COUNTRY OF ORIGIN INFORMATION BULLETIN

LEBANON

HEZBOLLAH-ISRAEL CONFLICT

31 AUGUST 2006

Contents

This Country of Origin Information Bulletin contains the most up-to-date publicly available information as at 30 August 2006. Older source material has been included where it contains relevant information not available in more recent documents.

1. Introduction

1.01   This Country of Origin Information Bulletin (COI Bulletin) has been produced by Research, Development and Statistics (RDS), Home Office, to identify information about the recent escalation in the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel obtained from a wide variety of recognised sources. It does not contain any Home Office opinion or policy.

1.02   This COI Bulletin has been prepared for background purposes for those involved in the asylum / human rights determination process.

1.03   The COI Bulletin is sourced throughout. It is intended to be used by caseworkers as a signpost to the source material, which has been made available to them. The vast majority of the source material is readily available in the public domain. It is not intended to be a detailed or comprehensive survey. For a more detailed account, the relevant source documents should be examined directly.

1.04   This COI Bulletin is intended to cover major developments that have taken place in Lebanon since publication of the Lebanon COI Report in July 2006 and must be read in conjunction with that.

1.05   This COI Bulletin and the accompanying source material are publicly disclosable. Where sources identified in the COI Bulletin are available in electronic form the relevant link has been included. The date that the relevant link was accessed in preparing the COI Bulletin is also included.

1.06   As noted above, the COI Bulletin is a collation of material produced by a number of reliable information sources. In compiling the COI Bulletin, no attempt has been made to resolve discrepancies between information provided in different source documents. For example, different source documents often contain different versions of names and spellings of individuals, places and political parties etc. Bulletins do not aim to bring consistency of spelling, but to reflect faithfully the spellings used in the original source documents. Similarly, figures given in different source documents sometimes vary and these are simply quoted as per the original text.

1.07   In producing this COI Bulletin, the Home Office has sought to provide an accurate, balanced summary of the available source material. Any comments regarding this COI Bulletin or suggestions for additional source material are very welcome and should be submitted to the Home Office as below.

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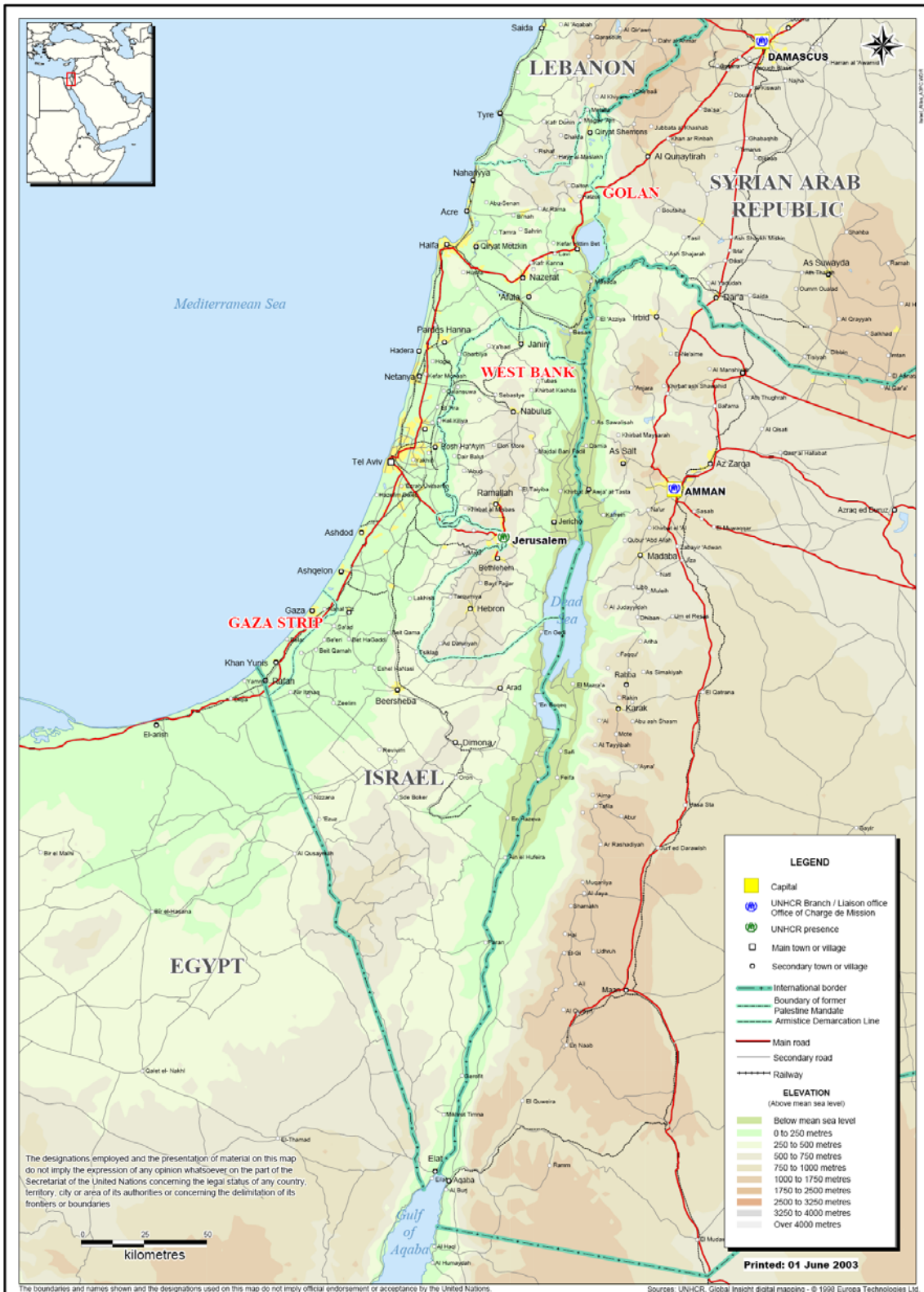
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2. Maps

