Hello, fellow Rotarians.

We are one month since the savage and terrible attack on the State of Israel on Saturday, October 7, 2023, that claimed the lives of 1400 babies, men, and women and injured 5400 women and men, including hundreds who participated in a music festival and the kidnapping of 240 residents of the State of Israel including 35 children, ten of whom are under the age of 5.



This war imposed on us by Hamas/ISIS will only come to an end when Israel destroys this movement and frees all the abductees from the clutches of this terrible organization whose entire purpose is to beat the State of Israel.

From the beginning of the war until now, Hamas/ISIS terrorists have fired approximately 9,000 rockets from population centers, most of which the defense systems managed to destroy. Still, about 600 of them fell within the territory of the Gaza Strip and hit the local population.

While the leadership of Hamas/ISIS hides in tunnels under hospitals and public centers or outside the Gaza Strip, they do not hesitate to use their population, women, and children as human shields. By that behavior, they show the dark side of this organization that prefers to sacrifice its own people while committing war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Iran, which is the evil force that drives all terrorist incidents in the Middle East through its proxies, is slowly dragging Lebanon into the arena of combat and recently also encouraged the Houthis in Yemen to send rockets to Israel. I can assure you that the IDF sees everything and will respond as forcefully as necessary.

Last week, Knesset members, diplomats, ambassadors, and foreign journalists could see for the first time a film collected from the cameras of the terrorists who carried out the attack, and the scenes were so terrible that some of the viewers fainted or left during the screening, others needed medical treatment.

It is inconceivable that 90 years after the Holocaust, the world faced such brutality against Jews and did not raise its voice and say, "Never Again."

Israel is strong, determined, and goal-oriented to win this war and change the reality in the Middle East to a place that will guarantee a better future for us in Israel and for all our neighbors.



Alongside the persistent fighting, we see a significant social solidarity of the population in Israel: Jews and Arabs, religious and secular, adults and youth helping in the hospitals, working in farms and Kibbutzim, and with the population that was evacuated from the fighting zones and became refugees.

The world must wake up; what happened here might happen tomorrow somewhere else; this is not about land; it is the freedom to liberty to live as free people.

Let's hope for better days.

Frankly yours

PDG Alon Bendet

RC Beer Sheva

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