From: Secure Community Network
To: Michael deMoncada
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US Cities Boost Security As Fears Spread Over Israel-Hamas War Despite Lack Of Credible Threats

Source: Associated Press

(United States) Police in New York, Los Angeles, and other U.S. cities increased patrols, authorities put up fencing around the U.S. Capitol and some schools closed Friday amid fears of violence inspired by the Israel-Hamas war. But law enforcement officials stressed there were no credible threats in the U.S. A former Hamas leader's call for a "day of rage" put American Jewish communities on edge, and sparked heightened security around houses of worship, schools and cultural institutions. The Secure Community Network, which advises U.S. Jewish institutions on security, has encouraged Jewish communities to be vigilant and bolster their security efforts. But the group has advised institutions there is no need to close their doors, absent specific information otherwise from law

enforcement. Michael Masters, the group's CEO, warned against letting "fear or clickbait threats cause chaos" in Jewish communities because he said that is part of the objective of those spreading hateful rhetoric online. "We saw some of the worst of humanity on Saturday, but we also saw some of the best," he said of the horrific Hamas attack. "People rushing with literally nothing at their disposal to the lives of family, friends and people they don't know." "I think we owe it to them that we are not going to give in easily and that we are not going to bow down ... because others wish for us to go away."

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Threats In U.S. Rising After Hamas Attack On Israel,

Says FBI Director Christopher Wray

Source: CBS News

(United States) Threats in the U.S. have been rising, since Hamas invaded Israel a week ago, FBI Director Christopher Wray and FBI officials said Sunday in a rare phone briefing for reporters. "The threat is very much ongoing and in fact, the threat picture continues to evolve," Wray said. "Here in the U.S., we cannot and do not discount the possibility that Hamas or other foreign terrorist organizations could exploit the conflict to call on their supporters to conduct attacks on our own soil." He said that Jews and Muslims alike, as well as their institutions and houses of worship, have been threatened in the U.S. and told reporters that the bureau is "moving quickly to mitigate" the threats. Senior FBI officials said most of the threats are not credible, and some have been addressed. As Wray suggested, the bureau's biggest concern is a lone wolf-style assailant who is not on their radars. This type of threat is best addressed through tips from the public, the officials said. They told reporters that there have been threats against Muslim facilities as well as Jewish facilities.

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Attleboro Synagogue Evacuated After Bomb Threat That Was Later Deemed Not Credible

Source: CBS News Boston

(Massachusetts) Police are investigating after several Jewish houses of worship received bomb threats. I-Team sources first reported that Attleboro synagogue Congregation Agudas-Achim received an email on Saturday that read, "The bombs will blow up in a few hours. A lot of people will die. You all deserve to die." Police confirmed that the synagogue received the email around 9 a.m. On Saturday. Massachusetts State Police evacuated the staff, and sent bomb detection dogs to search the synagogue and surrounding area." Meanwhile, the church across the street opened their building for us and we began our service there. Once the threat was cleared, we returned to our building. We are grateful for the help and support of the Attleboro Police Department, the Jewish Alliance

of Greater Rhode Island and the Evangelical Covenant Church," said Congregation Agudas-Achim Board of Trustee President, Molly Jacobs, in a statement to WBZ-TV. The threat was found to be non-legitimate around 11:20 a.m. Synagogues in Rhode Island have received similar threats by email, according to I-Team sources. Police are monitoring the situation.

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Man Arrested In Possible Hate Crime At Fresno Bakery Is Also A Suspect In Synagogue Vandalism

Source: Los Angeles Times

(California) One person was arrested Tuesday in connection with a

possible anti-Jewish hate crime at a Mediterranean bakery in Fresno and police say the suspect may have also been involved in vandalizing a synagogue. The vandalism comes as Israel wages war against Hamas after several terror attacks killed more than 1,000 people last week. Orlando Javier Ramirez, 30, was arrested on suspicion of felony vandalism, committing a hate crime and making criminal threats in connection with an incident at Noah's Ark Restaurant and Bakery earlier this week. On Tuesday morning, a bakery employee found that two store windows had been broken, Fresno Police Chief Paco Balderrama said in a statement. A newspaper containing handwritten threats to Jewish-owned businesses was also left at the scene. Ramirez is also a "person of interest" in a felony vandalism incident at a Jewish temple that was also discovered Tuesday morning, authorities said.

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France Raises Alert Level To Highest After Teacher Killed In Islamist Attack

Source: Reuters

(France) A 20-year-old man fatally stabbed a teacher and gravely wounded two other people in an attack at a school in the northern France city of Arras on Friday that President Emmanuel Macron condemned as "barbaric Islamic terrorism." Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said France was now on its highest state of alert and that the Arras attack bore a link to events in the Middle East, where Israel is conducting a military offensive to root out Hamas fighters after their deadly rampage. The suspect, identified by prosecutors as Mohamed M., who has been arrested, was a former student of the Lycee Gambetta high school where the attack happened, a police source said. One of the attackers' brothers was also detained nearby. The attacker was on a state watchlist of people known

as a potential security risk, a police source said. The "Fiche S" contains thousands of names and only a small number are actively monitored. Darmanin said the man had been monitored by intelligence services, with his phone having been tapped for the past few days because authorities had noticed suspicious behaviour but no indication of a planned attack. A security source said an elder brother of the alleged assailant was serving time in prison for links to Islamist militant networks and glorification of terrorist acts.

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