LEBANON

2.01   A United Nations (UN) map of Lebanon, bordered by Syria to the north and east, and Israel to the south. **[9a]**

ISRAEL

2.02   A UN map of Israel, bordered by Lebanon and Syria to the north, Jordan to the east and Egypt to the south. **[9b]**

3. Escalation of the conflict

3.01   On 12 July 2006, the Lebanese Shia militant group Hezbollah launched a rocket attack on Israeli positions; abducting two Israeli soldiers and killing three others during a cross border raid between the towns of Zar'it and Shtula. (BBC, 13 & 18 July 2006; CNN, 12 & 14 July 2006; IRIN, 13 July 2006; Aljazeera, 14 July 2006) **[1b, 1g] [2a, 2e] [3a] [4a]** The 'Blue Line' (a UN demarcation imposed to verify that the Israeli withdrawal of May 2000 was complete) has been the scene of Hezbollah-Israeli skirmishes, involving rocket attacks and air strikes, throughout the six years since Israeli forces left the Lebanon. (BBC, 13 July 2006; CNN, 14 July 2006; IRIN, 13 July 2006; Aljazeera, 14 July 2006) **[1a] [2a] [3a] [4a]**

For a brief history to the conflict see Annex A:
Chronology of events – Hezbollah-Israel

3.02   The Israeli response to Hezbollah's actions was to bomb Hezbollah positions and blockade Lebanon's sea ports, whilst Israeli Defence Force (IDF) ground troops entered Lebanese territory for the first time since May 2000. (BBC, 12-14 July 2006 & 18 July 2006; CNN, 14 July 2006; Aljazeera, 14 July 2006) **[1b-1d, 1g] [2a] [4a]** Over the next few weeks Israel continued its air attacks, targeting Hezbollah positions, as well as bridges, roads and fuel depots. (BBC, 12-14 July 2006 & 16-19 July 2006; CNN, 15 July 2006 & Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; IRIN, 16-18 July 2006 & Lebanon Crisis; Aljazeera, 14 July 2006 & 20 August 2006; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1b-1d, 1f-1i] [2d-2e, 2f] [3b-3e, 3g] [4a, 4d] [19]** On the morning of 19 July 2006, the BBC and CNN reported that Israeli ground troops had entered southern Lebanon, an action – originally intended as 'pinpoint attacks' – that later developed into a larger-scale invasion of south Lebanese territory. (IRIN, Lebanon Crisis; Aljzeera, 20 August 2006; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1h-1m] [2b, 2f] [3g] [4d] [19]**

