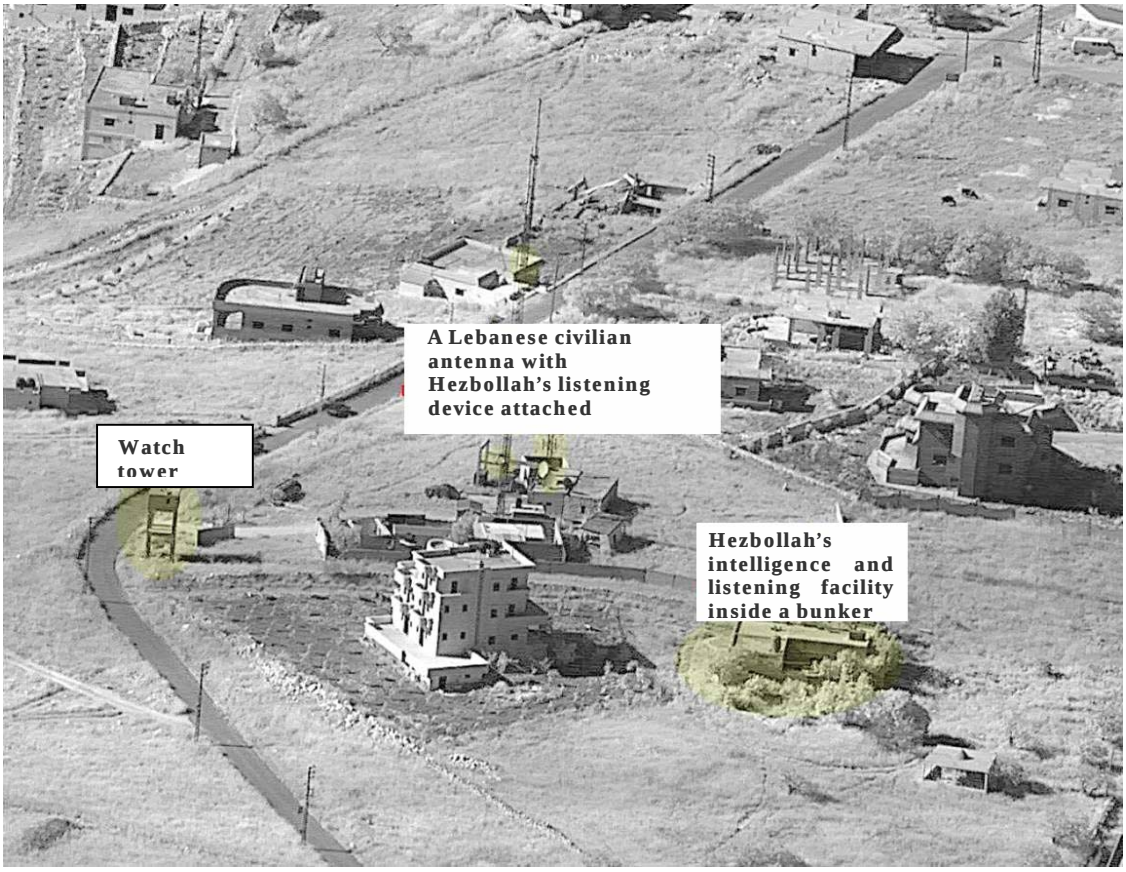
The fighting conducted by Hezbollah in Maroun al-Ras

30. Hezbollah's deployment in Maroun al-Ras was divided into two parts:

    a. **The deployment inside the village (about 25 operatives):** based in the village's highest region (the intelligence installation) and the village school that Hezbollah turned into a stronghold (no students were inside).

    b. **The deployment in unpopulated areas (about 20 operatives):** in those areas were located a rocket launching base and a cannon firing position aimed at Avivim (an Israeli village southeast of Maroun al-Ras). Some of them were skilled infantry operatives belonging to the organization's Special Force.

31. The battles in the village took place on July 18-22. Hezbollah operatives mounted a stubborn resistance in which they used RPG-29 rockets and advanced anti-tank Metis-M missiles. Furthermore, they detonated powerful explosive charges and waged close-range combat. **Twenty-four Hezbollah operatives were killed** during the battles.



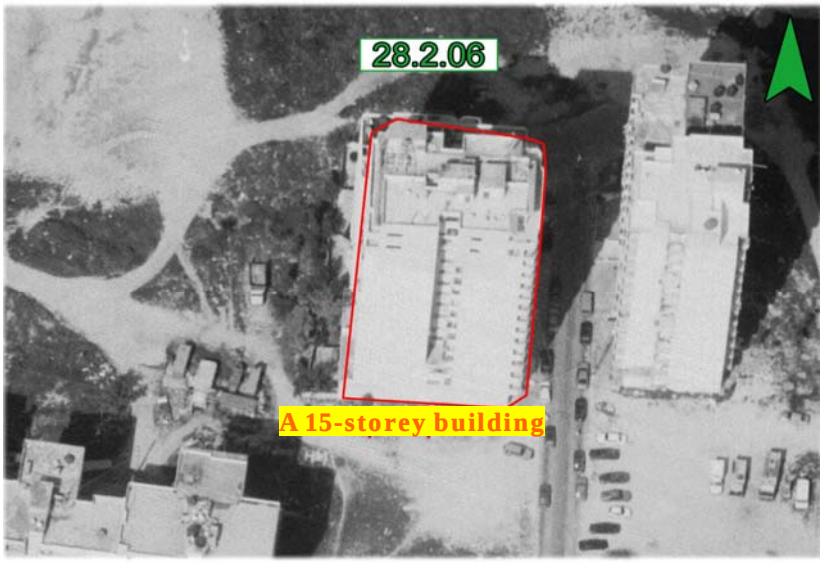
A Hezbollah intelligence and listening facility in the village of Maroun al-Ras. It was found in the highest region of the village. Inside was a list of the IDF's tactical frequencies and transcripts of recorded materials, some from IDF units operating in the Palestinian Authority-administered territories. The listening activities in the facility were based on a Lebanese civilian infrastructure. Hezbollah made extensive use of the Lebanese civilian communications infrastructure, requiring the IDF to hit said infrastructure to disrupt Hezbollah's communications and intelligence.

Locations of Hezbollah headquarters, bases, offices, storehouses and weapons in additional settlements in south Lebanon

A. The city of Tyre

The Hezbollah headquarters in Tyre

Before the Air Force attack



After

This photograph clearly shows an exact strike on Hezbollah headquarters which did no significant damage to nearby civilian structures.

IMAGE

32. The city of Tyre also housed Hezbollah's bases and headquarters. Rockets fired on Israel were launched from its vicinity. Tyre serves as the center of operations for Hezbollah's unit in charge of Fajr and 220mm rockets. There are also offices, bases, and arms belonging to Hezbollah's naval unit.

Hezbollah operatives marching during the Ashura festivities in Tyre. Upper left: Hassan Nasrallah speaks during the festivities (from Al-Intiqad, a Hezbollah publication, February 25, 2005).

B. Villages near the Israeli-Lebanese border (Meiss al-Jabal, Al-Baiyada, Al-Khiyam, Kafr Kila)

1. Meiss al-Jabal

Overview

33. During the war, Hezbollah collected high-quality intelligence on the IDF's activity. Its primary sources were the reconnaissance network and the tactical listening network. These networks gathered information about the IDF's activity and allowed Hezbollah to accurately assess the IDF's intentions and create targets for the shooting squads dispersed throughout the combat areas.

