Israeli strikes kill 13 Palestinians in Gaza; UN staffer dies in Ansarallah detention; Haley Stevens' meltdown

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Iran

· **Iran proposes two-day reopening of Hormuz following Qatar talks:** Iranian negotiators departed Doha, Qatar, on Sunday after three days of indirect peace-deal talks with the U.S., mediated by Qatar. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi told legislators that discussions centered on a proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz within two days, provided Washington first meets Tehran's conditions, including lifting sanctions and ending its naval blockade.

  · Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said that Iran had condensed its original seven-step plan into a process that could be implemented within 48 hours, calling it a demonstration of Tehran's "goodwill-based approach."

  · "The ball is now in the U.S.'s court and Iran's demands are entirely clear and logical," Baghaei said, accusing Washington of having "actively undermined diplomatic processes" over the past two years.

· **Axios: Netanyahu presses Trump to resume Iran strikes immediately after U.S. midterms:** On Saturday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged President Donald Trump to launch renewed attacks on Iran immediately after Tuesday's midterm elections, Axios reported.

  · Trump reportedly wants to give negotiations more time, but he is also preparing for the possible resumption of major military operations. Trump told reporters on Sunday evening that he had a "very good talk" with Netanyahu on the phone. Netanyahu's office did not comment on their call.

  · Also on Sunday, Trump again threatened Iran: "The only reason we are not finished with Iran is because I want to be nice. I want to try and save all those lives if I can. But at some point, we're going to have to give them the hammer."

· **Qatari tanker struck in Gulf; October is war's worst month for shipping attacks:** A Qatari liquefied natural gas tanker, Al Mayeda, was struck by unidentified objects while sailing in the Persian Gulf on Friday evening, Qatar Gas Transport Company said.

  · No crew members were injured, and the vessel remains operational, with no reported environmental damage.

  · Qatar condemned the attack as a threat to maritime navigation and global energy supplies, saying that an investigation was underway.

  · More than 120 commercial vessels have been attacked in the region since the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran began in February, with October recording at least 29 attacks, the highest monthly toll of the war.

  · Two more vessels were hit by projectiles in the Gulf since Sunday, according to UK Maritime Trade Operations. A tanker was struck by two unidentified projectiles off Saudi Arabia on Monday, while a vessel in the Strait of Hormuz came under fire Sunday.

  · Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said that two oil tankers struck naval mines while crossing the strait through "unauthorized routes" on Sunday, leaving both vessels disabled and a supertanker engulfed in flames.

· **Hormuz shipping plunges over 90%, UN says:** Arsenio Dominguez, head of the UN's International Maritime Organization, outlined the scale of the maritime crisis in an interview with Bloomberg:

  · Daily crossings plunged from 135 before the war to just 12 in late October, with only two recorded on October 29. Many vessels have disabled tracking systems. More than 120 vessels have been attacked since the war began and at least 24 seafarers have been killed.

  · Around 80 mines were previously identified in the shipping corridor, with no confirmation they have been cleared. Oil spills have affected Qatar, Oman, and the UAE.

  · Jet fuel prices have increased 80% since the start of the war, shipping fuel 70%, and diesel more than 20% in over 95 countries, while disruptions threaten food security. Pipelines, railways, and alternative land routes can handle only about 5% of affected cargo.

Palestine

· **Five Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes across Gaza:** An Israeli drone strike on a home in central Gaza killed one Palestinian and wounded several others on Monday, WAFA reported. Another strike northwest of Khan Younis killed one person, while a drone strike on a tent in Al-Mawasi, west of the city, killed one and wounded several others. An Israeli air strike on a vehicle in Gaza City killed one and wounded five. A man also died of wounds sustained in an earlier Israeli strike in Rafah.

  · Over the past 48 hours, Israeli attacks killed 13 Palestinians—11 in new attacks and two who died of wounds they sustained in earlier attacks—and injured 38 others across Gaza, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health. Two bodies were also recovered from beneath the rubble.

  · The total recorded death toll since October 7, 2023, is now 74,609 killed, with 175,872 injured. Since October 11, 2025, the first full day of the so-called ceasefire, Israel has killed at least 1,593 Palestinians in Gaza and wounded 5,748, while 847 bodies have been recovered.

· **Israeli forces end 11-day Hebron siege as raids and settler attacks continue across the occupied West Bank:**

  · **Hebron:** Israeli forces withdrew from several neighborhoods in Hebron on Monday after an 11-day military assault on the city that displaced nearly 5,000 Palestinians. Israeli forces demolished 15 civilian buildings, including homes, and disrupted schooling for some 80,000 students. Direct economic losses exceeded $3.8 million per day, while infrastructure damage surpassed $1.9 million, according to local Palestinian officials.

  · Settlers attacked the home of Youssef Shanaran in Wadi Al-Rakhim, Masafer Yatta, throwing stones as the family's confinement entered its 29th consecutive day. Twelve family members, including children, have been unable to enter or leave without Israeli military permission. Settlers also reportedly threw unidentified substances into the family's water well.

  · **Ramallah:** Israeli forces fired tear gas toward Al-Mughayyir Secondary School, northeast of Ramallah, causing students to suffer from tear gas inhalation.

  · **Nablus:** Israeli forces arrested journalist Samer Khweira after raiding his home in Nablus.

- **Bethlehem:** Israeli forces demolished an inhabited home in Umm Salmuna, south of Bethlehem, without prior notice.
- **Tubas:** Israeli settlers stole livestock from a farm in the Salhab area northeast of Tubas, and damaged two vehicles.
- **Salfit:** Settlers blocked several roads near Kifl Haris, Haris, and Wadi Qana, burning tires and obstructing traffic with stones.

· **Israel kills five Gaza police officers, bringing police death toll since ceasefire to 75:** Israeli drone strikes killed five Palestinian police officers in the Al-Mawasi area of Khan Younis, southern Gaza, on Sunday. Gaza's Interior Ministry said the strikes deliberately targeted police officers and personnel while they were on duty, bringing the number of personnel killed since the October 2025 "ceasefire" to 75.

- Eyewitness Mohannad Abu Labda told Drop Site's Mohamed Ahmed that two drone missiles struck a populated area surrounded by displacement tents and located beside a school.
- "These are their targets? Civil servants?" Abu Labda said. At least nine Palestinians were killed in Israeli attacks across Gaza on Sunday, including three people, one of them a child, in a strike west of Gaza City.
- **Watch the dispatch from Mohamed Ahmed here.**

· **Israeli soldier posts photo of female Palestinian journalist blindfolded and bound:** An Israeli soldier posted a photo of Palestinian journalist Marah Awad, blindfolded and with her hands bound, following her arrest during a pre-dawn Israeli military raid on her home in Beit Ummar, north of Hebron in the occupied West Bank, on October 26.

- According to her brother, Israeli soldiers questioned her about her writings on Israel, accused her of "incitement," and confiscated her phone and computer before taking her away. Soldiers also reportedly beat two of her brothers during the raid.
- No formal charges have been publicly confirmed.

· **October marks highest number of injuries in Gaza since ceasefire began:** Israel killed 143 Palestinians and wounded 674 others in Gaza in October, according to a new monthly report from Gaza's Health Ministry.

- Among those killed were 23 children, 11 women, and two elderly people. The wounded included 190 children and 129 women.

- October recorded the highest monthly number of injuries since the ceasefire began on October 10, 2025.

· **Israeli attacks in West Bank surge 53% since September, topping 3,100:** Israeli forces and settlers carried out 3,133 attacks against Palestinians, their land, and property across the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, in October, a 52.8% increase from September, according to the Palestinian Wall and Settlement Resistance Commission. Israeli forces were responsible for 1,764 attacks, while settlers carried out 1,369, a 111.6% increase from the previous month.