3.03   Hezbollah countered by firing hundreds of rockets from Lebanese territory, which reached as far as the towns of Haifa and Tiberias, and also by bombing an Israeli missile boat – one of the Israeli navy's most sophisticated warships – using a Chinese-made, radar-guided C-802 missile. (BBC, 12-14 July 2006 & 16-19 July 2006; CNN, 15 July 2006 & Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1b-1e, 1g] [2d] [19]** Hezbollah fighters also put up fierce resistance to the Israeli ground forces that entered Lebanon. (BBC, 19 July 2006-17 August 2006; CNN, 19 July 2006 & Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; IRIN, Lebanon Crisis; Aljazeera, 20 August 2006; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1h-1m] [2b, 2f] [3g] [4d] [19]** Whilst the IDF did succeed in taking key villages and territory up to the Litani River, they did so with difficulty suffering a number of casualties. (BBC, 19 July 2006-17 August 2006; CNN, 19 July 2006 & Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; IRIN, Lebanon Crisis; Aljazeera, 20 August 2006; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1h-1m] [2b, 2f] [3g] [4d] [19]**

3.04   On 3 August 2006, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) released a position paper on the crisis in Lebanon, which states:

"Given the seriousness of the situation, UNHCR calls upon all States to refrain, for the time being, from forcibly returning to Lebanon:

● any Lebanese citizen,
● any refugee or stateless person, in particular those previously residing in Lebanon, including Palestine refugees, or
● any third country national." **[15b] (para 8)**

UN RESOLUTION 1701

3.05 On 11 August 2006, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1701, which called for a full cessation of hostilities, the deployment of the United Nation's Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and Lebanese armed forces in southern Lebanon – accompanied by the withdrawal of Israeli Defence Forces from Lebanese territory – and the enlargement of UNIFIL to a maximum strength of 15,000 troops. **[11]** On 29 August 2006, the BBC raised questions about deliberate ambiguities over key issues in the resolution, including the disarmament of Hezbollah, the policing of the Syrian border to ensure that Hezbollah is not easily able to re-arm, the exchange of prisoners – Hezbollah still holds the two IDF troops it captured on 12 July 2006, whilst Israel still has Lebanese citizens in detention – and the fate of Israeli-occupied Shebaa farms. **[1s]**

3.06 The report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006), published on 18 August 2006, noted that some of the heaviest fighting of the entire conflict occurred in the 48 hours immediately prior to the ceasefire deadline. **[12b] (paras 4-13)** It also recorded that, at the time the Secretary-General had written the report, the parties to the conflict were generally compliant with the ceasefire, which had come into effect on the morning of 14 August 2006. **[12b] (paras 4-13)** Nevertheless, there continued to be reports of sporadic clashes after the ceasefire deadline had passed, including an Israeli raid deep in Lebanese territory allegedly conducted with the objective of capturing relatives of the Hezbollah leader, Hassan Nasrallah. (BBC, 17-24 August 2006; CNN, Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; IRIN, Lebanon Crisis; Aljazeera, 22 August 2006; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East) **[1m-1p] [2f] [3g] [4e] [19]**

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SITUATION AS OF 30 AUGUST 2006

3.07 Within hours of the ceasefire coming into effect, tens of thousands of displaced Lebanese began flooding back to southern Lebanon, the districts of south Beirut, and the Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon; estimates of how many have already returned range from 550,000 – 735,000. (IDMC, 30 August 2006) **[21]** The Israeli air attacks inflicted significant damage on Lebanese infrastructure – including roads, bridges, and water and power supply – consequently a huge rebuilding effort is required, as are measures to safeguard the well-being of returnees by removing unexploded ordnance and ensuring adequate supplies and shelter are available. (BBC, 27 August 2006; IDMC, 30 August 2006) **[1r] [21]**

3.08 Despite the obvious needs of the Lebanese Government and people to begin rebuilding as soon as possible, the intermittent ceasefire violations by both

sides and continuing Israeli air and sea blockade of Lebanon hindered that recovery process. (BBC, 29-30 August 2006; CNN, Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East; IRIN, Lebanon Crisis; *The Guardian (UK)*, Special Report: Israel and the Middle East; IDMC, 30 August 2006) **[1t-1u] [2f] [3g] [10b] [19] [21]**

