

Israel extends Gaza crossing shutdown over retaliation fears

ID:

1659631398165927700

Thu, 2022-08-04 19:48

GAZA: Israel on Thursday extended its closure of Gaza crossings, further restricting the movement of people, goods and aid, over what the army said were potential retaliatory attacks following Israel's arrest of a Palestinian militant leader.

On Monday, Israel arrested Bassam Al-Saadi, a senior leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group, during a West Bank raid in the city of Jenin, in which a 17-year-old member of the group was killed. It has since closed off all Gaza crossings and some surrounding roads, citing fears of retaliation.



Main category:

[Middle-East](#)

[Blinken thanks Qatar for continued assistance with Iran diplomacy](#)

Thu, 2022-08-04 18:15

LONDON: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken thanked Qatar for its continued assistance with Iran and Afghanistan diplomacy on Thursday.

After a meeting with Qatari Foreign minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani in Cambodia, Blinken said that the US values its partnership with Doha “tremendously.”

He continued: “Qatar is a major non-NATO ally. But alongside of that, really a partner in trying to deal with so many of the most urgent challenges that we face around the world.”



Main category:

[Middle-East](#)

Why survivors of 2020 Beirut port blast have lost faith in Lebanese-led inquiry

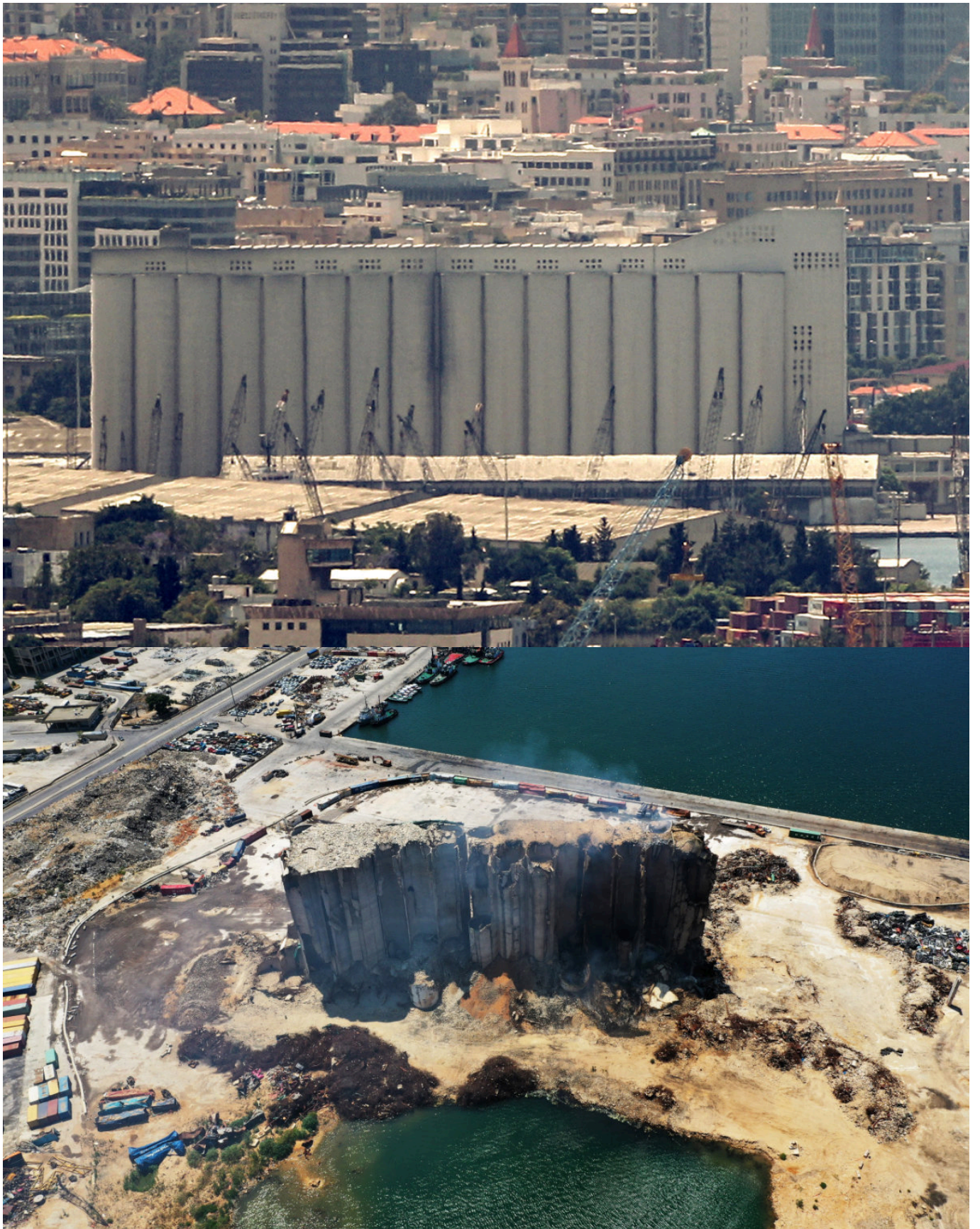
Wed, 2022-08-03 22:32

DUBAI: Two years ago, on Aug. 4, 2020, Ghassan Hasrouty walked into his office at the port of Beirut where he had worked a steady job for the past 38 years. He would not return home that day.

At 6:07 p.m. local time, hundreds of tons of hazardously stored ammonium nitrate ignited in Warehouse 12 where Hasrouty was working. He and several of his colleagues were killed instantly.

The third biggest non-nuclear explosion ever recorded in history devastated the port and a whole district of the Lebanese capital.







Main category:

[Middle-East](#)

[Envoy: Saudi Arabia deeply concerned over Iran's lack of transparency with IAEA](#)

Thu, 2022-08-04 00:35

UNITED NATIONS: Iran's lack of transparency with international nuclear inspectors, and its non-compliance with obligations under international nuclear agreements, constitute a threat to the non-proliferation regime and to international peace and security, according to Saudi Arabia's new permanent representative to the UN, Abdulaziz Al-Wasil.

The ambassador expressed his country's "deep concerns" over Iran's nuclear program, citing the recent International Atomic Energy Report which cast doubt on the supposed peaceful nature of Tehran's plans.



Main category:
[Middle-East](#)

[UN calls for 'urgent' solutions to Iraq political crisis](#)

Thu, 2022-08-04 00:20

BAGHDAD: The UN mission in Iraq called on leaders on Wednesday to put their country first and end a long-running political power struggle, as tensions soar in the war-scarred nation.

Nearly 10 months on from elections, the oil-rich country still has no government and no new prime minister or president.

"We appeal to all actors to commit, actively engage and agree on solutions without delay," the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq said in a statement.

"Leaders must prioritize (the) national interest," it said.



Main category:
[Middle-East](#)