

Egypt Terrorist Attack: Another Mossad False Flag?

By [Stephen Lendman](#)

Global Research, August 09, 2012

9 August 2012

Region: [Middle East & North Africa](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#), [Terrorism](#)

In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

America and Israel use them strategically. Timing is key. Innocent victims suffer. Fingers point the wrong way. Cui bono matters most.

Israel benefits greatly from Sunday's incident. Sixteen Egyptian soldiers were killed in Sinai. Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood (MB) blamed Mossad. More below on separating rhetoric from policy.

MB's English language [web site](#) headlined "Muslim Brotherhood Statement on Unprovoked Aggression Against Rafah Border-Guards," saying:

"Yesterday, a group of criminals and terrorists attacked an Egyptian security checkpoint in Rafah, killing nearly twenty of our brothers, our sons, and stole one car and one truck, and tried to crash their way into Israel."

Hamas leader Ismail Haniya is Palestine's legitimately elected prime minister. He also blames Israel for Sunday's incident. It's "responsible, one way or another, for this attack to embarrass Egypt's leadership and create new problems at the border in order to ruin efforts to end" Gaza's siege.

He added that "(n)o Palestinian wants to kill anybody in Egypt. Any attack against Egypt's security is also against the security of Palestinians."

An official Hamas statement said:

"Hamas condemns this ugly crime that killed a number of Egyptian soldiers and extends its deep condolences to the families of the victims and to the leadership and the people of Egypt."

Israel blamed unidentified Gaza militants. A supportive [Haaretz](#) article headlined "Armed militants attack Egyptian army outpost, try to infiltrate Israel border," saying:

"Armed attackers" stole an armored personnel carrier. They "killed around 15

Egyptian policemen.” Israeli air strikes destroyed their APC. IDF officials claimed it avoided a “large-scale terror attack.”

“A second personnel carrier exploded at the Kerem Shalom border terminal.” It connects Israel, Gaza and Egypt. The vehicle didn’t penetrate Israeli territory. No injuries were reported.

Defense Minister Ehud Barak said:

“IDF forces, under the command of Maj. Gen. Tal Russo, and on the orders of Chief of Staff Benny Gantz, and with the assistance of the Shin Bet, showed alertness, sharpness and purposefulness, and prevented a terror attack that could have caused many casualties.”

“The way the attackers operated once again raises the necessity of resolute Egyptian action to impose security and prevent terror in Sinai.”

Egypt said about 35 militants dressed as Bedouins opened fire on border guards. Some entered Israel. Clashes followed. No Israeli casualties were reported.

MB said a major border problem for Egypt was created. It “drives a wedge between” Egypt’s new government and its people.

It’s more about disrupting Hamas/Cairo relations, manufacturing threats, closing Rafah’s border crossing, maintaining Gaza’s siege, destroying its tunnel economy, legitimizing IDF land, air and sea attacks, and continuing to suffocate its people ruthlessly.

MB said Israel “sought to abort the revolution ever since its launch.” Days earlier, it urged Israelis in Sinai to leave. Warning were issued about alleged Gaza-based terrorists planning abductions. Israeli tourists were called targets.

“(E)very time a warning like this is issued, a terrorist incident” follows, said MB.

“This crime also draws our attention to the fact that our forces in the Sinai lack the personnel and the equipment to protect the region or guard our borders, which makes it imperative to review the terms of our accords with Israel.”

Days earlier, Israel claimed Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi sent a letter expressing his desire to help relaunch peace talks. Morsi denied Israel’s claim. He took office in June.

He and Israel collaborate strategically. Hostile rhetoric masks more cooperation than friction. Junta leaders hold supreme power. General Mohammed Hussein Tantawi heads Egypt's military. Close ties to Washington are maintained.

Morsi said his government "control(s) all parts of Sinai."

General Tantawi calls Hamas part of the problem. Saying so shows relations with Washington are close. He showed it by closing Rafah Crossing indefinitely. Two weeks earlier, Morsi extended operating hours and facilitated easier cross-border movement both ways.

Overall, he's more figurehead than power broker. Tantawi decides what matters most. Each supports a common agenda. It's linked to Washington's imperial interests.

MB members are involved in Syria. They're counterrevolutionaries against Assad. Their hostile Israeli rhetoric masks more cooperative relations.

Sinai's attack bears classic Mossad fingerprints. Militants are easily recruited. Al Qaeda is used strategically. They waged war on Gaddafi. They're active in Syria.

Perhaps they're responsible for Sunday's attack. Similar ones could happen any time. Timing is always key. Cui bono matters most. Sunday's attack benefits Israel and Washington. Smart money blames them for planning it.

A Final Comment

On August 8, for the first time since 1973's Yom Kippur war, [Egypt launched air strikes in Sinai](#). The state Al-Ahram daily said 33 suspected militants were killed.

Officially, Egypt claims Gaza and Sinai-based "rebel" groups killed 16 Egyptian border guards. Egyptian General Intelligence Service head Murad Muwafi said GIS had information about a possible attack.

Unnamed Cairo security sources said:

"There are states behind what the terrorists are doing in Sinai. It is far beyond Sinai groups' level."

Without saying so, fingers pointed at Israel. How this incident affects relations remains to be seen.

On the same day, Egypt's MENA state news agency said:

“Unknown armed men opened fire on a checkpoint on the main road between Al-Arish and Rafah.”

MENA said it was the 29th incident since Mubarak’s ouster. In response to Sunday’s attack, Egypt began closing tunnels Gazans use for food, fuel, and other vital supplies. Siege conditions just got harder.

Mossad-connected [DEBKAFfile](#)(DF) suggested Iran’s involvement in Sunday’s incident.

Doing so points fingers the wrong way. It diverts attention from Mossad.

DF claims Tehran “put Gaza Strip Islamists and/or Palestinian proxies together with a Sinai al Qaeda cell for a coordinated attack on Egyptian and Israeli military targets to avenge the presence of al Qaeda” in Syria.

The accusation is ludicrous on its face. Iran has no ties to Al Qaeda. Both sides are enemies, not allies. Washington uses Al Qaeda to advance its imperium. Tehran strongly opposes it. So do other nations seeking peace.

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago and can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net.

His new book is titled “How Wall Street Fleeces America: Privatized Banking, Government Collusion and Class War”

<http://www.claritypress.com/Lendman.html>

Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com and listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network Thursdays at 10AM US Central time and Saturdays and Sundays at noon. All programs are archived for easy listening.

<http://www.progressiveradionetwork.com/the-progressive-news-hour>

The original source of this article is Global Research
Copyright © [Stephen Lendman](#), Global Research, 2012

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: **Stephen Lendman**

About the author:

Stephen Lendman lives in Chicago. He can be reached at lendmanstephen@sbcglobal.net. His new book as editor and contributor is titled "Flashpoint in Ukraine: US Drive for Hegemony Risks WW III."

<http://www.claritypress.com/LendmanIII.html> Visit his blog site at sjlendman.blogspot.com. Listen to cutting-edge discussions with distinguished guests on the Progressive Radio News Hour on the Progressive Radio Network. It airs three times weekly: live on Sundays at 1PM Central time plus two prerecorded archived programs.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca