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**Scenario**

**Tunnels from Gaza. Should Israel act now or wait?**

Five underground tunnels, built by Hamas, from Gaza into Israel have been discovered. Such tunnels in Operation Protective Edge were used to enable Hamas fighters to attack Israel. Many of these tunnels emerge near local kibbutzim that border the Gaza Strip.

Intelligence information suggests many more tunnels exist. In order to find such tunnels Israel would need to send ground troops into Gaza. Egypt has sent an unofficial communique to Israel encouraging such action.

Residence in these Kibbutzim have complained about government inaction. They are organizing a mass rally in favor of a military strike. The US, EU and UN security council have called on restraint.

Hamas argues that they have constructed defense tunnels, and that they do not seek a war with Israel. They warn that if Israel carries out any attack on Gaza, it would be considered an act of war against the Palestinian people. Hamas would, they threaten, respond to "Zionist aggression" by targeting every major city in Israel.

The Israeli cabinet will meet to discuss whether to permit military action to discover and destroy these tunnels or to wait. If the decision is to wait, the cabinet must decide what red line it sets that would necessitate a response.