Hamas' Yaseen 105

Hamas' ability to produce Hamas' Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds for Rocket Propelled Grenades in the Gaza Strip is a significant factor in the destruction of Israeli forces. The destruction is all encompassing. It includes the destruction of Israeli tanks. It includes the loss of Israeli lives. It also provides a plausible basis with which to call into question the perception that Israel's armed forces are an indestructible force, if not in Israel, the Gaza Strip, or the West Bank, but the entire Middle East.



In a video released by Al Jazeera (i.e., الجازيرة)، the Qatar news agency, entitled "Gaza Overthrows the Legend of Israel's Merkava (i.e., غزة تسقت اسطورة دبابة), reporters detail how the Yaseen 105 "artillery made in Gaza is transforming Israeli Merkava tans into scrap" (i.e., فذائف محلية في غزة تحول الميركافا الاسرائيلية إلى خردة في غزة تحول الميركافا الاسرائيلية إلى خردة in the current war.

In a Hamas propaganda video entitled (i.e., مقاتليها مع التحام مقاتليها مع بيت حانون) but published by AlArabyTV (i.e., العربي) but published by AlArabyTV (i.e., العربي), the Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades (i.e., العربي), the military wing of the Palestinian organization, depict the destruction of a backhoe with a Yaseen 105 artillery round. Launched from a hidden dugout in a section of

the rubble in the neighborhood of Beit Khanoun (i.e., بيت حانون), the round hits its target with a large explosion.



In another video published by AlArabyTV (i.e., العربي) entitled "The Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades broadcasts a militant targeting occupation units and soldiers in the neighborhood of Zeytoun in the east of Gaza city" (i.e., القسام تبث مشاهد لاستهداف where the cameraman targets an Israeli Merkaya tank.



The number of fallen Israeli armored units is so numerous that there is hardly a consensus among the mainstream news agencies broadcasting reports in Arabic. Sky News, the English news station broadcasting from an exclusively Arabic channel, published a tally as early as the middle of November. Entitled, "Hamas publishes a video with its fighters targeting Israeli tanks embedded in north eastern Gaza" (i.e., غن شمال غرب غزة إسرائيلية خلال توغلها في شمال غرب غزة , the video depicts how Hamas fighters successfully decommission Israeli amour units with Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds. The video contains a byline on the righthand side of the screen, explaining how Hamas claims to have destroyed 24 units of Israeli (armor) in the last 24 hours in surprise (attacks) from close range (i.e., المرب علا المرابعة الماضية بمباغتها عن قرب وتدمير ها جزئيا وكليا.



There are other tallies. Other tallies by news agencies such as Al Jazeera or Al-Arabiya report the count for the tally at a much higher level than Sky News. In a more recent tally Al Jazeera counted the number of decommissioned, damaged or destroyed Israeli units of armor is no less than 825. This is a really large amount of Israeli armor. As a result of this loss, Israel has submitted multiple requests for new types of American weaponry. These requests include Apache helicopters.

In a series of propaganda videos released by the terror organization, Hamas, a laboratory for assembling, painting, or storing the Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds is displayed. The video is followed by a training session in which Gaza militants whose faces are covered receive backpacks with three Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds together with standardized RPGs. The video displays how these militants receive instruction in surveillance, reconnaissance or targeting for Israeli armored targets.

By all accounts, the video appears to be truthful rendition of the actual expertise military leaders in Hamas impart to the aspiring candidates. The videos that Hamas has published online show just how effective this expertise has been throughout the war.



In a few of the videos, one can hear a handler assisting an asset by saying, "إصبر" (i.e., patience) before giving the command to fire: "أَضرب" These clips, which capture the 30 to 60 seconds before Hamas militants open fire on their targets, demonstrate the high level of military preparation that Hamas is confidently exuding on the battlefield. If the situation were more tense, it is unlikely that instructors would exploit the current conflict for the purposes of training. It is clear that Hamas has been planning on Israel's invasion for a long time. The mere fact that the Yaseen 105 mm rocket has been fielded to great effect throughout the various neighborhoods of the Gaza Strip indicates an extremely high level of readiness.

What is significant about Hamas' video series on the underground production of the Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds is the complete absence of scene describing any aspect of its chemical composition. It is apparently composed of TNT together with ammonium nitrate.

It is unclear from the response to the video series whether any investigation into the origins of the ammonium nitrate has taken place. It would appear as though Israel's military intelligence has not dedicated much time to uncovering the source of the ammonium nitrate. It can really only come from three places. It could come from the north in Lebanon, the east from Jordan or in south in Egypt. It is least likely to come from Lebanon, less likely to come from Jordan but most likely to come from Egypt. How it is that quantities large enough to supply Hamas militants with enough ammonium nitrate to fill rockets for fighters in nearly every sector of resistance makes one wonder what Israel's military intelligence does with its time.



Is it investigating the chemical composition of Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds?

It does not appear as though Israeli military intelligence is engaged in an investigation of any of these important questions about Hamas militancy. This underscores the haphazard lack of preparation in which Israel's armed forces found themselves prior to the October 7th, 2023 attack.