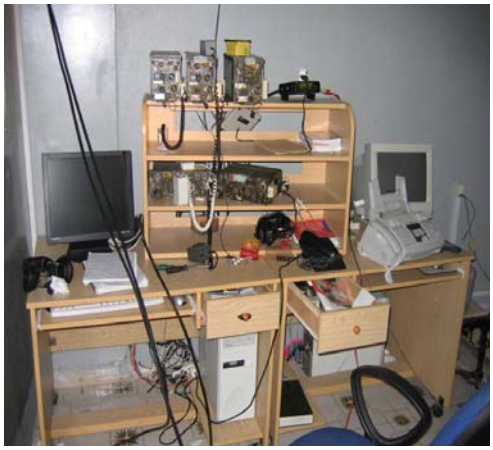
34. **Observation posts situated in the houses of Meiss al-Jabal** were uncovered during the fighting were**.** Following are photographs of observation equipment found in those observation posts. They will be followed by photographs of the intelligence collection center in the villages of Kafr Kila and Adeisseh.

The observation center located in a house in Meiss al-Jabal

Intelligence equipment seized in the observation center

Mobile observation posts located inside living rooms. Left: a long-range observation camera.

A computer station for real-time analysis of observations



An observation, editing and recording center found in one of the village houses. The receivers were set to the frequencies used by helicopters of the Israeli Northern Command.

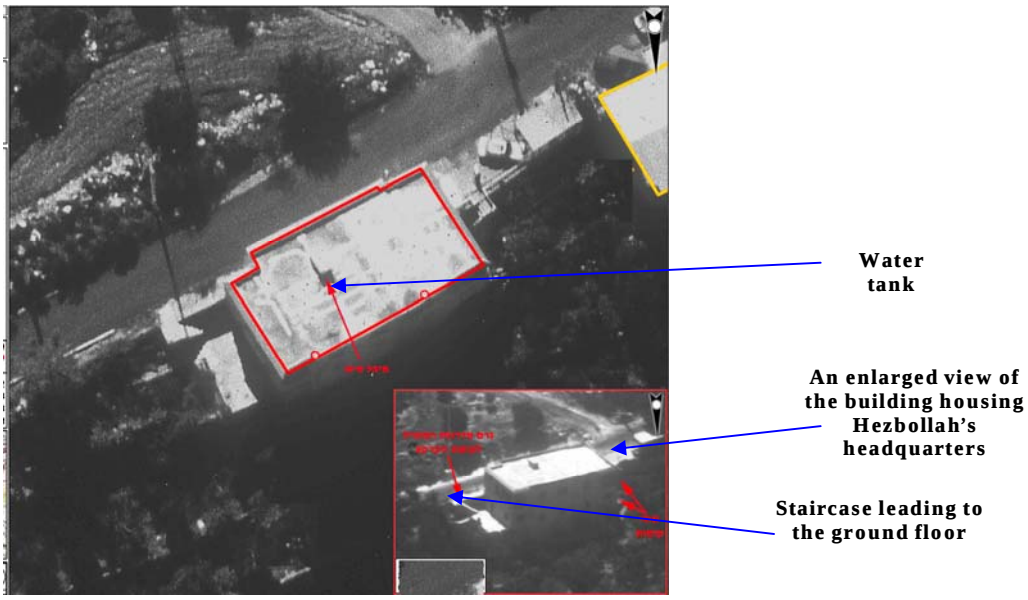
An aerial photograph of Kiryat Shmona found in Meiss al-Jabal

A long-range observation system. Center: a long-range camera, to the left of which is a rotating and elevation system.

Additional arms and ammunition seized in the village

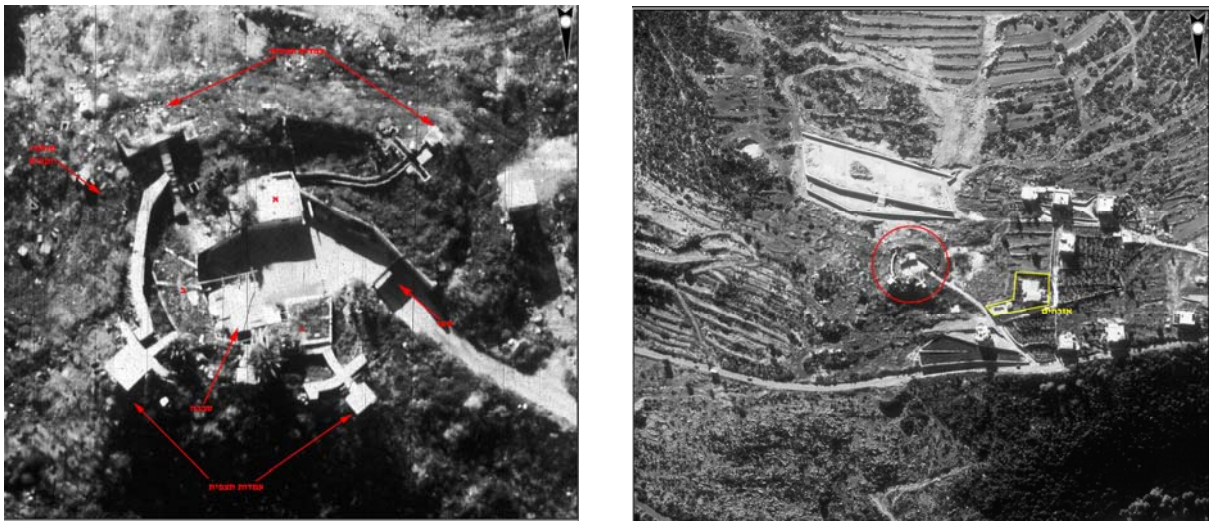
2. Al-Baiyada region

Examples of Hezbollah's bases
Example no. 1: the Hezbollah headquarters



The Hezbollah headquarters is located in a two-storey building (red) situated about 25 meters away from a civilian building (yellow). Arms and ammunition are stored inside the building as well.

Example no. 2: a Hezbollah outpost used for arms and ammunition storage

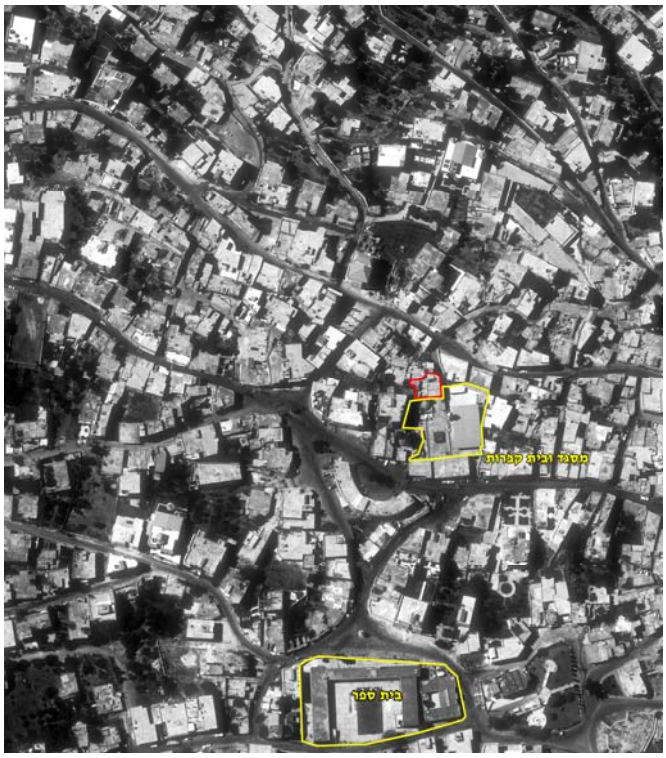


Right: a Hezbollah outpost (red) used for storage of arms and ammunition. The base is surrounded by an embankment, and the only entrance is through a gate located to the northwest of the outpost. On the embankment there are four observation posts facing different directions. The base is situated about 90 meters away from civilian houses (yellow). Left: an enlarged view of the outpost.

