# Israeli Military Officials Criticize Prime Minister's Strategy in Gaza Conflict



Senior Israeli military officials are voicing criticism regarding Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's strategy in the ongoing war in Gaza. During a recent security meeting, IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Herzi Halevi pointed out the lack of a clear plan, highlighting the recurring necessity for operations in northern Gaza. Defense Minister Yoav Gallant echoed these concerns, emphasizing the need for a political solution to replace Hamas in governance rather than continued military occupation.

These criticisms align with longstanding warnings from U.S. officials, underscoring the necessity for a stable post-conflict governance strategy to avoid persistent insurgency. Evidence of the struggle includes repeated Israeli operations in Jabalya and Zeitoun and the controversial raid on Al-Shifa Hospital.

Meanwhile, at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Israeli lawyers defended the military actions in Rafah as “limited and localized” in response to a South African petition alleging genocide. Israeli Deputy Attorney General Gilad Noam rejected genocide claims, asserting that Israel is facilitating humanitarian aid and evacuation efforts. The hearings stem from South Africa's filing against Israel in December, with international pressure mounting as the court considers an emergency order to prevent wide-scale civilian harm.

Israeli leaders assert the necessity of the Rafah operation to dismantle Hamas's control, amid concerns from international entities, including the Biden administration, which has threatened to withhold military aid if a major ground invasion proceeds. The hearings and criticisms reflect a complex intersection of military, political, and humanitarian considerations in the ongoing conflict.