- **Olive harvest:** Attacks damaged 5,890 trees, including 4,498 olive trees. The commission also documented 165 cases of olive theft and the theft of 384 sheep, alongside agricultural equipment and vehicles.
- **Demolitions:** Israeli authorities demolished 129 Palestinian structures, including 62 inhabited homes. At least 220 Palestinians, including 125 children, were directly affected.
- **Settlement expansion:** Settlers attempted to establish 28 new outposts, while Israeli authorities advanced 10 settlement plans and issued five tenders covering 1,629 housing units.

Yemen

· **Ansarallah seizes strategic highlands in southwest Yemen:** Ansarallah captured the highlands of the Al-Maqaterah district in Lahij governorate after seizing control of Al-Maqaterah Castle on Sunday.

- Forces from Al-Maqaterah district then traveled southwest to meet up with Ansarallah forces in Al-Madaribah and Ras Al-Ara district as they advanced along multiple fronts.
- Only a couple hundred square kilometers of highland terrain remain under the control of the Saudi-backed Presidential Leadership Council in the vicinity of the Bab al-Mandab.

· **Saudi launches 75 strikes across Yemen as coalition intercepts Ansarallah strikes:** Saudi warplanes carried out 75 airstrikes and missile attacks across eight Yemeni governorates over 24 hours, Ansarallah military spokesperson Yahya Saree said Sunday. He said F-15 and Typhoon jets struck targets in Saada, Taiz, Amran, Ibb, Dhamar, Lahij, Hodeidah, and Al-Jawf, causing civilian casualties.

- Saudi-led coalition strikes wounded seven people in Hodeidah, according to Ansarallah authorities. Four were wounded in strikes on Ras Issa port, while three others were injured in attacks on an oil facility in Bajil.
- Ansarallah reported two airstrikes on the University of Hodeida's medical school, according to Al-Masirah TV. Ansarallah blamed the strikes on Saudi Arabia. There was no immediate word on casualties.
- Separately, the Saudi-led coalition said its air defenses intercepted and destroyed two ballistic missiles and a drone launched by Ansarallah toward southern Saudi Arabia.

· **300,000+ displaced by war in Yemen:** More than 300,000 people have been forced from their homes by escalating fighting in western Yemen, almost all over the past two months, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported.

- In the city of Taiz, prices of essential goods have risen between 300% and 500% as fighting cuts off supply routes. IOM warned that access restrictions and funding shortages are hampering relief efforts, with displaced families urgently needing food, shelter, clean water, and healthcare.

· **UN human rights staffer dies in Ansarallah detention:** Mohammad Al-Shami, a Yemeni employee of the UN Human Rights Office who has been detained by Ansarallah since June 2024, died in custody, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said Saturday.

- His family learned of his death more than a month after it occurred and received no explanation of the cause or circumstances.
- Türk demanded an independent investigation and the immediate release of other detained UN personnel, including seven of his colleagues.
- Ansarallah has previously accused detained aid workers of spying for the U.S. and Israel, without providing evidence, and did not immediately comment on Al-Shami's death. A World Food Program worker died in Ansarallah custody in February 2025.

Lebanon

· **Israeli attacks target four districts across southern Lebanon despite ceasefire:**

- **Marjeyoun:** Israeli warplanes struck Al-Qusayr, while Israeli forces carried out an explosion in Bani Hayyan on Monday, Lebanon's National News Agency reported.

- A tank stationed in Khiam fired toward agricultural land in Ibl Al-Saqi, where more than 10 artillery shells landed near Naba Ibl overnight.

- **Bint Jbeil:** Israeli forces shelled the outskirts of Kounine.

- **Nabatieh:** Israeli warplanes struck Kfartabnit.

- **Tyre (Sour):** Israeli forces shelled Mansouri and Majdal Zoun, while forces fired toward the Hujeir and Salouqi valleys.

