordination between Al-Qassam Brigades and Al-Quds Brigades, with frequent joint operations.
- Use of multiple types of weaponry in a single operation to overwhelm and disorient the enemy (e.g., combining mortar shells with missile attacks).

2. Intensive Media Campaign

- Immediate posting of attack reports on social media platforms.
- Use hashtags like #Al-Aqsa Flood to create a unified and recognizable narrative.
- Frequent video releases showing attacks and their aftermath to boost morale and demonstrate capability.

3. Weaponry and Tactics

- Heavy reliance on mortars, guided missiles, and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).
- Use specific weaponry like "Al-Yassin 105" shells, Rajum missile systems, and RPGs.
- Patterns in targeting frequent attacks on strategic locations like command centers, supply lines, and fortified enemy positions.
- Combination of long-range and short-range weapons in attacks, such as mortars with anti-tank weapons.

4. Integration with External Groups

- Regular coordination with groups like Islamic Resistance in Iraq and Yemeni armed forces.
- Joint operations with these groups indicate a high strategic and operational integration level.
- Statements from allied groups show solidarity and support, enhancing the perception of a united front against common enemies.

Patterns in Language and Messaging

1. Religious and Ideological Framing

- They frequently use Quranic verses and religious terminology to justify actions and motivate supporters.
- Emphasis on jihad, martyrdom, and religious duty are key communication themes.
- Consistent narrative of resistance against oppression, portraying their actions as a struggle for liberation and justice.

2. Narrative of Victimhood and Vilification

- Strong portrayal of Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression, emphasizing civilian casualties and suffering.
- Vilification of Israeli forces, often described as "Zionist enemy" and accused of war crimes and massacres.
- Emotional appeals to rally support and legitimize their actions in the eyes of both local and international audiences.

3. Psychological Warfare

- Use of media to amplify the impact of their operations, intending to demoralize the enemy and boost the morale of their forces.
- Frequent updates and detailed reports on successful attacks create a sense of ongoing success and momentum.
- Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers, urging them to distrust their government and military leaders.

Trends and Tendencies

1. Escalation and Intensification

- Gradual increase in the intensity and frequency of attacks over the period analyzed.
- Use of increasingly sophisticated and destructive weapons, indicating an escalation in the conflict.
- Higher frequency of coordinated attacks involving multiple types of weaponry and tactics.

2. Operational Sophistication

- Detailed planning and execution of attacks, often involving complex tactics like ambushes, sniping, and combined arms operations.
- High operational coordination with external groups enhances their overall capability and reach.
- Use advanced technology, such as guided missiles and drones, in their operations.

3. Strategic Use of Media

- They use social media and video content to document and publicize their actions.
- Consistent messaging to maintain a unified narrative and reinforce their ideological position.
- Use of media as a tool for psychological warfare, targeting both their supporters and their enemies.

The patterns that stand out in Hamas' actions from May 1 through the afternoon of June 7 include a high degree of coordination and consistency in their military operations, a sophisticated media campaign to amplify their impact, and a strong integration with external groups. The language used in their communications heavily emphasizes religious and ideological themes, portraying their struggle as a just and righteous cause. The narrative of victimhood and vilification serves to legitimize their actions and rally support, while the use of media for psychological warfare intends to demoralize their enemies and maintain a sense of momentum and success.

Additional Standout Elements

Strategically Unique Aspects (also listed in Table 1 below)

1. Long-Term Engagement and Sustainability

- **Sustained Operations** The continuous and relentless nature of their attacks over an extended period indicates a strategic emphasis on maintaining constant pressure on their adversaries, involving careful planning and resource management to ensure sustained operations.
- **Resource Allocation** Effective allocation of resources, including weapons, personnel, and logistics, to maintain operational intensity and readiness over weeks.

2. Integrated Propaganda and Military Strategy

- **Media Synchronization** The synchronization of military actions with media releases demonstrates a sophisticated strategy to control the narrative and influence local and global perceptions.
- **Psychological Operations** Targeting Israeli civilian morale through direct messages and emphasizing Israeli military casualties and failures. This dual focus on military action and psychological impact is unique and strategically potent.

3. International Coordination

- **Regional Alliances** Active coordination with other militant groups and state actors like Islamic Resistance in Iraq, Yemeni armed forces, and Hezbollah. The coordination boosts operational capabilities and reinforces ideological and strategic solidarity against a common enemy.

Operationally Unique Aspects

1. Diverse Weaponry and Adaptive Use

- **Advanced Weaponry** Use of advanced weapons such as guided missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), drones, and short-range missile systems (Rajum). Their ability to obtain and effectively utilize such a diverse arsenal is noteworthy.
- **Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)** Extensive and adaptive use of IEDs in various forms, including booby-trapped houses and roadside bombs, tailored to specific tactical scenarios.

2. Complex and Coordinated Attacks

- **Multi-Phase Operations** Conducting complex, multi-phase attacks involving a combination of artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements. Multi-phase operations include pre-planned ambushes and coordinated strikes on strategic targets.
- **Real-time intelligence is used** to execute precision strikes and ambushes, suggesting a sophisticated surveillance and reconnaissance capability.

3. Integration of Various Combat Units

- **Joint Operations** Seamless integration of various brigades (Al-Qassam, Al-Quds) and other groups in joint operations, indicating high levels of coordination and command control.

