



Drexel GPS Geopolitical Update:
Thousands of Exploding Pagers and Electronic Devices Target Hezbollah in Lebanon-
Supply Chain Security Comes to the Forefront
09/18/24

A massive wave of exploding pagers and walkie-talkies occurring in Lebanon appear to be targeting Hezbollah operatives across the country. All indications point to this being the result of a very well-developed strategic covert operation conducted most likely by Israel's intelligence service the Mossad. Israel has not as of this writing, made any comments denying or claiming responsibility, nor have they made any official statements on the events.

- The pagers and walkie-talkies apparently were embedded with explosive materials designed not to impede in the normal functioning of the devices while maintaining the ability to be command-detonated remotely via a wireless cellular signal sent to them. Thousands of the devices exploded within seconds of each other after receiving this signal across the country.
- Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) is a framework and concept which Drexel GPS has extensively covered and discussed. The disruptions of the supply chain to deliver goods and services globally during the Covid-19 pandemic raised the awareness of supply chain resiliency from a distribution and redundancy standpoint.
- However, while resiliency has become a topic of discussion with greater emphasis placed on it, the actual security of the components that make up the finished products at the end of the supply chain has largely not garnered the requisite type of attention.
- The pagers and walkie-talkies appear to have been manufactured in Taiwan.
- From the lens of geopolitical security this could be seen as an escalation on the part of Israel, or an escalation with the intent to deescalate.
- This awareness gap at the component-level of security appears to be the area exploited by the Mossad to pre-plan and attack Hezbollah.
- The timing, location and devices used in these attacks across Lebanon highlight the highly sophisticated and long-range planning capabilities at the disposal of the Mossad to conduct this operation.
- Component-level security with respect to equipment manufacturing will now gain more visibility and come into play as the full extent of this operation unfolds.
- Hezbollah used the pagers and walkie-talkies as a low-tech solution to attempt to avoid Israeli intelligence monitoring of smartphones and other more advanced forms of tactical communications. Aside from the disruption of established communication networks.

- Aside from the loss of life and wounded, along with the disruption of established communication networks, the amount of psychological stress and doubt this places on Hezbollah's members and leadership is enormous. It remains to be seen if more devices such as televisions, radios, and audio speaker systems have also been compromised.
- This presents Hezbollah with a new and very real command and control (C2) problem which Israel may leverage as a prepping operation for a full military campaign against Hezbollah.

This is a developing issue; A broader and more in-depth Drexel GPS geopolitical update on the situation will follow at the end of this week.

Drexel GPS will continue to monitor these situations as they develop.

Thousands of pagers Exploded Simultaneously in Lebanon



Ben Downing

Director

Cyber & Geopolitical Strategy

110 East 42nd Street | New York, NY 10017

o: +1 646 412-1500 | c: +1 646-412-1500

www.drexelhamilton.com



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