U.S. News

- **Judge tosses DOJ bid to delay certification of Alaska's Senate results if Republican candidate loses:** U.S. District Judge **Sharon Gleason** ruled on Sunday that she lacked authority to grant the Justice Department's preemptive request to block the certification of Alaska's Senate election. In the case, the DOJ argued that voter confusion between two candidates on the ballot—Sen. **Dan S. Sullivan** and the retired schoolteacher **Dan J. Sullivan Jr.**—could unfairly benefit Democrat **Mary Peltola.** The DOJ appealed the decision. Its criminal probe into Dan J. Sullivan is ongoing.

- **Democratic Rep. Haley Stevens endorses Republican Mike Rogers in Michigan Senate race:** Rep. **Haley Stevens**, who lost the Democratic primary for Michigan Senate to **Abdul El-Sayed**, endorsed Republican nominee **Mike Rogers** on Sunday. She said that El-Sayed told her she was not welcome in his campaign. Stevens' endorsement comes after a campaign ad was aired that linked U.S. aid to Israel with the high cost of living. The liberal Rebellion PAC created the ad, which Stevens seized upon though the El-Sayed campaign disavowed it.

  - Eight House Democrats anonymously told Politico that they would like to remove Stevens from the House Democratic Caucus. She was removed from a series of House Democratic member text chats on Sunday. Some members of Congress publicly condemned Stevens, including retiring Rep. **Marc Veasey** and Rep. **Pramila Jayapal**. Jayapal told Politico, "She has no place in our party."

  - Senate Majority Leader **Chuck Schumer** wrote on X that Stevens' endorsement was a "despicable betrayal" and reiterated his support for El-Sayed.

  - President Trump cheered Stevens' endorsement, telling reporters that he wished to "thank her" and that he would "love to have her" in the GOP.

  - Several of Stevens' congressional staff resigned in protest, including her chief of staff **Justin German**, Axios reported.

- Plus, a scoop from Drop Site: Mike Rogers's campaign spokesperson is a registered agent for Israel, Jacqueline Sweet reports—via Brad Parscale's Clocktower X. Read more here.

· **Sen. Roger Marshall doubles down on sending medical patients to debt collection:** Sen. **Roger Marshall** (R-KS), who as an obstetrician sued more than 700 patients over their medical debts, released a campaign video defending his track record. He ignored his top advisers on the matter, who said that the video would attract negative attention just days before the election. In the 60-minute clip, he said that his involvement in debt collection ended once his patients' accounts went to collection agencies and that he "never had anyone arrested." Marshall's challenger in the election, Democrat **Adam Hamilton**, has released ads criticizing Marshall's medical practice. One ad featured a woman who Marshall's practice sued in 2009 for $3,596 over a C-section, who was arrested three times for missing court hearings. Marshall sent a cease-and-desist letter to the Hamilton campaign, calling the ad "defamatory."

· **Sen. Chris Murphy hospitalized after stroke, is "awake and alert":** Connecticut Democratic Sen. **Chris Murphy** was hospitalized for a stroke after feeling numbness in his arm on Saturday. He was transferred to Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he is "awake and alert," his chief of staff said. He is expected to make a full recovery. Murphy, a potential 2028 presidential candidate, had been campaigning across the country, including in Michigan, Minnesota and Florida.

- Last week, Murphy, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, criticized the Trump administration's plan to resume the war on Iran. "Some of us have been briefed on the war plan," he said last week. "And while I cannot disclose any details, I can say this: the plan is insane. It will not achieve objectives and will set off a new cycle of escalation."

· **Head of Social Security Administration promotes Trump in emails to public days before midterm:** Late last week, Social Security Commissioner **Frank Bisignano** wrote emails to people with online accounts that "under President Donald J. Trump, the Social Security Administration (SSA) is transforming into a model of excellence," according to copies of the email reviewed by the Washington Post. The agency did not say how many were sent, though more than 100 million people have online accounts.

- Bisignano, who also serves as the chief executive of the Internal Revenue Service, sent out a similar emails from his IRS account on Thursday lauding Trump for signing "into law the Working Families Tax Cuts, landmark legislation that ushered in a new

era of tax relief and prevented the largest tax increase in American history from taking effect."