Tactically Unique Aspects

1. Ambush and Deception Tactics

- **Luring Tactics** Frequently employing tactics to lure enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes, such as booby-trapped houses and mines, to maximize casualties and disrupt enemy operations.
- **Use of Decoys** Employing decoy positions and false targets to mislead and trap enemy forces.

2. Asymmetrical Warfare

- **Guerrilla Tactics** Extensive use of guerrilla tactics, including hit-and-run attacks, sniper operations, and small unit maneuvers to exploit enemy weaknesses and minimize casualties.
- **Urban Warfare** Conducting operations in densely populated urban areas to complicate enemy responses and use the local environment for defensive advantages.

3. High Mobility and Flexibility

- **Rapid Deployment** High mobility of their units, capable of rapidly deploying and redeploying in response to changing battlefield conditions.
- **Adaptive Responses** Quick adaptation to enemy tactics and technological countermeasures, ensuring the continued effectiveness of their operations.

Unique Aspects of Language and Messaging

1. Religious and Ideological Framing

- **Consistent Use of Religious Rhetoric** Heavy reliance on Quranic verses and religious terminology frames their actions as a holy struggle. The rhetoric motivates their fighters, helping garner broader Muslim world support.
- **Victimhood and righteousness** Persistent portrayal of their struggle as a defense of the oppressed and a fight against a tyrannical enemy reinforces their narrative of victimhood and moral righteousness.

2. Psychological Impact

- **Direct Appeals to Enemy Morale** Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers, intending to sow distrust in their government and military leaders and emphasizing the futility of their struggle against Hamas.

Strategically Unique Aspects	
Aspect	Details
Long-Term Engagement and Sustainability	
Sustained Operations	Continuous and relentless attacks over an extended period indicate a strategic emphasis on maintaining pressure.
Resource Allocation	Effective allocation of resources, including weapons, personnel, and logistics, maintains operational intensity.
Integrated Propaganda and Military Strategy	
Media Synchronization	Synchronization of military actions with media releases demonstrates a strategy to control the narrative.
Psychological Operations	Targeting Israeli civilian morale through direct messages and emphasizing military casualties and failures.
International Coordination	
Regional Alliances	Coordination with other militant groups and state actors like Islamic Resistance in Iraq, Yemeni armed forces, and Hezbollah boosts capabilities.
Operationally Unique Aspects	
Aspect	Details
Diverse Weaponry and Adaptive Use	
Advanced Weaponry	Use advanced weapons such as guided missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), drones, and short-range missiles (Rajum).
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Extensive and adaptive use of IEDs, including booby-trapped houses and roadside bombs tailored to tactical scenarios.
Complex and Coordinated Attacks	
Multi-Phase Operations	Complex, multi-phase attacks involving artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements.
Real-Time Intelligence	Use of real-time intelligence for precision strikes and ambushes, suggesting sophisticated surveillance capabilities.

Integration of Various Combat Units	
Joint Operations	Seamless integration of various brigades (Al-Qassam, Al-Quds) and other groups, indicating high levels of coordination.
Tactically Unique Aspects	
Aspect	Details
Ambush and Deception Tactics	
Luring Tactics	Frequently employing tactics to lure enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes, such as booby-trapped houses and mines.
Use of Decoys	Employing decoy positions and false targets to mislead and trap enemy forces.
Asymmetrical Warfare	
Guerrilla Tactics	Extensive use of guerrilla tactics, including hit-and-run attacks, sniper operations, and small unit maneuvers.
Urban Warfare	Operations in densely populated urban areas complicate enemy responses and use the local environment.
High Mobility and Flexibility	
Rapid Deployment	High mobility of units, capable of rapidly deploying and redeploying in response to changing battlefield conditions.
Adaptive Responses	Quick adaptation to enemy tactics and countermeasures, ensuring continued effectiveness.
Unique Aspects of Language and Messaging	
Aspect	Details
Religious and Ideological Framing	
Consistent Use of Religious Rhetoric	Heavy reliance on Quranic verses and religious terminology frames actions as a holy struggle.
Victimhood and Righteousness	Their portrayal of their struggle as a defense of the oppressed and a fight against tyranny reinforces their narrative.
Psychological Impact	
Direct Appeals to Enemy Morale	Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers sowing distrust and emphasize the futility of resistance.

Table 1 – Strategic, Operational, Tactical

Operationally Unique Aspects - Weaponry

Diverse Weaponry and Adaptive Use

- **Advanced Weaponry** Use of advanced weapons such as guided missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), drones, and short-range missile systems (Rajum). Their ability to obtain and effectively utilize such a diverse arsenal is noteworthy.
- **Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)** Extensive and adaptive use of IEDs in various forms, including booby-trapped houses and roadside bombs, tailored to specific tactical scenarios.

2. Complex and Coordinated Attacks

- **Multi-Phase Operations** Conducting complex, multi-phase attacks involving a combination of artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements. The operations include pre-planned ambushes and coordinated strikes on strategic targets.
- **Real-time intelligence is used** to execute precision strikes and ambushes, suggesting a sophisticated surveillance and reconnaissance capability.

3. Integration of Various Combat Units

- **Joint Operations** Seamless integration of various brigades (Al-Qassam, Al-Quds) and other groups in joint operations, indicating high levels of coordination and command control.