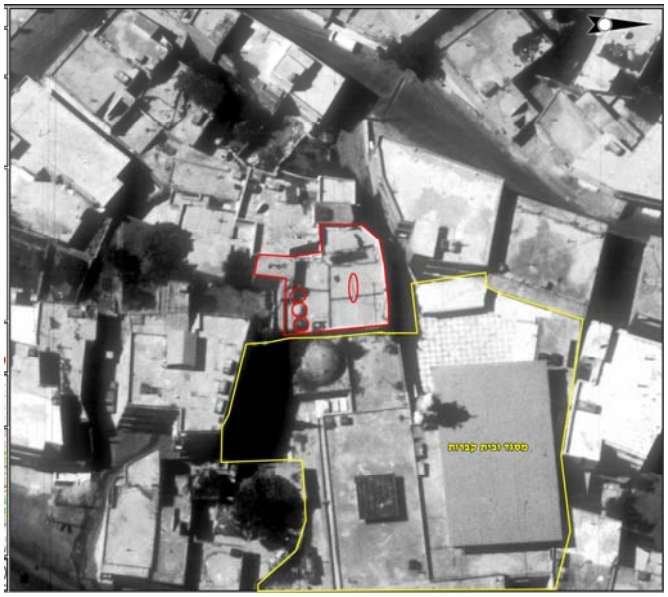
3. The town of Al-Khiyam (eastern region)

Examples of bases in Al-Khiyam

Example no. 1



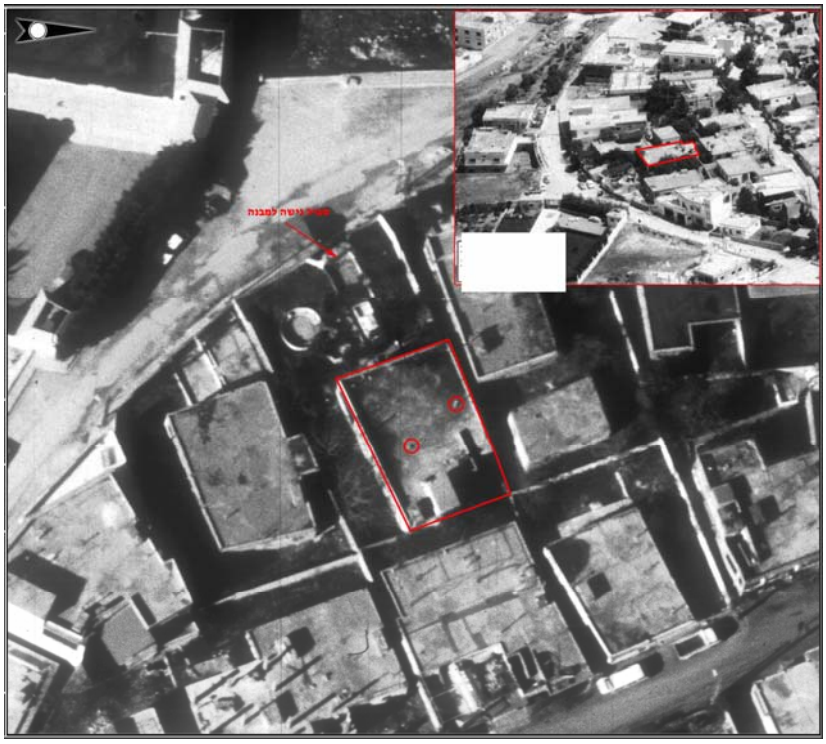
A Hezbollah base near a mosque and a cemetery (in red); above: a mosque and a cemetery (in yellow)



An enlarged aerial photograph of Hezbollah's base (in red) near a mosque and a cemetery (in yellow).

Example no. 2

A Hezbollah base in a civilian house located in a one-storey building that can be accessed from a path connected to the main road (the house is marked in red)



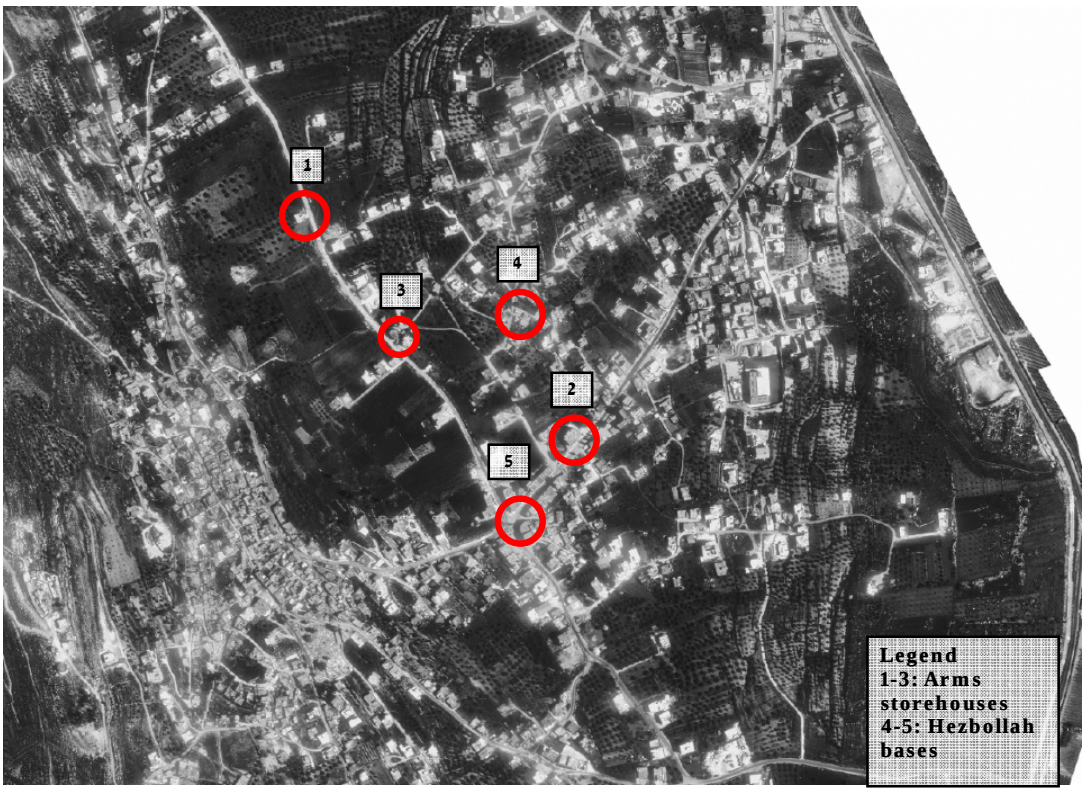
An enlarged view of a Hezbollah base located inside a densely-populated civilian area (in red)

The fighting from the town of Al-Khiyam

35. During the second Lebanon war, Hezbollah operatives operated from the town against IDF forces in the region of Har Dov and the eastern sector. A**nti-tank squads** fired on IDF forces from the village. Furthermore, Hezbollah operatives **fired rockets** on Israel from the outskirts of the village.

4. Kafr Kila

The military infrastructure in Kafr Kila



Kafr Kila as a regional logistics center

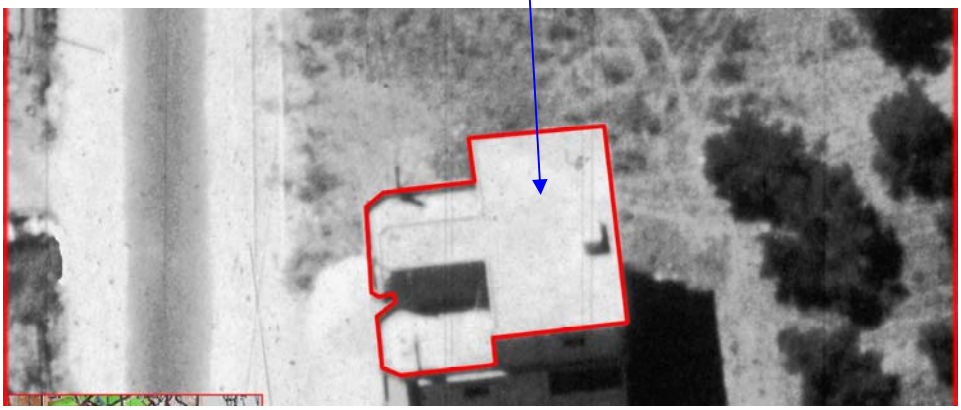
36. According to seized documents detailing Hezbollah's operative plans in the event of an IDF incursion, Kafr Kila served as a **regional logistics center** with many arms storehouses. According to the seized documents, the following arms and ammunition were stored inside the houses of the village residents: explosives, anti-tank mines, anti-aircraft missiles (SAM-7 and

SAM-14), 81mm and 120mm mortars, 107mm rocket launchers, and ammunition for mortars and rocket launchers (see **Appendices 1(i) and 1(ii)).**

Exposing an intelligence collection center

37. On August 5, IDF forces operated in the Kafr Kila-Adeisseh region. The forces, operating between the two villages, discovered a building that served as Hezbollah's intelligence collection center.