· **DHS says it is investigating 300,000 possible cases of noncitizen voting:** Homeland Security Secretary **Markwayne Mullin** told Fox News on Saturday that his department is investigating 300,000 potential cases of noncitizen voting, with 1,600 of these investigations active. He provided no evidence or further context for either figure. Repeated studies show that noncitizen voting is exceedingly rare and never at a scale that can change the outcome of an election.

· **Judge rejects Trump's lawsuit against the Wall Street Journal and Rupert Murdoch over Epstein reporting:** Judge **Darrin Gayles** of the Southern District of Florida ruled on Saturday that Trump failed to prove "actual malice" in his lawsuit against the Wall Street Journal and its owner, Rupert Murdoch, for the paper's reporting on **Jeffrey Epstein**. Gayles wrote that Trump's malice allegations were "conclusory, vague, sometimes inconsistent with the Article, and often irrelevant." The case was dismissed with prejudice, meaning that Trump cannot refile an amended complaint. It is the second time this year courts have blocked Trump's suit over WSJ's reporting.

· **NYT/Siena poll shows Democratic leads in several key Senate races:** Democratic candidates are leading Republicans in elections in Michigan, Texas, Alaska, Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, and Maine, according to the latest New York Times/Siena polls.

- **Abdul El-Sayed** leads **Mike Rogers** by 11 points in Michigan, the poll's widest margin. **James Talarico** leads **Ken Paxton** by seven points in Texas, the second-largest margin.
- **Josh Turek** in Iowa and **Mary Peltola** in Alaska command the thinnest advantages. Each Democratic candidate has just a two-point lead over their Republican opponents.
- Thirty-eight percent of likely voters approved of President Trump's job performance in the seven states polled. Trump won five of the states by double digits just two years ago.

📥 Have a tip on Capitol Hill? Email DC Correspondent Julian Andreone at Julian@dropsitenews.com

Other International News

· **Mada Masr appeal closure ruling:** An Egyptian court in Cairo scheduled a hearing for November 25 to consider an appeal by the independent news outlet Mada Masr against the

conviction of editor-in-chief Lina Attalah. The court found Attalah guilty of operating an unlicensed website. She was fined 3 million Egyptian pounds, and ordered the closure of Mada Masr's website and the confiscation of its property.

- In a separate case, Attalah is challenging a one-year prison sentence and a 2 million Egyptian pound fine over her conviction in absentia of operating an unlicensed website as well as publishing false news. The case will go to trial on November 11. Attalah's legal team did not learn of her conviction in absentia, dated to 2024, until she was released after last week's trial ended.
- Mada Masr released a statement in their Morning Digest on Monday: "We are angry but hopeful. We are tired but insistent, insistent that our work must go on, that Lina should face neither prison nor fines, that all jailed journalists should be free."

· **Bangladesh forms new wage board for garment workers as protests continue around Dhaka:** The Bangladeshi government will form a six-member board to set a new minimum wage after thousands of workers protested poor economic conditions over the weekend. Workers demanded a minimum wage of 30,000 taka ($242) a month, more than double the current 12,500 taka rate ($101), citing the rising costs of living. The protests began Saturday and led about 30 factories near Dhaka to declare holidays, with several people, including police officers, injured in Ashulia. Bangladesh's garment sector, the world's second largest after China's, contributes about 10% of GDP.

· **Myanmar military strikes over the weekend kill at least 15, including a newborn:** On Sunday, military airstrikes hit four townships in Rakhine state, including a makeshift clinic and a maternity ward in territory held by the rebel Arakan Army. The attacks killed at least 12 people, including a week-old infant, and wounded 32 others, Reuters reported. A day earlier, the military struck a school in Loikaw, Kayah State, killing three students and wounding five other students. As the violence has intensified, Thai jets have patrolled Thailand's border with Myanmar.