Tactically Unique Aspects Expanded

1. Ambush and Deception Tactics

- **Luring Tactics** Frequently employing tactics to lure enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes, such as booby-trapped houses and mines, to maximize casualties and disrupt enemy operations.
- **Use of Decoys** Employing decoy positions and false targets to mislead and trap enemy forces.

2. Asymmetrical Warfare

- **Guerrilla Tactics** Extensive use of guerrilla tactics, including hit-and-run attacks, sniper operations, and small unit maneuvers to exploit enemy weaknesses and minimize casualties.

- **Urban Warfare** Conducting operations in densely populated urban areas to complicate enemy responses and use the local environment for defensive advantages.

3. High Mobility and Flexibility

- **Rapid Deployment** High mobility of their units, capable of rapidly deploying and redeploying in response to changing battlefield conditions.
- **Adaptive Responses** Quick adaptation to enemy tactics and technological countermeasures, ensuring the continued effectiveness of their operations.

Unique Aspects of Language and Messaging

1. Religious and Ideological Framing (some repetition)

- **Consistent Use of Religious Rhetoric** Heavy reliance on Quranic verses and religious terminology frames their actions as a holy struggle.
- **Victimhood and righteousness** Persistent portrayal of their struggle as a defense of the oppressed and a fight against a tyrannical enemy reinforces their narrative of victimhood and moral righteousness.

2. Psychological Impact

- **Direct Appeals to Enemy Morale** Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers, intending to sow distrust in their government and military leaders and emphasizing the futility of their struggle against Hamas.

Hamas' Strategic Use of Civilian Areas for Military Operations

Hamas groups frequently launch their attacks from densely populated civilian areas within the Gaza Strip. The use of the civilian regions is deeply embedded in their operational doctrine. Launching from civilian areas complicates retaliatory strikes by their adversaries, primarily Israel, due to the risk of causing civilian casualties and the potential for international condemnation. This tactic effectively uses the civilian population as a shield, making it challenging for Israel to target Hamas fighters and their infrastructure without attracting widespread criticism and legal repercussions.

Using civilian areas for military operations also uses the dense urban environment to their tactical advantage. The urban landscape provides cover and concealment, making it

harder for Israeli surveillance and intelligence to pinpoint the locations of launch sites and command centers accurately. The narrow streets and closely packed buildings hinder the movement of enemy forces, giving Hamas fighters the home-ground advantage. They can use hidden tunnels, pre-prepared defensive positions, and civilian infrastructure to their benefit, allowing for quick strikes and rapid redeployment.

Another key reason for launching attacks from civilian areas involves propaganda and psychological warfare. Civilian casualties, whether due to misdirected retaliatory strikes or as a result of direct engagements, are used by Hamas to garner international sympathy and support. Media coverage of civilian suffering, amplified by Hamas' own media channels and sympathetic international outlets, helps to portray Israel as an aggressor and to reinforce the narrative of victimhood. This strategy not only intends to undermine Israeli military efforts but also to rally local and international support for Hamas.

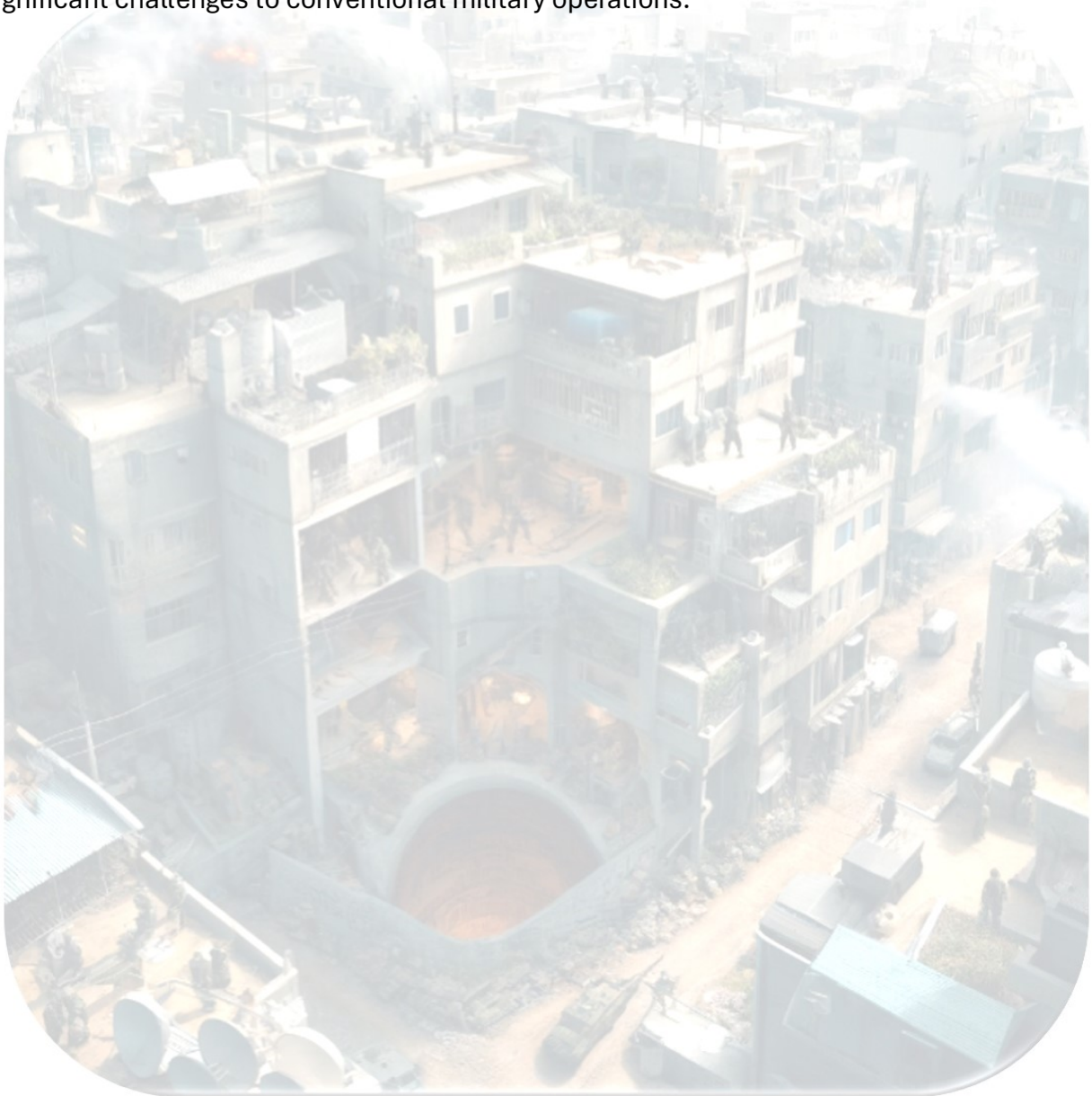
External sources, including reports from human rights organizations and military analysts, corroborate this pattern of using civilian infrastructure for military purposes. They highlight instances where Hamas has positioned rocket launchers, weapons caches, and command centers within or adjacent to schools, hospitals, mosques, and residential buildings. This placement complicates Israel's military response and serves to increase the humanitarian cost of any military action against Hamas, thereby influencing international public opinion and policy.

