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The right finds a new way to wage war on judiciary

MKs milk Sde Teiman scandal to sow fear and legitimize soldiers' terrible acts

Analysis **Amos Harel**

The notion that the end of the war with Hamas will mend the divide within Israeli society has proved fundamentally wrong. With the eruption of the military advocate general affair, coming less than two weeks after the start of the cease-fire in Gaza, regime change is back – this time on steroids.

The right-wing campaign is deliberately polarizing the debate, from the failures that enabled the October 7 massacre through the failure to vanquish Hamas as promised, to the renewed assault on the judicial system. It's an unconstrained attack, in which the declarations of Tally Gotliv and her ilk are not the exception, but the rule.

The intent is to sow fear in the hearts of the gatekeepers, protesters and opposition heads (most of the third group has long been silenced anyway), ahead of the Knesset elections to be held within a year. The noise level will be constantly high from now on. It's hard to rule out the possi-

bility that security tensions will intensify, should the political need arise.

There are added bonuses in this strategy. They'll be able to again blame the jurists for allegedly enabling the massacre (instead of the one who will never take responsibility for anything),

Death penalty bill advances

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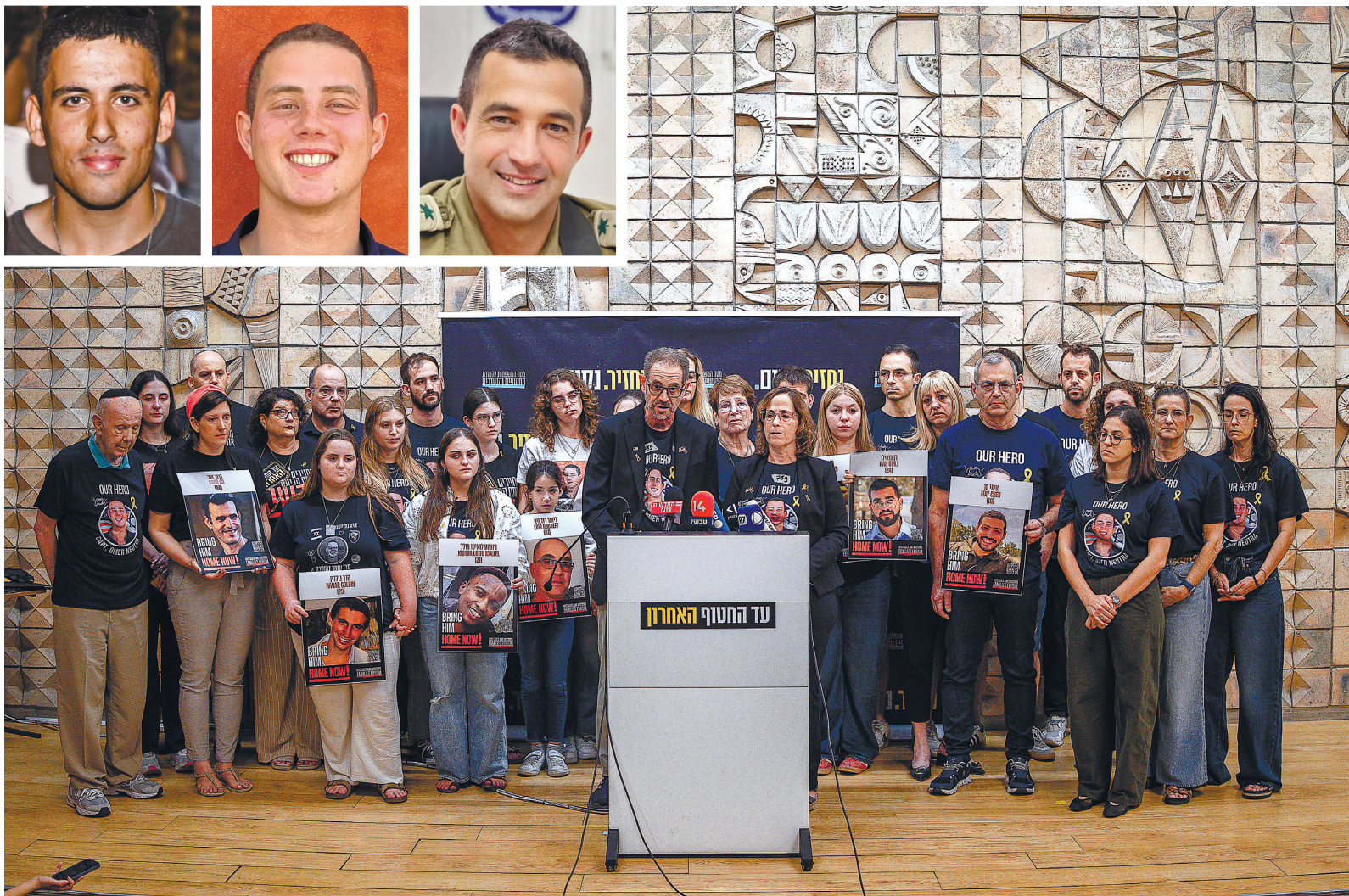
to pass the buck on to them for the absence of victory in Gaza and along the way to accrue more benefits in the trial of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. U.S. President Donald Trump speaks freely about it. "He's under trial for some things, and I don't think they treat him very well," he said in a "60 Minutes" interview broadcast on Sunday. "We'll be involved in that to help him out a little bit, because I think it's very unfair."

