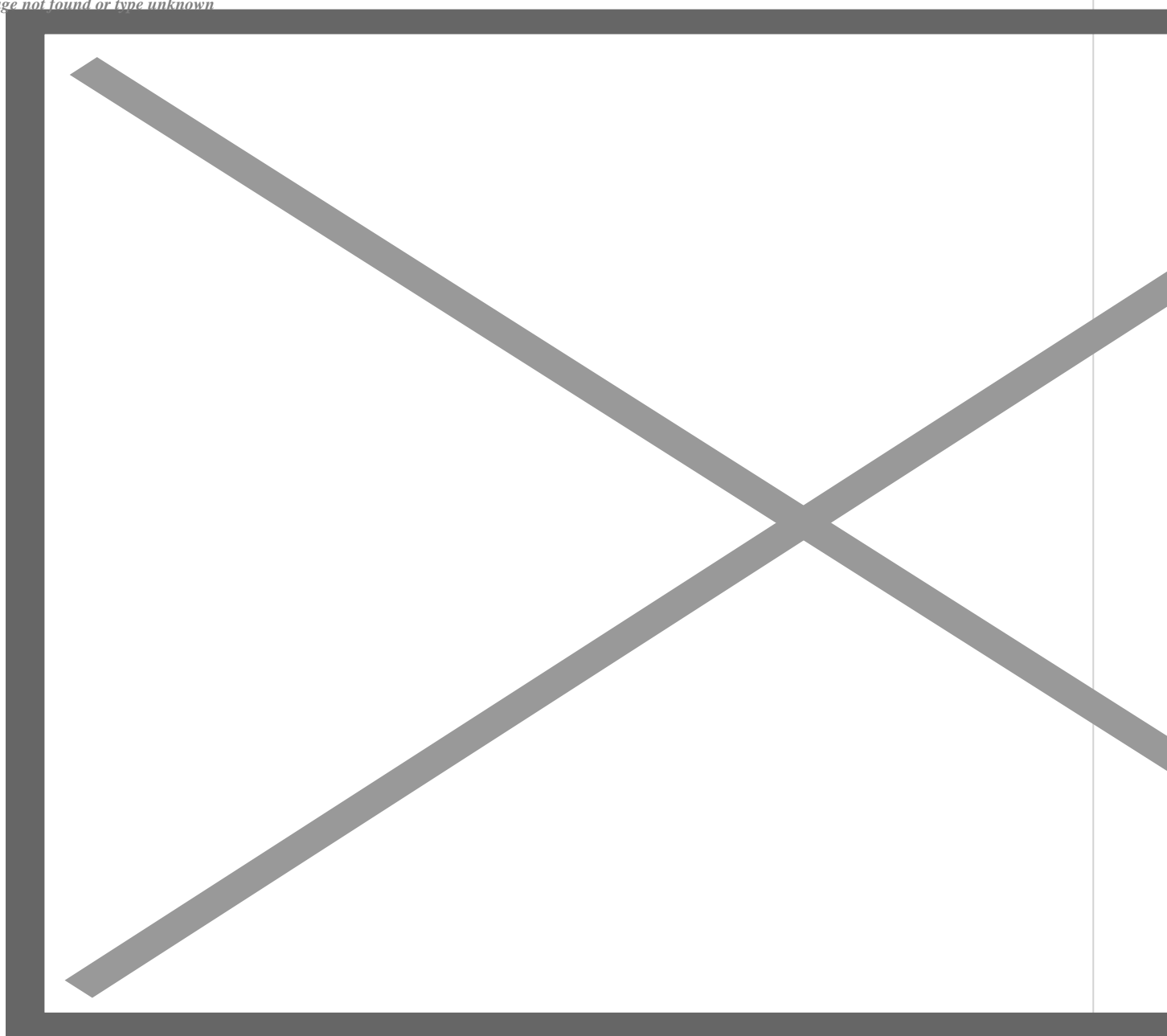


Resistance movements denounce Israeli pager attacks in Lebanon

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Ramallah, September 18 (RHC)-- Islamic resistance movements in West Asia have condemned the Israeli regime over the deadly pager explosions in Lebanon. In a new terrorist attack, thousands of wireless communication devices of members of the resistance movement Hezbollah exploded in different locations across the Arab country on Tuesday.