The reliance on civilian areas for military operations also underscores the asymmetrical nature of the conflict. Hamas, lacking the conventional military capabilities of Israel, resorts to tactics that exploit the legal and moral constraints of its adversary. By embedding within the civilian population, Hamas effectively blurs the lines between combatants and non-combatants, making it difficult for Israeli forces to engage without violating international laws of armed conflict.

The infrastructural and logistical support that such areas provide further bolsters the use of civilian areas. Civilian facilities often possess essential resources such as electricity, water, and communications infrastructure, vital for sustaining prolonged military operations. They coerce and mobilize the civilian population to support Hamas fighters, whether through direct involvement in logistical support or through passive resistance to enemy forces.

From an operational perspective, the choice of civilian launch sites combines with the availability of tunnels and underground bunkers, which are prevalent in urban areas. These tunnels provide secure channels for movement, storage of weapons, and shelter from airstrikes. The intricate network of tunnels beneath Gaza allows Hamas to conduct operations with a degree of security and secrecy that would be impossible in open terrain.

The combination of tactical, strategic, and psychological factors makes using civilian areas for launching attacks a central component of Hamas' military strategy. Using civilian areas enhances their operational effectiveness and serves their broader strategic objectives by complicating enemy responses, using international law, and manipulating public perception. The result is a highly adaptive and resilient mode of warfare that presents significant challenges to conventional military operations.



Tables and Charts	
Patterns in Actions and Postings	
Pattern	Details
Consistent and Coordinated Attacks	
Regular Timing	Attacks often occur early in the morning and late at night to maximize impact.
Joint Operations	Frequent coordination between Al-Qassam Brigades and Al-Quds Brigades for combined attacks.
Mixed Weaponry	Use of diverse weapons in a single operation to overwhelm the enemy.
Intensive Media Campaign	
Immediate Reporting	Posting of attack reports on social media immediately after operations.
Hashtags	Use hashtags like #Al-Aqsa Flood to create a unified narrative.
Video Releases	Frequent sharing of videos showing attacks and their aftermath.
Weaponry and Tactics	
Advanced Weaponry	Use of weapons such as guided missiles, drones, and improvised explosive devices.
Specific Weapon Types	Regularly use "Al-Yassin 105" shells, Rajum missile systems, and RPGs.
Combined Arms Operations	Combining long-range and short-range weapons in attacks.
Integration with External Groups	
Regular Coordination	Frequent joint operations with Islamic Resistance in Iraq and other groups.
Enhanced Capabilities	External support boosts operational capabilities and strategic reach.
Language and Messaging	
Religious Framing	Heavy use of Quranic verses and religious terminology.
Victimhood and Vilification	Emphasizing Palestinian suffering and vilifying Israeli forces.
Psychological Warfare	Media used to demoralize the enemy and boost morale.
Weapon Usage and Methods	
Weapon Type	Details