3.09   With regard to the raising of a multinational peace-keeping force – on which the withdrawal of Israeli forces and ending of the embargo are dependant – as of 30 August 2006 the United Nations had received the following troop pledges:

- France: Leadership and 2,000 troops
- Italy: 2,500-3,000 troops
- Bangladesh: Two battalions (up to 2,000 troops)
- Malaysia: One battalion
- Spain: One mechanised battalion
- Indonesia: One battalion, an engineering company
- Nepal: One battalion
- Denmark: At least two ships
- Poland: 500 troops
- Finland: 250 troops
- Belgium: 302 troops, later rising to 392
- Germany: Maritime and border patrols but no combat troops
- Norway: 100 soldiers (BBC, 29 August 2006; UN News, 29 August 2006) **[1s] [10b]**

3.10   Throughout the 34-day conflict – and in the days following the ceasefire – in addition to news organisations, human rights groups such as Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Amnesty International (AI), and national and international organisations, including the Lebanese Government, International Crisis Group and various United Nations bodies reported on the conflict, covering abuses committed by both Hezbollah and Israeli forces. **[5a-5p] [6a-6i] [7a-7d] [8a-8c] [12a-12b] [13] [14a-14n] [15a-15b] [16] [17] [18] [20] [21]** For more detailed information, comment and analysis refer to these and other sources listed at Annex B: List of Source Material

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Annex A: Chronology of events – Hezbollah-Israel

1982   **6 June:** Following the attempted assassination of Shlomo Argov, Israeli ambassador to Britain, Israel launched a full-scale invasion of Lebanon with about 60,000 troops. 'Operation Peace for Galilee' was a push to destroy the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO), and forced Arafat and the PLO to flee Lebanon in **August**. **[1a] [2a]** The occupation of south Lebanon, including Beirut – a move designed to prevent Palestinian attacks – led to the suspension of peace initiatives, and the pro-Israeli Christian South Lebanon Army (SLA) commiting a series of massacres and human rights abuses. **[4a]**
14 September: The Israel-backed Lebanese president-elect, Bashir Gemayel, was assassinated, shortly before his inauguration. Israeli troops entered West Beirut a day later, and the next day, nearly 800 Palestinian refugees were massacred by Lebanese Christian militias in the Sabra and Shatila camps. Israel was accused of doing nothing to prevent or stop the massacre. **[2a]** Hezbollah, a fundamentalist Shiite Muslim militant group, emerged as a force in Beirut, the Bekaa Valley and southern Lebanon. Sponsored by Iran, modeled after Iran's Revolutionary Guards and supported by Syria, Hezbollah aims to establish a Shiite Islamic state in Lebanon and force Western interests like Israel and the United States out of the region. **[2a]**

1983   **18 April:** A suicide attack by Hezbollah on the U.S. Embassy in West Beirut killed 63 people, a harbinger of future attacks against U.S. and Western interests. **[2a]**
17 May: Lebanon and Israel signed a U.S.-brokered peace agreement, spelling out terms of Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, conditional on the withdrawal of Syrian forces. Syria opposed the agreement. **[2a]** An ending of hostilities, a partial withdrawal and the establishment of a security or 'buffer' zone in southern Lebanon was agreed. **[1a] [2a]**
23 October: An alleged Hezbollah suicide bomber blew up the headquarters of U.S. Marine and French forces in Beirut killing 298 people including 241 U.S. Marines and other military personnel, and 56 French paratroopers. **[1a] [2a]** The responsibility for the attack was claimed by two militant Shia groups. **[1a]** U.S. troops were withdrawn from Lebanon a few months later. **[2a]**

1984   **March:** With pressure mounting from Syria, Lebanon cancelled the **17 May 1983** peace agreement. **[2a]**