The Palestinian resistance movement Hamas denounced the pager explosions, which killed at least nine people and wounded 2,800 others, as a "crime that defies all laws."

Hamas held the Israeli regime fully responsible for the explosions. "This terrorist act is part of the Zionist enemy's larger aggression on the region," it said in a statement.

The movement commended Hezbollah's "efforts and sacrifices" as it continues to support the Palestinian resistance in the Gaza Strip. "The crimes of the fascist occupation will not break our people's will and their desire to join the resistance," it added.

In a statement, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad described the attack as an Israeli "war crime." "The treacherous operation carried out by the Zionist entity's devices through the explosion of dual-use communication equipment is a documented war crime. It inflicted severe damage on a large number of innocent civilians inside their homes with premeditated malice," it said.

The resistance group emphasized that the Israelis resorting to such attacks revealed the Zionists "frustration." "Although the enemy's resort to this option is intended within the framework of psychological and intellectual warfare, it indicates the level of frustration and the narrow options they now have after the blows they have received from multiple fronts supporting the Palestinian people," the group said in its statement.

The Islamic Jihad downplayed the real impact of the attack; however, it insisted that the Israeli regime would pay dearly for targeting civilians and family members of the resistance fighters.

"We are fully confident that the Islamic resistance in Lebanon and Syria is capable of absorbing this treacherous blow and quickly containing its repercussions." "They will respond to the enemy in a manner commensurate with the gravity of the crime and the targeting of civilians in their homes, particularly the families of the resistance fighters," it said.

"We mourn the souls of the martyrs who fell in this crime, and we ask Allah to grant them a place in His vast paradise. We also pray for the swift recovery of the wounded."

Yemen's Ansarullah spokesman Mohammed Abdul Salam said, "We condemn the 'Israeli' security attack on Lebanon, which targeted many civilians, which is a flagrant crime and a violation of Lebanese sovereignty."

Abdul Salam said Israel would pay heavily for the escalation of the conflict. "We are certain that Lebanon is capable of facing all challenges and has a resistance capable of deterring the Zionist enemy and making it pay a heavy cost for any escalation it may undertake against Lebanon.

"Our condolences and sympathy to the families of the martyrs of the brave Islamic resistance, asking Allah Almighty to have mercy and forgiveness for them, and a speedy recovery for the wounded," he said.

The Palestinian Mujahideen Movement also condemned the Israeli regime over the pager explosions. "We strongly condemn the criminal and terrorist blasts that targeted Lebanese communication networks, resulting in the martyrdom of many and the injury of hundreds of our brothers and sisters in Lebanon," it said.

"The enemy will not succeed in their attempts through their cowardly and treacherous crimes to break the will of resistance in our nation or deter the fighters in Hezbollah and Lebanon from continuing their

support for the Gaza Strip," it added.

The Mujahideen Movement said the Israeli regime forces would pay the price for their heinous crimes. "The criminal Zionist enemy must pay the price for its heinous crimes against our people and our nation and must realize that it is in an open battle with all the living forces in the nation," it said.

"We call on our nation and its living forces to unite and align in the face of the nation's central enemy, the criminal Zionist entity and its sponsor, the criminal US administration," it added.

The Lebanese health ministry said in its latest update that at least eight people were killed and 2,800 others wounded in the explosions that were first reported in the southern suburbs of Beirut.

The Israeli military has yet to claim the Tuesday attacks although some reports suggest that the regime officials have been advised to remain quiet. The Zionist regime forces have been regularly exchanging fire with Hezbollah since last October.

According to military experts, the pager attacks indicate that the Israeli regime has been militarily defeated.

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