Mortars	
Caliber	Use of 60mm, 82mm, and heavy-caliber mortars.
Frequency	Daily use to maintain constant pressure.
Missiles and Rockets	
Guided Missiles	Use TBG missiles, Al-Yassin 105, and Badr 1 missiles for precision targeting.
Unguided Rockets	Use of Katyusha rockets in large salvos to create psychological impact.
Explosive Devices	
IEDs	Use of high-explosive barrel bombs and anti-personnel devices.
Landmines	Deployment of anti-tank and anti-personnel mines in strategic locations.
Artillery	
Heavy-Caliber Shells	Use of artillery shells larger than mortars, often 105mm or higher.
Targeting	Focus on enemy positions and supply lines.
Anti-Tank Weapons	
Al-Yassin 105	Use of 105mm shells against armored vehicles.
Tandom Shells	Targeted strikes on tanks and bulldozers.
Firearms and Light Weapons	
Machine Guns and Sniper Rifles	Use in direct engagements and sniper operations.
Small Arms	Regularly used in close-quarter combat scenarios.
Integration with External Groups	
Group	Details
Islamic Resistance in Iraq	
Coordination	Joint operations, shared intelligence, and training in guerrilla tactics.
Support	Provision of explosives, communication equipment, and financial aid.
Yemeni Armed Forces	
Coordination	Joint military operations and provision of missile technology.
Support	Supply of drones, funding, and training.
Hezbollah	
Coordination	Coordinated strikes and shared strategic guidance.
Support	Transfer of advanced weaponry and training in combat tactics.
Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps	

Coordination	Continuous support and strategic advice.
Support	Financial aid, advanced weaponry, and training programs.
Language and Messaging	
Aspect	Details
Religious and Ideological Framing	
Use of Religious Rhetoric	Quranic verses and religious terminology frame actions as a holy struggle.
Victimhood and Righteousness	Portrayal of the struggle as defense of the oppressed and fight against tyranny.
Psychological Impact	
Appeals to Enemy Morale	Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers to sow distrust.
Emphasis on Futility	Such an emphasis highlights the futility of resisting Hamas and demoralizing the enemy.
Summary of Key Elements in Actions and Strategy	
Element	Details
Coordination	Regular coordination between various brigades and external groups enhances operational effectiveness.
Media Integration	Immediate and synchronized media releases with military actions to control the narrative and psychological impact.
Resource Management	Effective allocation and management of resources ensure sustained operations and readiness.
Complex Tactics	Use multi-phase attacks, guerrilla tactics, and urban warfare to exploit enemy weaknesses.
Advanced Weaponry	Deployment of guided missiles, drones, and IEDs for precision targeting and adaptability.
Psychological Operations	Targeting enemy morale through direct messages, religious framing, and portrayal of victimhood.

Unique Aspects Table

Strategically Unique Aspects

Aspect	Details
Long-Term Engagement and Sustainability	
Sustained Operations	Continuous and relentless attacks over an extended period indicate a strategic emphasis on maintaining pressure.
Resource Allocation	Effective allocation of resources, including weapons, personnel, and logistics, maintains operational intensity.
Integrated Propaganda and Military Strategy	
Media Synchronization	Synchronization of military actions with media releases demonstrates a strategy to control the narrative.
Psychological Operations	Targeting Israeli civilian morale through direct messages and emphasizing military casualties and failures.
International Coordination	
Regional Alliances	Coordination with other militant groups and state actors like Islamic Resistance in Iraq, Yemeni armed forces, and Hezbollah boosts capabilities.

Operationally Unique Aspects

Aspect	Details
Diverse Weaponry and Adaptive Use	
Advanced Weaponry	Use advanced weapons such as guided missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), drones, and short-range missiles (Rajum).
Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Extensive and adaptive use of IEDs, including booby-trapped houses and roadside bombs tailored to tactical scenarios.
Complex and Coordinated Attacks	
Multi-Phase Operations	Complex, multi-phase attacks involving artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements.

Real-Time Intelligence	Use of real-time intelligence for precision strikes and ambushes, suggesting sophisticated surveillance capabilities.
Integration of Various Combat Units	
Joint Operations	Seamless integration of various brigades (Al-Qassam, Al-Quds) and other groups, indicating high levels of coordination.
Tactically Unique Aspects	
Aspect	Details
Ambush and Deception Tactics	
Luring Tactics	Frequently employing tactics to lure enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes, such as booby-trapped houses and mines.
Use of Decoys	Employing decoy positions and false targets to mislead and trap enemy forces.
Asymmetrical Warfare	
Guerrilla Tactics	Extensive use of guerrilla tactics, including hit-and-run attacks, sniper operations, and small unit maneuvers.
Urban Warfare	Operations in densely populated urban areas complicate enemy responses and use the local environment.
High Mobility and Flexibility	
Rapid Deployment	High mobility of units, capable of rapidly deploying and redeploying in response to changing battlefield conditions.
Adaptive Responses	Quick adaptation to enemy tactics and countermeasures, ensuring continued effectiveness.
Unique Aspects of Language and Messaging	
Aspect	Details
Religious and Ideological Framing	
Consistent Use of Religious Rhetoric	Heavy reliance on Quranic verses and religious terminology frames actions as a holy struggle.
Victimhood and Righteousness	Their portrayal of their struggle as a defense of the oppressed and a fight against tyranny reinforces their narrative.

Psychological Impact

Direct Appeals to Enemy Morale

Messages targeting Israeli civilians and soldiers intending to sow distrust and emphasize the futility of resistance.