1985   **June:** Israel withdrew from most of Lebanon but retained control of the 12-mile-wide security zone in the south. Most Israeli troops were withdrawn, but the SLA, led by Maj-Gen Antoine Lahd, continued to operate in the security zone with the support of some Israeli soldiers. **[1a] [2a] [4a]**
16 June: A TWA plane landed in Beirut having been hijacked on a flight from Athens to Rome by two alleged members of Hezbollah who demanded the release of Shia in Israeli jails. The crisis was resolved with the help of Syrian mediation. **[1a]**

1987   **21 May:** Lebanon abrogated the **1969** Cairo agreement with the PLO as well as officially cancelling the **17 May 1983** agreement with Israel. **[1a]**

1989   **28 July:** Shaykh Abd-al-Karim Ubayd, Hezbollah leader in Jibshit, was abducted by Israeli forces. **[1a]**

1990   **13 October:** The Syrian air force attacked the Presidential Palace at B'abda and Awn took refuge in the French embassy. This date is regarded as the end of the 15-year civil war. **[1a] [2a]**

1991   The National Assembly ordered the dissolution of all militias by **30 April** although Hezbollah was allowed to remain active whilst the South Lebanon Army (SLA) refused to disband. **[1a]**

1992   Israel assassinated the secretary-general of Hezbollah, Sheikh Abbas al-Musawi, when Israeli helicopter gunships attacked his motorcade on a road south-east of Sidon. **[1a] [4a]**
By **17 June** all Western hostages held by Shia groups had been released. **[1a]**

1993   **25 July:** Israel attempted to end the threat from Hezbollah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) in southern Lebanon by launching 'Operation Accountability', its heaviest attack since 1982. **[1a] [2a] [4a]**

1994   **21 May:** Mustafa Dib al-Dirani, head of the Believers' Resistance, a breakaway group from the Shia Amal organisation, was abducted by Israeli commandos from his house in eastern Lebanon. **[1a]**

1996   **11 April:** 'Operation Grapes of Wrath', a 16-day battle in which the Israelis bombed Hezbollah bases in southern Lebanon, the southern district of Beirut and the Bekaa, resulted in the death of at least 137 people who were mostly Lebanese civilians. **[1a] [2a] [4a]**
18 April: An Israeli attack on a UN base at Qana resulted in the death of over 100 Lebanese refugees who were sheltering there. **[1a]**
26 April: US negotiated a truce and an 'understanding' under which Hezbollah and Palestinian guerrillas agreed not to attack civilians in northern Israel, and which recognised Israel's right to self-defence but also Hezbollah's right to resist the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon. Although Lebanon and Syria did not sign the 'understanding', the Israel-Lebanon Monitoring Group (ILMG) – whose members were drawn from the US, France, Israel, Lebanon and Syria – was set up to monitor the truce. **[1a]**

1998   **1 April:** Israel's inner cabinet voted to accept UN Security Council Resolution 425 of 1978 if Lebanon were to guarantee the security of Israel's northern border. However, both Lebanon and Syria rejected this condition. **[1a]**

1999   **3 June:** South Lebanon Army (SLA) completed its withdrawal from the Jazzin salient (north of the 'security zone') occupied since 1985. **[1a]**

2000   **5 March:** Israeli cabinet voted for the unilateral withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon by July 2000. **[1a]**
18 April: Israel released 13 Lebanese prisoners held without trial for more than 10 years but extended the detention of Shaykh Abd-al-Karim Ubayd and Mustafa Dib al-Dirani. **[1a]**
Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak, announced the withdrawal of troops from southern Lebanon earlier than scheduled and – after the collapse of the SLA and rapid advances by Hezbollah – Israeli forces were completely withdrawn by **24 May**, six weeks before the stated deadline of **7 July**. **[1a] [4a]**
25 May: declared an annual public holiday, called 'Resistance and Liberation Day'. **[1a]**

May: the United Nations established the 'Blue Line' as a border between the Lebanon and Israel. **[2a]**

2001   **March:** Lebanon began pumping water from a tributary of the River Jordan to supply a southern border village despite opposition from Israel. **[1a]**

2002   **January:** Elie Hobeika, a key figure in the massacres of Palestinian refugees in **1982**, died in a blast shortly after disclosing that he held videotapes and documents that challenged Israel's account of the massacres. **[1a]**
September: Israel threatened a return to military action against Lebanon over its plan to divert water from the Wazzani border river, which provided 10% of Israel's drinking water. **[1a] [4a]**