The location of the building that housed Hezbollah's intelligence collection center (in red)



An enlarged view of the building that housed the intelligence collection center

38. **Advanced electro-optical devices,** arms, computer hardware, and numerous documents were seized inside the house. Some of the seized items were:

a. Camouflage uniform, helmets, bulletproof vests

b. Two Kalashnikov assault rifles, hand grenades

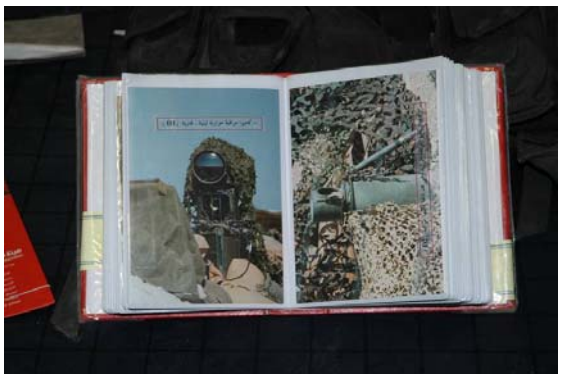
c. Electro-optical equipment

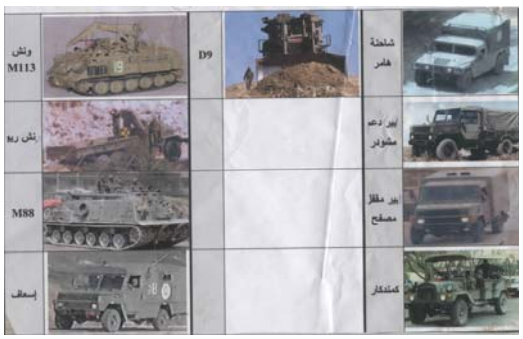
d. Placards of the vehicles used by the IDF, a photo album of the technology and vehicles used by IDF forces along the Israeli-Lebanese border.

e. **Iranian ideological literature** (in Arabic translation)[10]

[10] Within this context, see Info[illegible] and Terrorism Information Center on October 10, 2006: "Hezbollah publications found during the second Lebanon war in south Lebanon inculcate the radical ideology of the Islamic revolution in Iran, and glorify jihad, shahada (death as a martyr) and the personality cults of the Ayatollah Khomeini and 'Ali Khamenei".

High-tech electro-optical equipment used for long-range observations found in Kafr Kila. Right: a long-range Thermovision observation system capable of detecting an armored vehicle from a distance of 24km and a person from a distance of 9km. Left: a long-range observation camera





Know your enemy: literature and posters on the technology used by the IDF along the Israeli-Lebanese border, meant to be used by Hezbollah operatives who manned the intelligence collection center

C. Villages further north (Yater, Soultaniyeh, Abbassiyeh, Khirbet Silm, Kafr Qana, Maaroub, Tibnin)

1. Yater

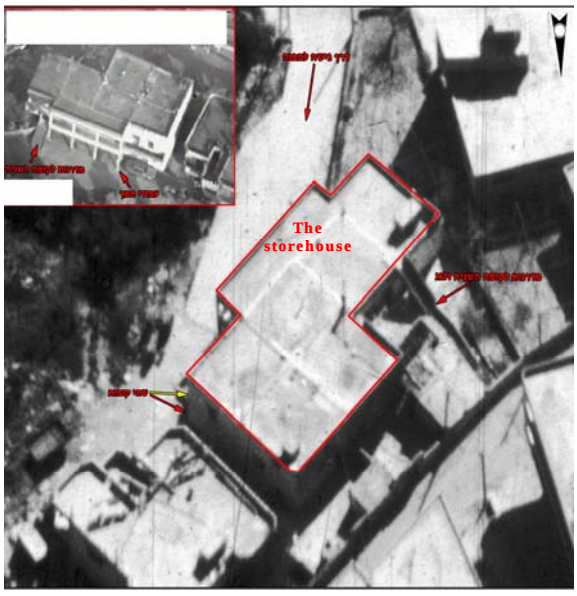
The deployment of Hezbollah's military infrastructure in the village of Yater

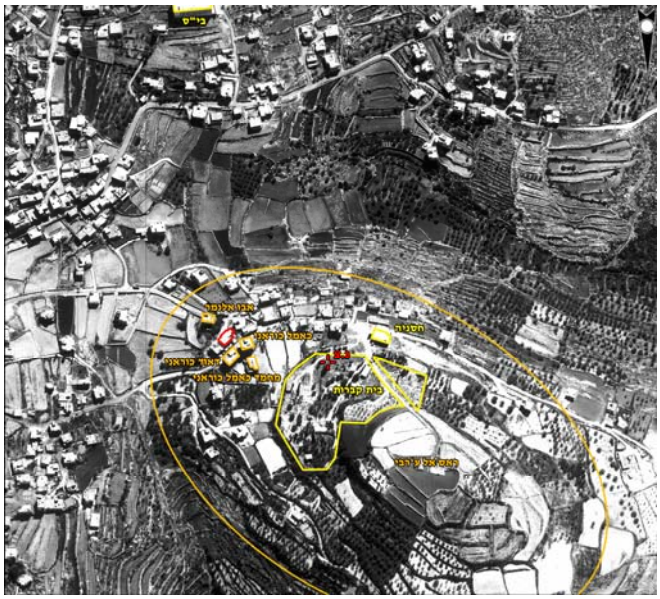
Arms storehouses and a Hezbollah base in the village of Yater

39. Hezbollah built arms storehouses in the village of Yater. It was also the site of one of the front command posts, which directed the abduction of two IDF soldiers (July 12). Fired from the site were anti-tank missiles, including the missile responsible for the crash of the IDF's Sikorsky CH-53 helicopter (called Yasour in the IDF).

40. A Hezbollah operative from Yater, named Maher Hassan Mahmoud Kourani, was detained during the war. He reported on Hezbollah bases and offices in the village and gave information about Hezbollah operatives residing in the village. Examples follow:

Hezbollah's storehouse and bases in Yater identified by Maher Kourani





An arms storehouse situated between residential buildings (marked in red). It is surrounded by buildings of villagers whose names appear on the photograph (Their housesmarked in yellow).