Meanwhile, the poison

machine has shifted into fifth gear. On Sunday, the machine launched a full-force attack on the military advocate general, Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi, amid the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination. The vocal lynching turned into contrived soul-searching for a few hours, when there was fear she had taken her own life. However, the moment she was found safe, after hours of intense searching, the machine quickly started up again. "We can continue with the lynching," as one of its central components announced with a wink. The campaign isn't only aimed at the military advocate general. There are bigger fish to fry, starting with Attorney General Gali Baharav-Miara. This explains the baseless attempt to place responsibility on the attorney general for the cover-up.

Tomer-Yerushalmi has already confessed to one offense – leaking the video that was part of the investigative material into the severe abuse of a Gazan detainee at the Sde Teiman

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Orna and Ronen Neutra, parents of Capt. Omer Neutra, whose body was returned to Israel on Sunday, speaking at a news conference on Monday.

Itai Ron

Bodies of slain soldiers Omer Neutra, Asaf Hamami and Oz Daniel returned to Israel

Haaretz

The bodies of three IDF soldiers handed over by Hamas on Sunday were identified on Monday morning as Col. Asaf Hamami, Sgt. Oz Daniel and Israeli-American Capt. Omer Neutra.

"We got Neutra, you know, from New York, from

the United States. I spoke to his parents," Trump told the press on board Air Force One. "They're thrilled in one sense, but in another sense, obviously, they're not too great. But we're very happy because we've got three bodies back today."

Omer Neutra, a 21-year-old lone soldier from New

York, was the son of Ronen and Orna and brother to Daniel, Keren, Or and Leah. Neutra was a Knicks fan and captain of his high school basketball, volleyball and soccer teams.

He postponed college to enroll in a leadership program at Kibbutz Kfar Hanassi in northern Israel.

Following the program, he volunteered to serve in the IDF as a lone soldier. He completed officer training in the Armored Corps and became a tank commander, leading a four-man crew in the 77th Battalion of the 7th Brigade.

On October 7, Neutra served as a tank commander

near Gaza. Hamas members were recorded celebrating beside his burning tank in an image that became a symbol of the massacre.

His parents, Ronen and Orna, led a tireless campaign for his release, speaking at both the Republican

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Court extends detention of IDF's former top lawyer by three days

Josh Breiner and Yair Foldes

An Israeli court on Monday extended the detention by three days of Military Advocate General Yifat Tomer-Yerushalmi, who was arrested on Sunday night as part of the investigation into

the leak of a video showing the abuse of a Palestinian detainee by Israeli guards.

During a hearing on Monday, the judge said that the grounds for extending Tomer-Yerushalmi's detention were due to the danger she poses as well as concerns over potential interference

with judicial proceedings. The police initially requested an extension of her detention by five days.

Tomer-Yerushalmi, suspected of fraud and breach of trust, abuse of office, obstruction of justice and disclosure of official information by a public servant,

admitted to leaking the video and announced her resignation on Friday.