- The military strikes follow a late September wave of attacks that killed at least 58 people in displacement camps in Rakhine. Civil war has left an estimated 100,000 people dead and over 3.5 million displaced since 2021.

· **Uganda begins withdrawing troops from Somalia, ending yearslong deployment:** Uganda said on Monday that it started withdrawing troops from Somalia. A government spokesperson said that the first cohort has already returned home. All forces, including about 4,500 serving under the African Union mission AUSSOM, will be out of Somalia by the end of 2027. An October 31 AUSSOM letter warned that the pullout could leave parts of the

Lower Shabelle region vulnerable to al-Shabaab attacks, an assessment shared by Somalia's state minister for foreign affairs, Ali Omar. Al-Shabaab has waged an insurgency in central and southern Somalia for about two decades and still carries out attacks on military and civilian targets.

· **Sudan files complaints against Ethiopia drone attacks to UN Security Council, African Union:** Sudan's foreign ministry lodged a complaint against Ethiopia with the UN Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council on Sunday, accusing Ethiopia of allowing the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) to use its territory to launch "brazen" attacks against civilian infrastructure. The Sudanese army-led Transitional Sovereignty Council published a report, tallying 70 assaults from February 15 to October 27, which killed or wounded 484 civilians. The report said that drones were launched from Ethiopia's Asosa Airport and Bahir Dar airbase, as well as the Kurmuk-Gizen border area. Sudan's military has repeatedly accused Ethiopia of aiding the RSF, while Ethiopia accuses Sudan's military of backing Tigray rebels, which the military denies.

· **RSF accused of further attacks on Sudan's power grid:** Drone strikes blamed on the RSF knocked out power substations in Al-Dabbah in Northern State and Abu Hamad in River Nile State on Sunday, leaving both towns without power, the Associated Press reported.

  · Sudan's Foreign Ministry said on Saturday that the drones were supplied by the United Arab Emirates and launched from Ethiopia.

  · The strikes were the latest in a week of attacks on electricity stations across Sudanese army-held areas that have disrupted electricity and water supplies. Fifteen substations have been targeted since early October, according to the rights group Emergency Lawyers, leaving Sudan's grid dependent on a handful of plants.

· The Merowe Dam is now the last major source of electricity in the country, providing more than 70% of Sudan's electricity, according to AP.

· **UN peacekeeping mission in Western Sahara expires following Russian veto at Security Council:** The UN mission in Western Sahara, created in 1991 to monitor a ceasefire and prepare a referendum, has expired, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres confirmed Sunday. Guterres added that he is concerned about "the risk of hostilities escalating." At the Security Council, Russia vetoed a U.S. proposal to extend the mission for another year.

· **Jordan's King Abdullah II vows response to church attack, condemns Israeli expansionism:** Opening a new parliament session in Amman on Monday, Jordan's King Abdullah II said that "the treacherous hand of terrorism" had reached out "to test the resilience of our state and the resolve of our people"—referencing the church attack in

Karnak last month that left nine people dead. He said that the country's army and security services would respond "with an iron fist."

- In his speech, Abdullah also said that "Israeli expansionist ambitions are the greatest threat to the future of the region." He pointed to the continuing humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and assaults in the West Bank and Jerusalem. He pledged not to let "the thirst of Jordanians" be held hostage by any party, referring to Israeli projects that might threaten the country's water supply.

- **Serbia arrests two senior police officials on suspicion of abuse of office:** On Sunday, Serbian authorities arrested Marko Kricak, the head of Serbia's criminal police directorate, and Bosko Sekulovic, the Serbian police official in charge of fighting organized crime, on suspicion of abusing their power, Al Jazeera reported. Veselin Milic, while serving as Belgrade police chief, accused Kricak and Sekulovic of giving prosecutors incomplete and false evidence in a May murder case that involved a suspected underworld figure. (Milic himself was also arrested in connection with the case). Kricak is seen as a loyalist of defeated President Aleksandar Vučić. Students accused him of "brutality" against protesters and demanded his removal last week.