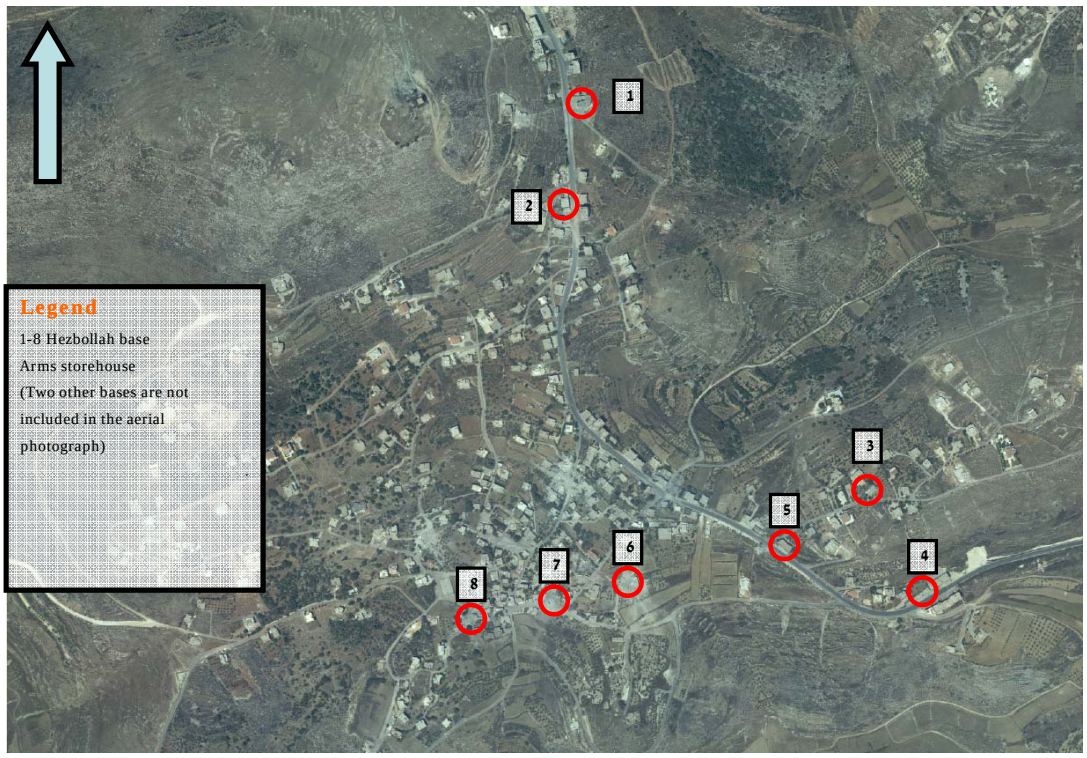
The anti-aircraft center of the Nasr unit's Second Territorial Subdivision. Three to four guards are constantly on site.

The headquarters of the Nasr unit's Second Territorial Subdivision. Entrance is forbidden to minor Hezbollah operatives. The building entry is guarded.

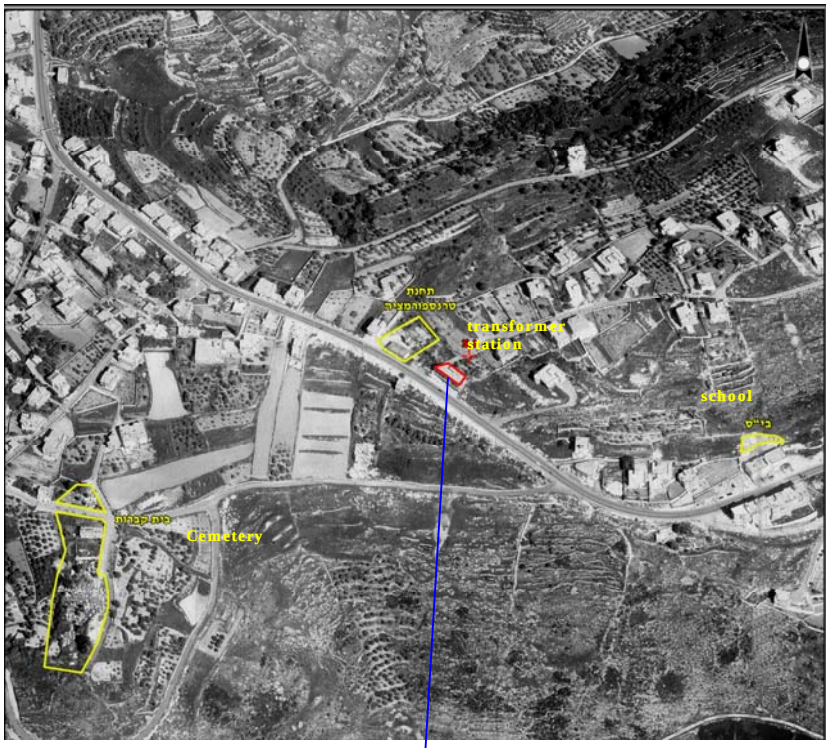
Hezbollah headquarters in Yater. The commander's office and a bedroom where Hezbollah operatives sleep are located in the house.

A building used as a Hezbollah storehouse. The organization's operatives are forbidden to enter.

2. The town of Soultaniyeh (in the central region of south Lebanon)



Hezbollah's military infrastructure in Soultaniyeh: the bases and arms storehouses are scattered throughout a densely-populated civilian area.



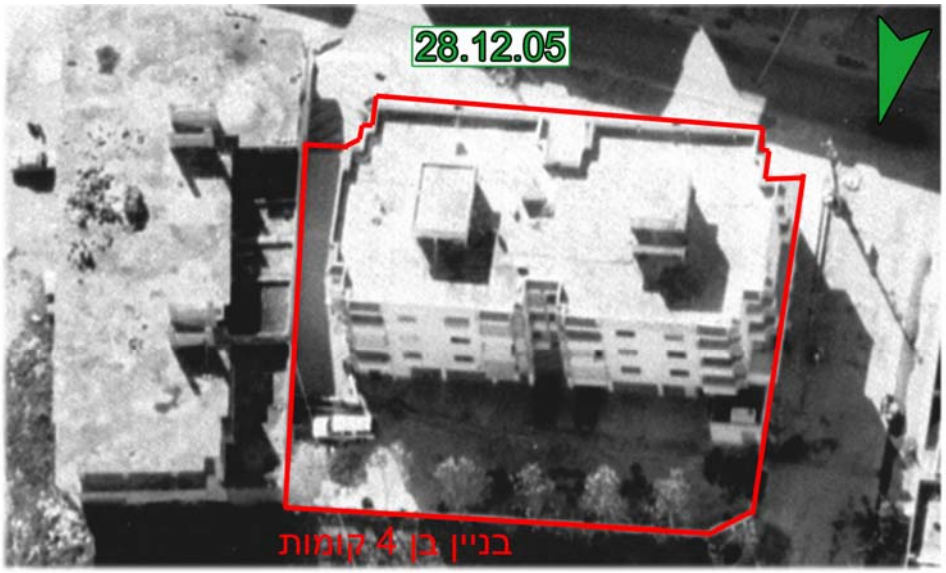
A Hezbollah arms storehouse (in red). It is located near a civilian Lebanese facility (the Soultaniyeh village transformer installation)

An enlarged view of the storehouse. It is found on the first floor of a three-storey building where civilian businesses are located as well (garages and an upholstery shop).

3. Abbassiyeh (northeast of Tyre)

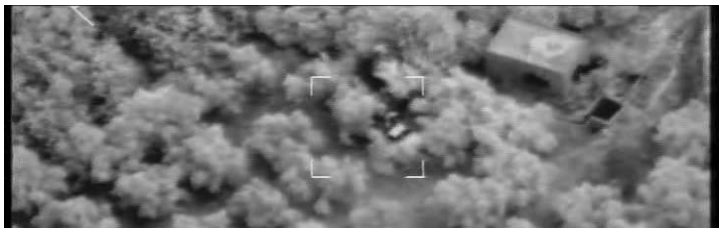
Arms storehouse in Abbassiyeh

Before the Air Force attack...