At the hearing, police said that there are five suspects in the case and that seven people involved have been questioned.

The detention of former Chief Military Prosecutor

Col. Matan Solomesh, who was arrested with Tomer-Yerushalmi, was also extended until Wednesday. Solomesh is also suspected of fraud, breach of trust, abuse of office, obstruction of justice, and disclosure of official information.

Tomer-Yerushalmi was

referred for a psychiatric evaluation after being found on a beach in central Israel, several hours after she had been declared missing on Sunday. Police launched a search when she failed to appear for scheduled meetings. According to a police source, Tomer-Yerushalmi's

car was found abandoned on a beach, and her phone was missing.

Attorney Dori Klagsbald, who represents Tomer-Yerushalmi, told the court that there is no evidence she obstructed justice, especially as police had been investigating for a week and

had already obtained correspondence from the military prosecutor's office regarding the leak. "Under these circumstances, it is difficult to see how and how to obstruct," he said. The court rejected the claim.

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The death of a drone operator who couldn't bear his role in Gaza war



An Israeli airstrike on a high-rise building in Gaza City in September.

Yousef Al Zanoon/AP

Tom Levinson

It was 6 P.M. at a military ceremony in central Israel. Dozens of air force officers saluted, several of them se-

nior. But there were no microphones for the eulogies, no cameras commemorating the hugs and tears.

This was a few months ago, but a gag order still

blocks the publishing of the name of the officer who was buried that day. He was a senior officer in the reserves, a veteran drone operator.

Like many traumatized

victims of the war who have taken their own lives, he remains unknown to the public, as are the circumstances that led to the suicide.

"He loved the army and the country very much," says someone who served with him. "The horrors of the war and all the killing were hard for him. It oppressed him. I saw him gradually wilt and lose it."

This source says the senior officer was in charge of drone takeoffs and landings, not the attacks. But he saw everything, the result of every takeoff.

"I realized that it bothered him, that his participation was hard for him," the source adds. "Most people here might manage to repress it, but for him apparently the wall broke. It didn't happen all at once, but slowly but surely."

In recent months, Haaretz spoke with many

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Charly Triballeau/AFP

Allegations of bribery, fraud and money laundering

Police raid Histadrut offices, arrest dozens in corruption case

Josh Breiner

Israel Police raided the offices of the Histadrut labor federation on Monday, arresting dozens of suspects – including senior officials and the union's chairman – as part of a corruption investigation.

Two of the suspects, Histadrut chairman Arnon Bar-David and his wife, are accused of bribery, fraud, breach of trust, money laundering and tax offenses. The judge partially granted a police request and extended Bar-David's detention until November 10. Along with the chairman of the Histadrut, the police are seeking to extend the detention of seven other people involved.

According to the police, the case involves bribery, fraud and breach of trust in a wide range of public institutions and municipal and government corporate authorities. The case involves a businessman in the insurance sector, allegedly using his connections to appoint individuals chosen by the heads of the Histadrut's workers' committees as



Bar-David Oren Ben Hakoon

directors in government companies. In return, the committee heads worked to transfer all employees in the companies where they worked to the insurance agency owned by the businessman.

Police also suspect that the businessman leveraged his close relationship of 30 years with Bar-David to influence appointments in various companies. In exchange, Bar-David allegedly received money and other benefits from the businessman.

"[The businessman] benefited from Bar-David's backing," explained a senior police official. "If he

manages, for example, to appoint a certain person as chairman of the Histadrut's corporations, he controls the subsequent directorial appointments."

"The suspicion regarding Bar-David is that he entered into a corrupt relationship with others, of giving and receiving various types of benefits," noted the judge ruling the case. "There is reasonable suspicion that supports the allegations in the arrest request – and even more than is required at this stage. There is reasonable basis for fear that releasing the suspect will disrupt the course of the investigation ... and if he is released, there is a fear of coordinating evidence and destroying evidence."

Bar-David's lawyer said in Monday's hearing that his client is cooperating and has nothing to hide. "Most of the offenses are by a public employee," his lawyer added, "why did you arrest his wife? She does not work for the Histadrut. Her arrest was intended to put pressure

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