In addition, Hamas' effective exploitation of Yaseen 105 mm artillery rounds against Israeli armored units calls into question the soundness of Netanyahu's implementation of strategy for obtaining specific military objectives in the Gaza Strip. Netanyahu, for instance, has declared, as reported by the Spanish language instance of the German channel, Deutsche Welle, that Israel's primary objective is to eliminate the terrorist group Hamas from the Gaza Strip with a three phased engagement (i.e., "x" ",z" ",x,"). In a reflection of the influence of the current conflict in the Ukraine, Netanyahu's describes this goal as "demilitarization" of the Gaza Strip.

El ministro israelí, Benjamín Netanyahu, insiste en que Israel asumirá el control de la Franja de Gaza, sin reconocer a ninguna autoridad palestina, tras la eliminación del grupo terrorista Hamás. Éste es el objetivo declarado de la operación militar tras los atentados del 7 de octubre, y que en la última jornada dejó decenas de muertos en el enclave palestino. Mientras tanto, crece la indignación entre los familiares de los rehenes israelíes en manos de Hamás, después de que el ejército de Israel reconociera haber matado por error a tres rehenes.

Is this even a realistic political goal? Can Israel really attain this goal? With the Israeli military still seeking to establish control over the main lines of communication in areas of the Gaza Strip such as the Hamas stronghold of Khan Younis, the first target of Israel's military operation in the first phase, Israel's implementation of its military strategy appears to be proceeding without the achievement of its necessary prerequisites. On December 31st, for instance, Maariv, published an article, describing how Israeli is tightening the seizure of Khan Younis, in which intense fighting continues to rage.

In an article published by *Wall Street Journal* on December 27th, 2023 entitled, "Israel's War Cabinet Extends Review of Egyptian Peace Plan," the authors make a startling admission about the progress of these necessary prerequisites. It states: "With Israeli politicians considering their options, the Israeli military is refocusing its military campaign toward the southern reaches of the Gaza Strip after **approaching** what it described as operational control in the north."

A day earlier the *Journal* reported that Israel is still "in the process of establishing operational control over [Khan Younis's] main routes," even though Israel entered the city at the beginning of its expansion of the war into a territorial invasion of the Gaza Strip, the second phase of its multi-prong operation.





מעריב < חדשות מהארץ והעולם < צבא וביטחון

מעמיק המצור על ח'אן יונס: כל מה שאפשר לספר על המלחמה בעיר

כוחות צה"ל ממשיכים לפעול בגזרות רבות ברחבי הרצועה לקראת המעבר הצפוי לשלב ג' של המלחמה בשבועות הקרובים. ייתכן כי החזית הדרמטית ביותר תהיה זו בח'אן יונס, שם צפויים הכוחות להמשיך ולפעול באופן משמעותי



לחימת הכוחות בחאן יונס ממצלמות הגוף של לוחמי מגלן. קרדיט: דובר צה"ל (צילום: דובר צה"ל)

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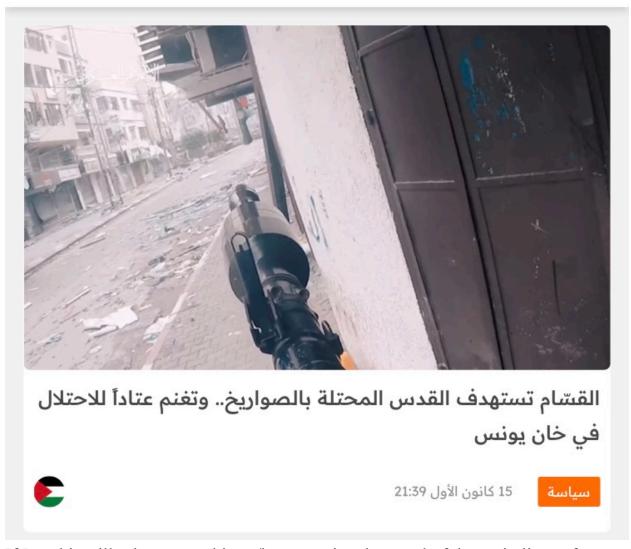












If Israel is still
b>approaching operational control of the main lines of communication in the north, at a time when Israel's losses in munitions, materiel or personnel continue to mount, there is little to no reason to consider the sudden pivot a mark of success, let alone an indication of the Israel Defense Forces' achievement of its necessary prerequisites.

The 13th Battalion of Israel's elite Golan Brigade lost its commander. The decision to withdraw the 13th Battalion to led to widespread speculation among Arabic news broadcasters that Israel initiated a retreat of the entire brigade. An accurate account of Israel's number of killed, wounded, or lost soldiers ranges from the

100s to the 500s. It is certainly the greatest loss of Israeli military life in the 21st century. Al Jazeera (i.e., الجازيرة), for instance, reports that Israel's losses are the greatest in the history of the country.



TRTWorld, for instance, quotes Ofer Cassif, a Knesset Member, as stating that Israel's losses amount to no less than 489 Israeli soldiers since October 7th, 2023.



It is is often the case that during the course of a historic engagement a particular image becomes associated with a turning point. Certainly an accurate depiction of the soundness of Israel's military strategy is a column of three tractors chained haplessly together pulling a tank a Hamas militant decommissioned with a Yaseen 105 mm artillery round. The depiction is a frank visual of Israel's "operational control" of the northern Gaza Strip.