The storehouse was located in a four-storey building in a civilian district

...And after

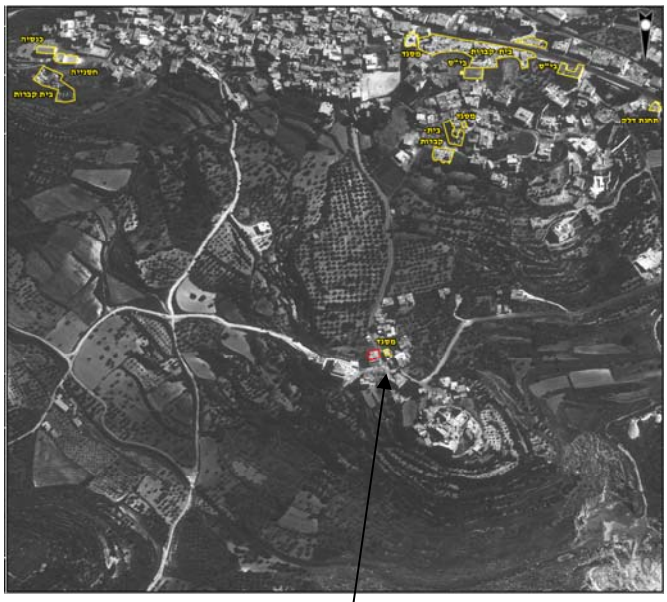


A truck loaded with arms, 5 meters away from a house in the village of Abbassiyeh (photographed during the war)

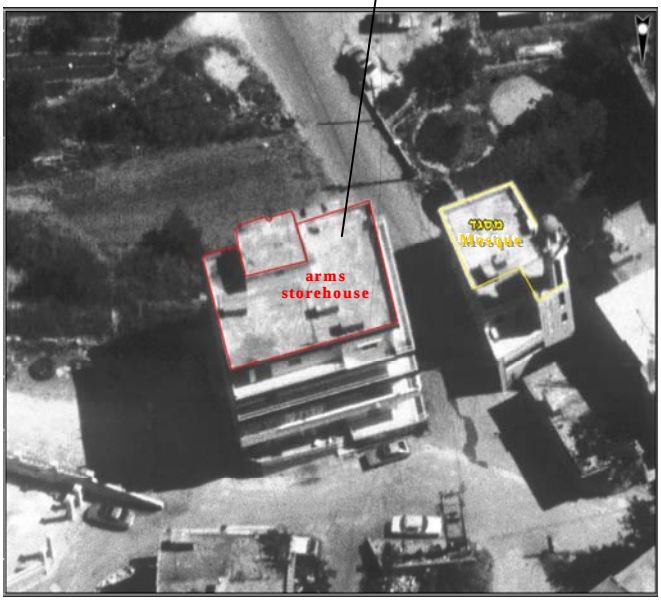
4. Khirbet Silm (central sector of south Lebanon)

A two-storey building in the eastern part of the village, probably used as the Nasr The civilian structure is marked in yellow; the neighboring building is marked in red. (unit's anti-tank center).

5. Kafr Qana (in the central region, southeast of Tyre)



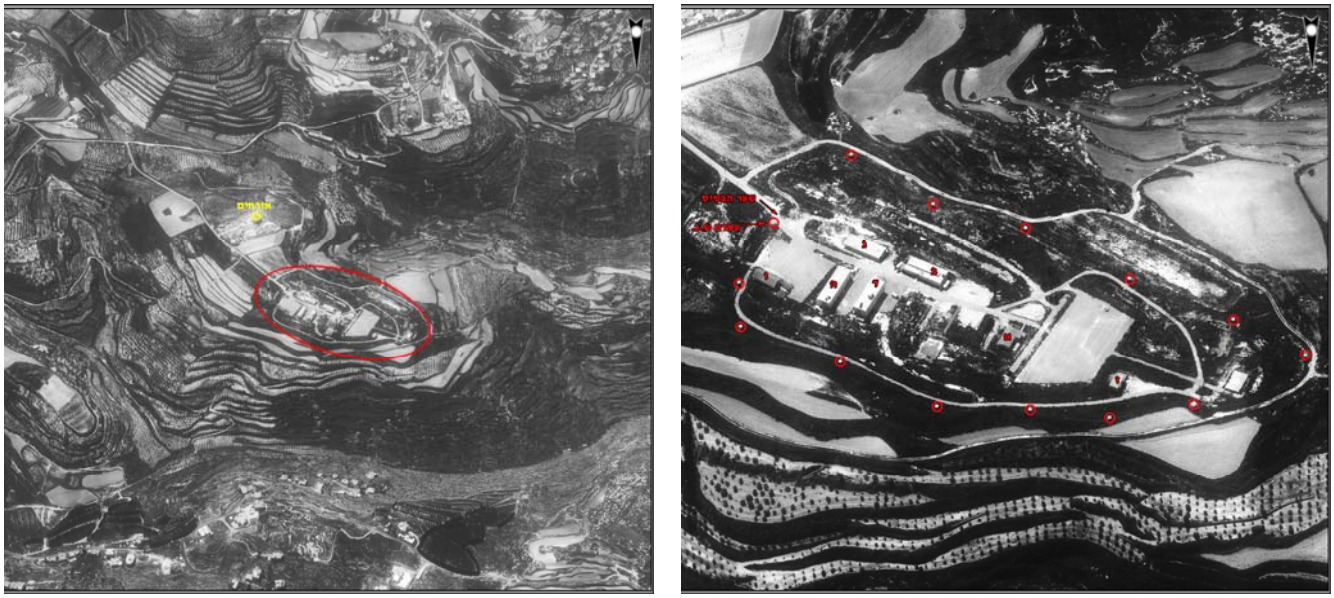
An overview of an arms storehouse (in red) located near a mosque (in yellow)



An enlarged view of the arms storehouse, with the mosque nearby

The arms storehouse following the Air Force attack. The photograph shows the proximity of the ruined arms storehouse to the mosque (Reuters, July 31; photo by Sharif Karim).

A Hezbollah compound in a former UN outpost

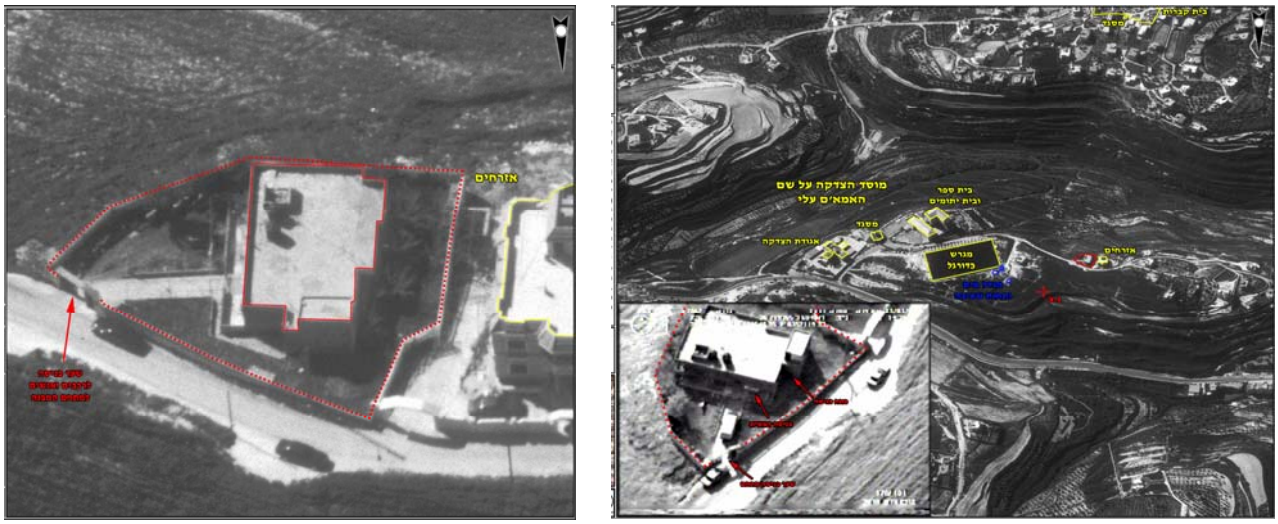


A Hezbollah compound in a former UN outpost southwest of Kafr Qana. It is possible that this compound was the site of a Hezbollah territorial subdivision headquarters (the region south of the Litani River). It includes seven buildings used by Hezbollah. Right: Fourteen observation posts (red) around the compound. Left: The compound (red) located several hundred meters away from civilian houses (yellow)

