

The ISIS “Islamic State” Not Hamas Claimed Responsibility for Murder of Three Israeli Boys

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Hamas Had Nothing to Gain – And Everything to Lose – By Starting Violence Now

While Israel has claimed that Hamas was behind the murder of 3 Israeli boys and subsequent rocket attacks, the Times of Israel [reported](#) last week:

A new Palestinian jihadist group pledging allegiance to the Islamic State (formerly known as ISIL) [or “ISIS”] has claimed responsibility for the killing of three Israeli teenagers last month in the West Bank, as well as other recent deadly attacks against Israeli soldiers and civilians.

Hamas has denied responsibility for the attacks.

The New York Times also [reported](#) on Wednesday:

On Tuesday evening, Israel’s antimissile system, called Iron Dome, intercepted a rocket “over the Tel Aviv area,” the army said, showing the reach of Gazan rocketry. The rocket was believed to be of Iranian design, a Fajr-5, and Islamic Jihad claimed credit. Tel Aviv opened some public shelters, and in a city near Tel Aviv, Rishon LeZion, people were instructed to leave the beach.

Given that countries all over the world – [including Israel and Muslim countries](#) – have admitted to carrying out false flag attacks, we should carefully investigate who was responsible before cheering on a new Arab-Israeli war. (And the head of Mossad had [predicted such an occurrence](#) shortly before it happened.)

Palestine has gained a lot of support recently. For example, Palestine was [accorded observer nation status](#) by the United Nations. The movement to boycott and divest from companies doing business with Israel has [gathered tremendous momentum](#). And the two main factions in Palestinian politics – Hamas and Fatah – have formed a unity government.

As Michael Rivero [points out](#), it makes no sense for Hamas to have committed brutal acts of violence when it is winning through peaceful political means:

HAMAS and FATAH formed a unity government. They need the support of the world right now, and neither HAMAS or FATAH is going to carry out an act that would wreck the very public support they need. It’s like George Washington trying to kick out the British by shooting students in the colonial schools; it is just not going to happen.

And the Jewish Daily Forward [notes](#) that – if rogue Hamas members *did* carry out the murders – it was *not* with the permission or knowledge of Hamas leadership:

In the flood of angry words that poured out of Israel and Gaza during a week of spiraling violence, few statements were more blunt, or more telling, than this throwaway line by the chief spokesman of the Israeli military, Brigadier General Moti Almoz, speaking July 8 on Army Radio's morning show: "We have been instructed by the political echelon to hit Hamas hard."

That's unusual language for a military mouthpiece. Typically they spout lines like "We will take all necessary actions" or "The state of Israel will defend its citizens." You don't expect to hear: "This is the politicians' idea. They're making us do it."

It was clear from the beginning that the kidnappers weren't acting on orders from Hamas leadership in Gaza or Damascus. Hamas' Hebron branch — more a crime family than a clandestine organization — had a history of acting without the leaders' knowledge, sometimes against their interests. Yet Netanyahu repeatedly insisted Hamas was responsible for the crime and would pay for it.

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