2003   **August:** car bomb in Beirut, which was blamed on Israel by Hezbollah and a Lebanese government minister, killed a member of the Lebanese militant group. **[1a]**
September: Israeli warplanes hit southern Lebanon in response to Hezbollah's firing antiaircraft missiles at Israeli planes in the area. **[2a]**
October: Israel and Lebanon exchanged gunfire in the disputed area known as Shebaa Farms. **[2a]**

2005   **14 February:** Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri is assassinated. Pressure builds on Syria to withdraw its remaining troops from Lebanon, which it does in **April**. **[1a] [2a]**

2006   **July:** Hezbollah militants crossed into Israel, killed three Israeli soldiers and kidnapped two others in a bid to negotiate a prisoner exchange, a demand rebuffed by Israel whose Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, described Hezbollah's actions as an 'act of war'. Another five Israeli soldiers were killed after the ambush. Israel responded with a naval blockade and by bombing hundreds of targets in Lebanon, including Beirut's airport, Hezbollah's headquarters in southern Beirut and the group's Al Manar television station. Hezbollah countered with rocket attacks targeting northern Israeli cities. Fighting left dozens of Lebanese civilians dead and coincided with a two-week-old Israeli military campaign in Gaza in response to the kidnapping of an Israeli soldier by Palestinian militants. **[1a] [2a] [4a]** Hezbollah fired more than 100 rockets at towns across northern Israel, including the country's third-largest city, Haifa, about 35km from the border. **[4a]**
Russia, the EU, Iran and some Arab states condemned the attacks but the US President, George W. Bush, said that Tel Aviv has the right to defend itself. Israel ruled out any prisoner exchange with Hezbollah. **[4a]**
As of **17 July**, some 2,000 foreign nationals had been evacuated from Beirut, but tens of thousands remained in the country. Efforts to help them leave the country, mostly by sea, were increasingly stepped up over the next couple of days. **[1f, 1h] [2b]**
19 July: Israeli ground troops crossed into southern Lebanon to carry out what the army called 'restricted pinpoint attacks'. **[1h] [2b]**
July: Israeli bombardment of mainly southern Lebanon and other Shia-dominated areas, such as the southern suburbs of Beirut and parts of the Bekaa Valley continued, as did Hezbollah rocket launches into Israel. **[1j-1k]**
August: Israeli ground troops pushed into south Lebanon, waging violent battles with Hezbollah militants. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert asserted that fighting was to continue until an international peacekeeping force was established in south Lebanon, whilst Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah – the leader of

Hezbollah – warned that the group would target Tel Aviv if Beirut came under attack again. **[1a, 1k-1l]**

11 August: UN Resolution 1701 – which called for a ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah – was unanimously approved by the United Nations Security Council; UN Secretary General Kofi Annan announced that the ceasefire would begin as of 5am Monday **14 August**. In the meantime, Israel continued its ground offensive – reaching the Litani River – and continued its bombing campaign in Tyre and Beirut, whilst Hezbollah continued to fire hundreds of rockets a day into Israel. **[11] [1m]**

14 August: A ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah came into effect. Approximately 1,000 mainly civilian Lebanese and 159 Israelis, who were mostly soldiers, died in the preceeding 34 days of fighting. **[1a]**

August: Despite Israeli travel restrictions and the damaged state of the roads, thousands of displaced Lebanese flooded back to their homes in south Lebanon. There were reports of breaches of the ceasefire by both sides, including an Israeli raid in the Bekaa, which is deep in Lebanese territory. The UN's attempts to form a multi-national peacekeeping force continued in the face of concerns about its make-up, deployment and mandate. **[1a, 1m-1p]**

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Annex B: List of source material

The Home Office is not responsible for the content of external websites.