4. Maaroub (east of Tyre)

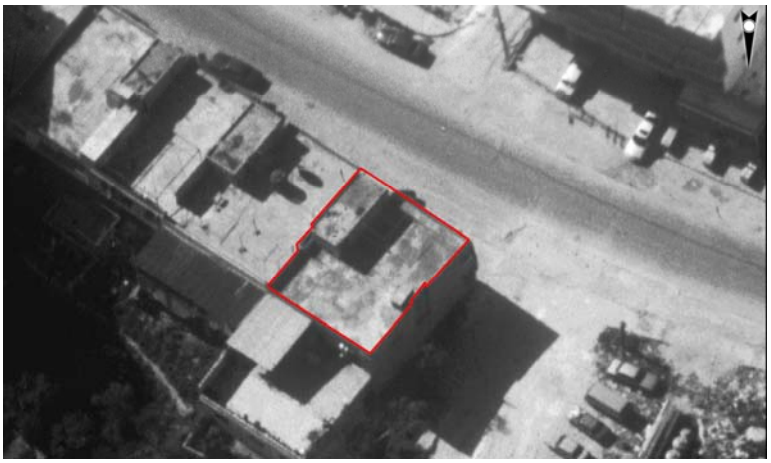
Hezbollah's bases and arms storehouses in the village of Maaroub

Example no. 1



Left: The Nasr unit's ordnance base (red). It is located in a one-storey building near the Imam Ali charitable society, about 10 meters away from a civilian house (yellow). Right: The ordnance base (red) and alongside a dwelling house (yellow). The rest of the locations marked in yellow are social institutions: the Imam Ali charitable society, a mosque, a school, an orphanage and a football ground

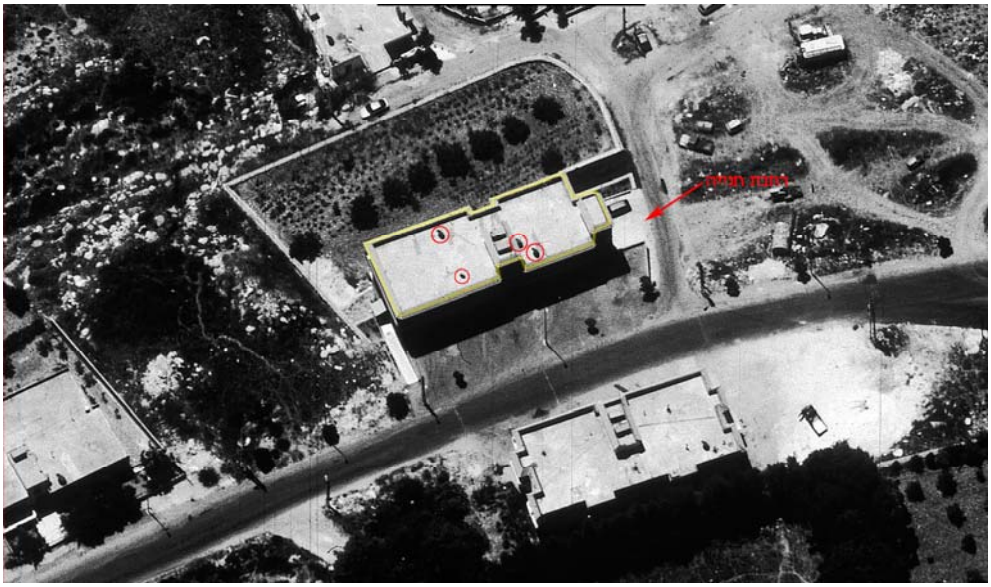
Example no. 2



A storehouse suspected of being an arms storehouse used by Hezbollah. It is a two-storey apartment building. On the ground floor of the western building there are three garages; the one in the middle is suspected of being an arms storehouse.

5. Tibnin (central region)

A building used by Hezbollah in the center of Tibnin (yellow)



An enlarged view of the building (yellow). Satellite dishes (in red) are located on the roof.

C. THE LOCATIONS IN AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF HEZBOLLAH HEADQUARTERS AND BASES WITHIN POPULATION CENTERS IN THE BEQA'A VALLEY, ESPECIALLY IN THE CITY OF BAALBEK.

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41. The Beqa'a Valley is Hezbollah's logistics area, in which are located: recruitment offices, the offices of senior commanders, security offices, logistics and supply storehouses, and training and instruction camps. One of the largest training camps is the **Sheikh Abdallah camp,** formerly used by the Lebanese army, situated on the outskirts of the city of Baalbek.

42. As the urban center of the Beqa'a Valley, **the city of Baalbek** is also Hezbollah's primary stronghold. It controls and supports the organization's military activity, mostly in the fields of **training and logistics.** The city is home to about **500 of the organization's operatives.** Hezbollah frequently organizes demonstrations and military parades in the city, often attended by its leader, Hassan Nasrallah.

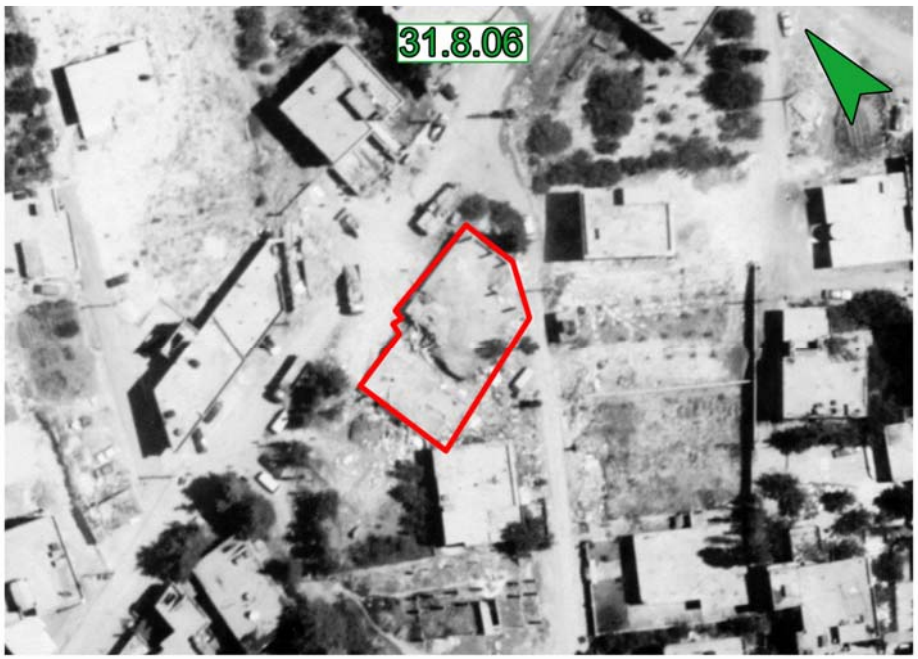
Hezbollah operatives marching during the Ashura festivities in Baalbek. There are Hezbollah flags in the street, and the marchers are carrying them as well (from Al-Intiqad, a Hezbollah publication, February 25, 2005).

43. Following are examples of Hezbollah targets in Baalbek and in a village in the Beqa'a Valley, attacked by the Israeli Air Force:

Target 1

Before the Air Force attack...

