

**Security Council**

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**Identical letters dated 12 December 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

I write, once again, to alert you and the members of the Security Council to the dangerous and destabilizing actions by Hizbullah, the Iranian proxy and internationally recognized terrorist organization, in our region.

On 3 December 2017, Qais al-Khazali, commander of the Iranian-backed Iraqi militia Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq, together with members of Hizbullah, visited the Blue Line at the Fatima Gate, in close proximity to the Israeli town of Metula. Video footage taken by the Hizbullah-associated Alahed news portal, and aired one week after the visit, shows Al-Khazali wearing a uniform while receiving a briefing from Hizbullah terrorists. The briefing includes an obvious reference to the Israeli-Lebanese border, as well as the geographic proximity of the Golan Heights. It also shows Hizbullah terrorists proudly reporting on the number of rockets they fired into Israeli civilian population centres during the 2006 Second Lebanon War.

This video captured several statements by Al-Khazali, in which he explains the purpose of his visit and the intentions of his militia. Al-Khazali can be heard saying that he is standing “with his Hizbullah brethren” at the Kafr Kila locality just a few metres from Israel (west of the Israeli town of Metula). Al-Khazali declares that he is fully prepared to “stand in line” with the Lebanese people and for the Palestinian cause against the “Israeli occupation, which is the enemy of Islam, Arabs and the whole of humanity”. He adds that, with God’s will, “all the best and the blessings [will be placed] upon the youth and their Islamic resistance, intently vigilant to adhere to the call of Islam for the establishment of a state of divine justice”.

Founded in 2006, the Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq Iraqi-Shiite militia is an offshoot of the Muqtada Sadr faction, composed of approximately 2,000 mostly Iraqi-Shiite combatants fighting in Iraq and Syria. It is directly affiliated with Iran and sponsored mainly by Iraq and the Iranian Al Quds Force. A decade ago, Al-Khazali was imprisoned for his involvement in terror attacks against American military personnel in Iraq.

The recent visit of Al-Khazali to the Blue Line, accompanied by Hizbullah, is not an isolated incident. On 10 December 2017, a video showed another visit by a combatant from the “Saraya al-Salam” (“the Peace Brigades”) militia, accompanied by Hizbullah fighters. This well-known terrorist group is led by the extremist Iraqi-Shiite leader Muqtada al-Sadr. The additional video was taken at Kafr Hamam, north-west of Kfar Shuba and in close proximity to the Israeli-Lebanese border.



These visits and statements must be considered in the context of recent threats made by Hizbullah's leader Hassan Nasrallah. In a televised speech on 23 June 2017, Nasrallah warned that the next war with Israel could see "thousands, even hundreds of thousands, of fighters from all over the Arab and Islamic world ... participate — from Iraq, Yemen, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan".

The well-documented evidence of known Iranian-backed terrorist organizations operating along our border reflects a blatant violation of Security Council resolutions [1701 \(2006\)](#) and [1559 \(2004\)](#) and exposes Hizbullah's ongoing military build-up in southern Lebanon. Al-Khazali's visit to Lebanon, and the increased presence of this Iranian-supported militia along our border, indicates, once more, Iran's dangerous intentions throughout the Middle East.

The international community must hold Iran and Hizbullah accountable for their illegal activities and violations of Security Council resolutions. It is necessary that the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon investigate these issues as soon as possible, and we urge that the reports presented by the Secretary-General to the Security Council include these violations in detail.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Danny **Danon**  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative