

יושב-ראש הכנסת Speaker of the Knesset

Jerusalem, 16 November 2016 15 Cheshvan 5777

Re: Guy Hever—Missing Soldier

On August 17, 1997, Guy Hever, a soldier in the Israel Defense Forces, went missing from his unit on the Golan Heights. When last seen, he was wearing his fatigues, carrying his weapon, and had his military ID disks and international military identification papers (Geneva Convention Card). Since that day, nearly twenty years ago, no definitive trace of Guy has ever been found, despite extensive searches of the area—including renewed efforts earlier this month. None of the isolated clues that have surfaced over the years, such as testimony that Guy was seen waiting for a ride at the Katzabia Junction, have turned up any indication of Guy's fate or current whereabouts.

Nonetheless, the working assumption is that Guy was held in Syria. This conjecture is substantiated by other cases in which captives were held in Syria for years on end before the authorities revealed their existence for political gain. Indeed, in 2007, a group titling itself the Resistance Committees for the Liberation of the Golan Heights claimed it was holding him and demanded the release of Syrian prisoners in Israel in return for Guy. Since then, this organization has vanished and Syria has declined into a state of near-anarchy, which makes finding Guy all the more imperative.

Along with the Hever family and the citizens of the State of Israel, I ask for your help in finding this son of our nation. We would appreciate any and all assistance in raising this issue with the relevant authorities in Syria and elsewhere so that the necessary steps can be taken to bring Guy Hever home.

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Sincerely,

MK Yuli Yoel Edelstein Speaker of the Knesset