Summary of Time-Based Strategies				
Time	Pattern	Examples	Frequency of Attacks	Weapon Types Used
Early Morning	Frequent surprise attacks using the element of surprise and preparing for sustained engagements.	01 55 on May 1, 02 30 on June 1, 03 30 on June 4	15	Mortar shells (60mm, 82mm, heavy-caliber), missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), snipers, RPGs
Morning	Follow-up operations to capitalize on early gains, using a variety of tactics and weapons.	06 22 on June 1, 09 01 on June 1, 10 35 on June 1	20	Mortar shells (60mm, heavy-caliber), missiles (Rajum, Al-Yassin 105), IEDs, RPGs, small arms
Afternoon	Sustained pressure on enemy forces with larger, coordinated strikes.	12 42 on June 1, 14 30 on June 1	18	Mortar shells (heavy-caliber), missiles (Rajum), anti-personnel devices, sniper rifles, RPGs
Evening	Complex operations exploit darkness for strategic strikes and ambushes, intending for psychological impact.	19 03 on June 2, 20 57 on June 2, 22 00 on June 2	12	Mortar shells (heavy-caliber), missiles (TBG, Al-Yassin 105), IEDs, sniper rifles, small arms

Weapons in Use by Al-Qassam Brigades

Mortars

1. 60mm Mortar Shells

- **Capabilities** Portable and easily deployable, used for indirect fire support.
- **Destructive Power** Moderate; effective against personnel and light vehicles.

- **General use** Used in hit-and-run tactics, bombardment of enemy positions, and disruption of enemy operations.
- **Usual Targets** Infantry, light vehicles, and enemy fortifications.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 2 to 3 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Contains around 1.5 kilograms of high explosives, causing fragmentation over a wide area.
- **Materials** Steel casing, high-explosive filler, fins for stabilization.
- **Country of Origin** Commonly produced in countries with advanced military industries such as Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea.
- **Supply Chain** Hamas sources mortar components and complete shells from international black markets and smuggling networks. Some components may be locally manufactured with raw materials smuggled into Gaza.
- **Assembly** Assembled in clandestine workshops within Gaza, often in residential areas to avoid detection

2. 82mm Mortar Shells

- **Capabilities** More powerful than 60mm mortars, used for heavier bombardment.
- **Destructive Power** Higher; capable of damaging fortified positions and light armor.
- **General use** Used to bombard enemy positions from a greater distance with increased explosive power.
- **Usual Targets** Enemy fortifications, light vehicles, and concentrations of troops.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 4 to 5 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Contains around 3 kilograms of high explosives, causing extensive fragmentation.
- **Materials** Steel or aluminum casing, high-explosive filler, stabilizing fins.
- **Country of Origin** Similar to 60mm mortars, often originating from Russia, China, Iran, or Eastern European countries.
- **Supply Chain** Imported through smuggling tunnels from Egypt or by sea from sympathetic nations or arms dealers.

- **Assembly** Assembled locally in covert workshops using imported components.

3. Heavy-Caliber Mortar Shells (120mm and above)

- **Capabilities** High destructive power, used for intensive bombardment.
- **Destructive Power** Very high; effective against buildings, fortifications, and armored vehicles.
- **General use** Used for sustained bombardment of strategic targets, causing maximum disruption.
- **Usual Targets** Enemy command centers, fortifications, and large troop concentrations.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 7 to 8 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Contains around 5 to 6 kilograms of high explosives, with significant blast and fragmentation effects.
- **Materials** Steel casing, larger amounts of high-explosive filler, stabilizing fins.
- **Country of Origin** Manufactured in countries with sophisticated arms industries such as Iran, North Korea, and China.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled through tunnels from Egypt or delivered via sea routes.
- **Assembly** Assembled in Gaza using smuggled components and locally sourced materials.

Missiles and Rockets

1. TBG Missiles

- **Capabilities** Guided missiles used for precision targeting.
- **Destructive Power** High; effective against armored vehicles and bunkers.
- **General use** Used to destroy high-value targets with precision, often in conjunction with other tactics.
- **Usual Targets** Tanks, armored personnel carriers, and fortified bunkers.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 1 to 3 kilometers.

- **Explosiveness** High-explosive warhead with significant penetration capabilities.
- **Materials** Composite and metal materials, electronic guidance systems, high-explosive warheads.
- **Country of Origin** Likely Iranian or North Korean in origin.
- **Supply Chain** Provided by Iran through smuggling routes, often via Sudan and Egypt, or by sea.
- **Assembly** Often received fully assembled but may be locally modified or assembled from kits in Gaza.

2. Al-Yassin 105 Missiles

- **Capabilities** Anti-tank guided missiles designed to penetrate heavy armor.
- **Destructive Power** Very high; capable of destroying main battle tanks and heavily fortified positions.
- **General use** Used to neutralize armored threats and heavily fortified positions.
- **Usual Targets** Tanks, armored vehicles, and hardened structures.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 1 to 2 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** High-explosive anti-tank warhead with advanced penetration features.
- **Materials** Steel or composite body, electronic guidance systems, shaped charge warheads.
- **Country of Origin** Likely designed and manufactured in Iran.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza via tunnels or maritime routes.
- **Assembly** Assembled or modified locally in specialized workshops.

3. Rajum Missile Systems

- **Capabilities** Short-range missile systems used for bombardment.
- **Destructive Power** High; effective in causing widespread damage to enemy positions.