1   **British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)**

     a   Timeline: Lebanon. 15 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/country_profiles/819200.stm
(Accessed 23 August 2006)

     b   Hezbollah seizes Israel soldiers. 12 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5171616.stm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

     c   Israel pursues strikes on Lebanon. 14 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5178492.stm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

     d   Israel steps up Lebanese strikes. 14 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5178774.stm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

     e   UN calls for Lebanon peace force. 17 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5186474.stm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

     f   Hundreds evacuated from Lebanon. 17 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5184134.stm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

     g   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week one. 19 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5179434.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     h   Dozens die in fresh raids. 19 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5193662.stm **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

     i   Israel's Hezbollah headache. 16 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/5184974.stm **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

     j   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week two. 31 July 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5194156.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     k   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week three. 1 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5218210.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     l   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week four. 9 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5239142.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     m   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week five. 17 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/4776627.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     n   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week six. 20 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5259576.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     o   Day-by-day: Lebanon crisis – week seven. 24 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5274408.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

     p   Israel mounts fresh Lebanon raid. 19 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5265934.stm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

     q   UN welcomes Lebanon force pledges. 26 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5288224.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

     r   Flights bring bridges to Lebanon. 27 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/5290946.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

    This Country of Origin Information Bulletin contains the most up-to-date publicly available information as at 30 August 2006. Older source material has been included where it contains relevant information not available in more recent documents.

s   The UN's mission impossible? 29 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5296494.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

t   Annan urges Israel to end siege. 29 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5296314.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

u   Olmert firm on Lebanon blockade. 30 August 2006.
http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/5297312.stm **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

2   Cable Network News (CNN)

a   Timeline: Decades of conflict in Lebanon, Israel. 14 July 2006.
http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/07/14/israel.lebanon.timeline/
(Accessed 17 July 2006)

b   Israeli troops enter southern Lebanon. 19 July 2006.
http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/07/18/mideast/index.html
(Accessed 19 July 2006)

c   Annan calls for beefed up U.N. force in Lebanon. 18 July 2006.
http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/07/18/mideast.annan.ap/index.html **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

d   Israel strikes militant stronghold in Beirut. 15 July 2006.
http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/07/15/mideast/index.html
(Accessed 19 July 2006)

e   Israel authorizes 'severe' response to abductions. 12 July 2006.
http://www.cnn.com/2006/WORLD/meast/07/12/mideast/index.html
(Accessed 19 July 2006)

f   Special Report: Crisis in the Middle East.
http://www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2006/mideast.crisis/ **(Accessed 30 August 2006)**

3   UN Integrated Regional Information Network

a   Red Cross braces for further attacks. 13 July 2006.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54594&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

b   LEBANON: Hundreds displaced by Israeli attacks, say aid workers. 16 July 2006.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54629&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

c   LEBANON: Displaced receive aid, but concern remains for those stuck in south.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54643&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 18 July 2006)**

d   LEBANON: Amid attacks, health workers warn of waning supplies.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54640&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 18 July 2006)**

e   LEBANON: Numbers of displaced peoples rise as attacks continue. 18 July 2006.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54665&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 18 July 2006)**

f   LEBANON: Security Council delays, awaits high-level UN team. 19 July 2006.
http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=54687&SelectRegion=Middle_East&SelectCountry=LEBANON **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

g   Lebanon Crisis. http://www.irinnews.org/lebanon-crisis.asp **(Accessed 25 August 2006)**

4   Aljazeera

a   Timeline: Israel and Lebanon. 14 July 2006.
http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/013B1ECF-6E04-401E-A62F-2E70D849E39B.htm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

b   UN seeks international force for Lebanon. 18 July 2006.
http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/080A36AE-1290-4A1A-90CA-7B0010650BC1.htm **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

c   Lebanon toll passes 254. 18 July 2006.
http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/0529EDB8-8164-470C-BBB8-72734692D22C.htm **(Accessed 19 July 2006)**

d   Timeline: Lebanon conflict, 20 August 2006.
http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/35772526-C1A8-4599-868C-E513C4F29C9B.htm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

e   Israel holds Nasrallah, the grocer, 22 August 2006.
http://english.aljazeera.net/NR/exeres/06921F67-5447-484D-8A94-F4C802A46B80.htm **(Accessed 23 August 2006)**

5   Human Rights Watch (HRW)

a   Lebanon/Israel: Do Not Attack Civilians. 13 July 2006.
http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/07/13/lebano13736.htm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

b   Questions and Answers on Hostilities Between Israel and Hezbollah. 17 July 2006. http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/07/17/lebano13748.htm **(Accessed 17 July 2006)**

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