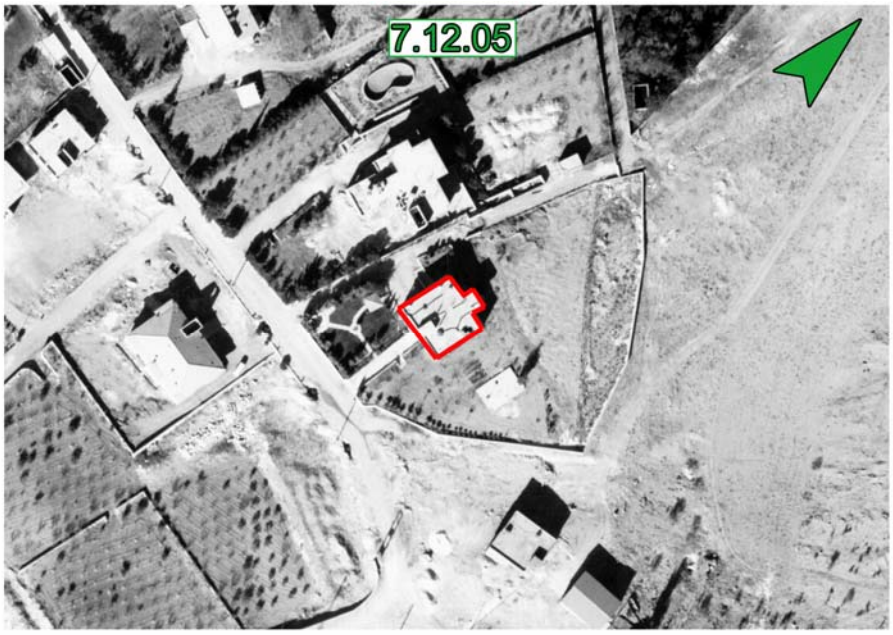
...And after



A regional headquarters and military storehouse in Baalbek
Regional headquarter and storehouse in Baalbe

Target 2

Before the Air Force attack...



...And after

The house of a Hezbollah operative in Baalbek

3 Target

Before the Air Force attack...

...And After

A regional headquarters in the village of Ali al-Nahri, in the central Beqa'a Valley

D. FROM LAUNCHINGS ROCKET OF D. LOCATIONS FROM VILLAGES AND VILLAGE OUTSKIRTS, BASED ON RADAR TRACKING AND THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH INTERPRETATION

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44. During the war, the majority of rockets were fired on Israel from the region south of the Litani River (the Nasr unit). A radar tracking map (see below) shows that **most of the rockets were launched from villages or from the outskirts of villages in the region south of the Litani River.**

45. Even though the sources of mortar and artillery fire were fairly spread out, several **main sources of fire** can be indicated (according to radar tracking).

a. **The Bint Jbeil region** (source of artillery fire)

b. **The Saddiqin-Zebqin-Kafr Qana region (including 220mm rockets)**

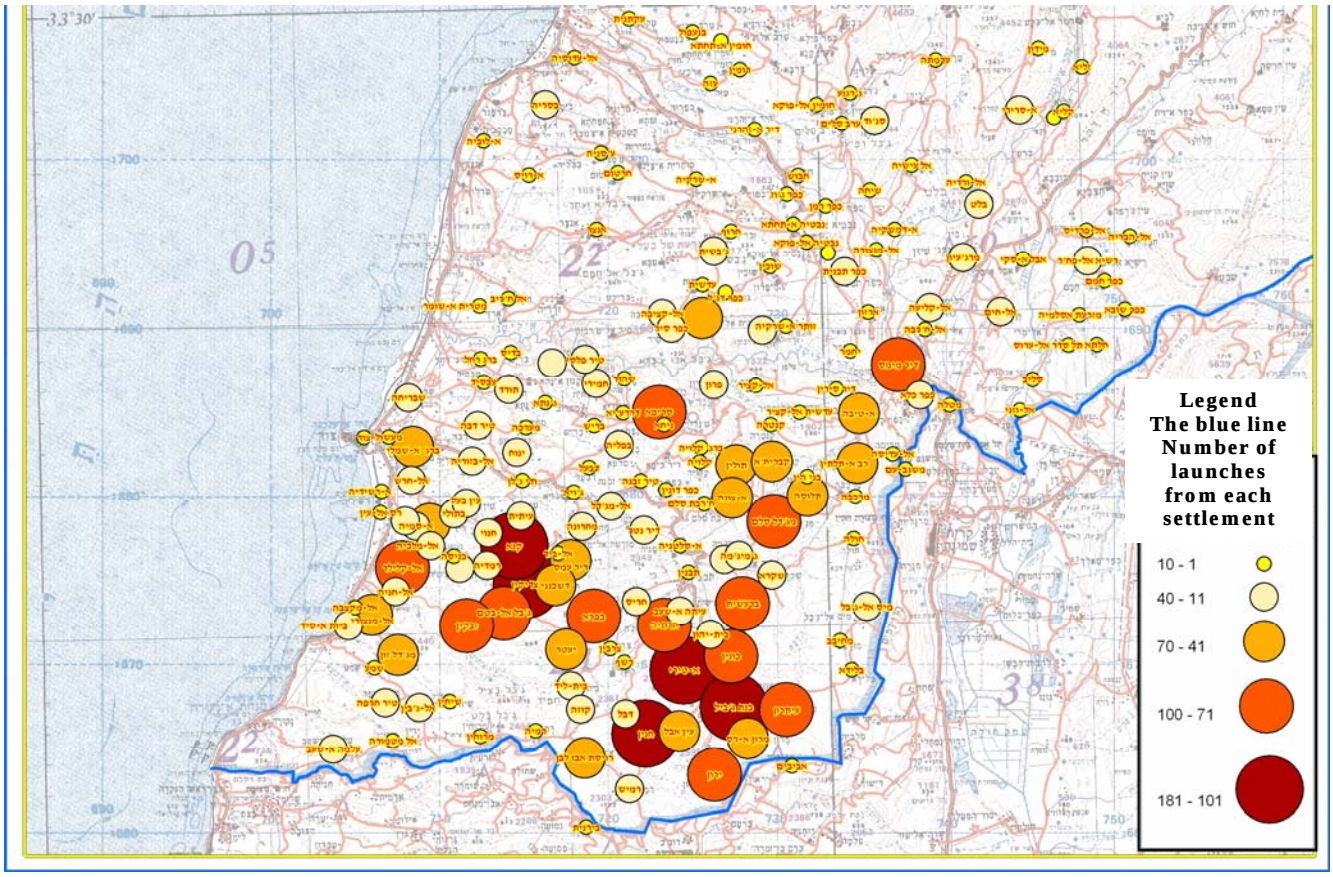
c. **The Srifa-Ghandouriyeh region**

d. **The Adeisseh-Taybe region**

e. **The Al-Hosh-Bazouriya region (including 220mm rockets)**

Launches of 220mm Syrian-made rockets from the outskirts of Tyre to Haifa (August 13). The rockets hit Haifa's suburbs.

A map of rocket launches from villages and outskirts of villages in south Lebanon during the war (up to 1 km from the villages[11])



46. The rockets were fired on Israel by dozens of squads operating **in and around villages** as well as in unpopulated areas (closed military areas prepared by Hezbollah in advance**). Notable among the villages that served as rocket launching sites was the Bint Jbeil region.** At times, the rockets were fired from outside the villages and operatives responsible rushed (by car or on foot) to take cover in the urban territory, as shown by the IDF's aerial photographs (for details on rocket launching sites inside and near **the villages, found by IDF radars south of the Litani River, see Appendix 4).**

[11] According to radar tracking.

47. **The rocket fire from the region north of the Litani River** (the Badr unit) did not begin until well into the fighting, and its relative share was low, compared to all other firing incidents (some 300 rockets). Most rockets were launched from the **Nabatiyeh-Adshit-Aishiye region** to the cities and towns of Israel's far north.

48. In the course of the fighting, the IDF forces and the Air Force took many aerial photographs documenting Hezbollah's rocket launches on Israel from populated areas (north and south of the Litani River). For select examples of the footage filmed by the IDF and television channels see Appendix 2(i). Also see the testimonies of Hezbollah detainees (Appendix 2 (ii)).

Hezbollah's operative activity conducted near houses and from a mosque (taken from footage filmed by the Israeli Air Force)

Hezbollah operatives in Bint Jbeil (the most prominent source of rocket launches) escaping to a mosque after an encounter with an IDF force (fire was opened from the mosque roof towards the IDF force).

Anti-tank fire from a civilian house in the region of Bint Jbeil

A car laden with explosives parked near a mosque in the village of Marwahin and hit by the IDF (other arms and ammunition were found in the mosque basement)