- **General use** Used in saturation bombardment to overwhelm enemy defenses.
- **Usual Targets** Command centers, logistics hubs, and troop concentrations.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 10 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Contains large warheads with significant blast and fragmentation effects.
- **Materials** Metal casings, solid rocket fuel, high-explosive warheads.
- **Country of Origin** Primarily Iranian or possibly Syrian.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled through regional networks supported by Iran.
- **Assembly** Assembled locally in Gaza with imported components.

4. Katyusha Rockets

- **Capabilities** Unguided rocket artillery used for area bombardment.
- **Destructive Power** Moderate to high; effective in causing disruption and damage over a wide area.
- **General use** Used in large salvos to saturate enemy positions and create psychological impact.
- **Usual Targets** Infantry positions, light vehicles, and soft targets.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 6 to 12 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Warheads vary, typically containing several kilograms of high explosives.
- **Materials** Steel or aluminum body, solid rocket propellant, high-explosive warheads.
- **Country of Origin** Originally Soviet design, widely produced in Russia, China, and Iran.
- **Supply Chain** Sourced from international black markets, smuggled through tunnels or by sea.
- **Assembly** Often received fully assembled but can be locally produced using smuggled components.

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)

1. High-Explosive Barrel Bombs

- **Capabilities** Large explosive devices designed to cause maximum damage.
- **Destructive Power** Very high; effective against personnel, vehicles, and structures.
- **General use** Used in ambushes and roadside attacks to cause significant casualties and disruption.
- **Usual Targets** Convoys, patrols, and static positions.
- **Explosiveness** Can contain tens to hundreds of kilograms of explosives, causing massive blasts and fragmentation.
- **Materials** Steel barrels, high-explosive filler (TNT, ANFO), detonators.
- **Country of Origin** Components are sourced from various countries; explosives may be commercially available or military-grade.
- **Supply Chain** Explosive materials and components smuggled into Gaza from Egypt or other routes.
- **Assembly** Assembled locally in workshops within Gaza using commercially available or smuggled materials.

2. Anti-Personnel Devices (Radiya)

- **Capabilities** Designed to injure or kill personnel.
- **Destructive Power** High; effective in causing casualties within a confined area.
- **General use** Used in ambushes and as booby traps.
- **Usual Targets** Infantry, patrols, and foot soldiers.
- **Explosiveness** Contains several kilograms of explosives with fragmentation materials.
- **Materials** Metal casing, high-explosive filler, shrapnel (nails, ball bearings).
- **Country of Origin** Components are widely available, including military surplus or commercial sources.

- **Supply Chain** Materials smuggled into Gaza through various routes.
- **Assembly** Assembled locally in clandestine workshops.

Artillery

1. Heavy-Caliber Artillery Shells (105mm and above)

- **Capabilities** Long-range indirect fire support.
- **Destructive Power** Very high; effective against buildings, fortifications, and concentrated troops.
- **General use** Used for sustained bombardment of strategic targets.
- **Usual Targets** Command centers, logistics hubs, and large troop formations.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 10 to 15 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** Large high-explosive warheads with significant blast radius.
- **Materials** Steel casing, high-explosive filler, detonators.
- **Country of Origin** Manufactured in countries with advanced military capabilities like Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza via tunnels or maritime routes, often supplied by Iran or other sympathetic states.
- **Assembly** Typically received fully assembled, but components might be combined locally.

Anti-Tank Weapons

1. Al-Yassin 105 Shells

- **Capabilities** Designed to penetrate heavy armor.
- **Destructive Power** Very high; capable of destroying main battle tanks and heavily fortified positions.
- **General use** Used to neutralize armored threats.

- **Usual Targets** Tanks, armored vehicles, and hardened structures.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 1 to 2 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** High-explosive anti-tank warhead with advanced penetration features.
- **Materials** Metal casing, shaped charge warheads, guidance systems.
- **Country of Origin** Likely produced in Iran.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza from Iran, possibly through Sudan and Egypt.
- **Assembly** Assembled locally if components are smuggled in separately.

2. Tandem Shells

- **Capabilities** Anti-tank shells designed for precision strikes.
- **Destructive Power** High; effective against armored vehicles and bunkers.
- **General use** Used to destroy high-value targets with precision.
- **Usual Targets** Tanks, armored personnel carriers, and fortified bunkers.
- **Distance** Effective range of approximately 1 to 3 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** High-explosive warhead with significant penetration capabilities.
- **Materials** Metal or composite body, shaped charge warhead, guidance systems.
- **Country of Origin** Likely manufactured in Iran or Syria.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza through established routes supported by regional allies.
- **Assembly** Assembled locally using smuggled components.

Firearms and Light Weapons

1. Machine Guns

- **Capabilities** Automatic fire for suppressing enemy positions.
- **Destructive Power** Moderate; effective against infantry and light vehicles.
- **General use** Used in direct engagements and for providing suppressive fire.
- **Usual Targets** Infantry, light vehicles, and defensive positions.
- **Distance** Effective range of up to 1 kilometer.
- **Explosiveness** N/A.
- **Materials** Steel and other metals, precision-machined parts.
- **Country of Origin** Widely produced globally, often sourced from Russia, China, Iran, or black markets.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza via tunnels or maritime routes.
- **Assembly** Typically received fully assembled.

2. Sniper Rifles

- **Capabilities** Precision fire for targeting individual personnel.
- **Destructive Power** High; effective in neutralizing key enemy personnel.
- **General use** Used for long-range targeting of enemy combatants.
- **Usual Targets** Commanders, key personnel, and sentries.
- **Distance** Effective range of up to 1.5 kilometers.
- **Explosiveness** N/A.
- **Materials** Steel barrels, composite stocks, precision-machined components.

- **Country of Origin** Produced in various countries, including Russia, the US, and Eastern Europe.
- **Supply Chain** Sourced from black markets or smuggled through regional networks.
- **Assembly** Usually received fully assembled.

3. Small Arms

- **Capabilities** Standard infantry weapons for close to medium-range engagements.
- **Destructive Power** Moderate; effective against infantry and unarmored targets.
- **General use** Used in direct combat and close-quarter engagements.
- **Usual Targets** Infantry and unarmored vehicles.
- **Distance** Effective range of up to 500 meters.
- **Explosiveness** N/A.
- **Materials** Metal and polymer components, precision-machined parts.
- **Country of Origin** Manufactured globally, with common sources including Russia, China, Iran, and black markets.
- **Supply Chain** Smuggled into Gaza through tunnels or by sea.
- **Assembly** Generally received fully assembled but sometimes assembled locally from smuggled parts.

Supply Chain and Assembly Details

- **Smuggling Routes** Hamas relies on a network of smuggling routes through Egypt (especially via tunnels in Rafah), maritime routes from Sudan, Libya, and Lebanon, and overland routes supported by Iran.
- **Suppliers** Iran is a primary supplier, providing funding, materials, and technical expertise. Other sources include North Korea, China, and black markets.

- **Local Assembly** Many weapons and explosive devices are assembled or modified in Gaza using smuggled components. Workshops are often hidden in residential areas to avoid detection by surveillance and airstrikes.

Coordination and Logistics

1. Complex Smuggling Networks

- **Tunnels** Extensive tunnel networks under the Gaza-Egypt border facilitate the smuggling of weapons, components, and raw materials. These tunnels are sophisticated, often equipped with electric lighting and ventilation.
- **Maritime Routes** Hamas uses small fishing boats and larger vessels to transport weapons and materials via the Mediterranean Sea, often camouflaging these shipments within legitimate cargo.
- **Overland Routes** Support from regional allies enables overland smuggling through Sudan and Egypt, using political and military connections.

2. Local Production and Modification

- **Workshops** Many weapons and devices are assembled or modified in clandestine workshops within Gaza. These workshops are dispersed to minimize the risk of being targeted in airstrikes.
- **Innovation** Due to resource constraints, Hamas often innovates by modifying existing weapons and creating improvised devices. This includes adapting commercially available components for military use.

Wrap Up

The analysis of Al-Qassam Brigades from May 1 to June 7 reveals a sophisticated and adaptive approach to conflict, emphasizing continuous pressure, resource management, and regional alliances. Their strategic operations include sustained attacks and effective resource allocation while integrating propaganda with military actions to influence local and global perceptions. The brigades' coordination with other militant groups and state actors, particularly Iran, Yemeni armed forces, and Hezbollah, enhances their capabilities and solidifies ideological solidarity.

Operationally, the brigades employ diverse weaponry, including advanced guided missiles, drones, and various improvised explosive devices. Their complex, multi-phase attacks involve a combination of artillery, missile strikes, and ground engagements supported by real-time intelligence. Their joint operations between different brigades and external allies show high levels of coordination and command control.

Tactically, the brigades demonstrate proficiency in ambush and deception tactics, frequently luring enemy forces into pre-prepared ambushes and using decoys to mislead and trap their adversaries. They use guerrilla and urban warfare tactics to exploit enemy weaknesses, conducting operations in densely populated areas to complicate enemy responses. Their high mobility and flexibility allow rapid deployment and adaptive responses to changing battlefield conditions.

The detailed analysis of their weaponry reveals a range of tools, from mortars and missiles to IEDs and small arms. Each weapon type varies in composition, country of origin, and assembly methods, with many components sourced through extensive smuggling networks supported by Iran and other allies. Local assembly in clandestine workshops within Gaza further enhances their ability to maintain a diverse and potent arsenal.

The timing of attacks shows strategic use of early morning and evening periods for surprise and complex operations, while morning and afternoon actions build on earlier engagements to sustain pressure. The highest frequency of attacks occurs in the morning, utilizing varied tactics and weapons for maximum impact.

Integration with external groups involves regular coordination, enhanced capabilities, and shared strategic guidance. Iranian support includes training, funding, and technical expertise, while coordination with Hezbollah and Yemeni forces provides additional knowledge and advanced weaponry.

Media and psychological warfare play crucial roles in their strategy. Frequent propaganda videos and social media bolster morale among supporters and intimidate opponents. Messages targeting Israeli civilians aim to instill fear and distrust, while religious rhetoric frames their actions as a holy struggle, reinforcing narratives of victimhood and righteousness.

Overall, Al-Qassam Brigades demonstrate a highly adaptive and resilient organization, maintaining operational intensity through sophisticated supply chains, local production, and strategic alliances. Their ability to conduct sustained and complex operations highlights their strategic depth and tactical innovation, making them a formidable force in the ongoing conflict. The comprehensive analysis provides a detailed understanding of their effectiveness and the underlying mechanisms that support their sustained efforts.

