



# LEBANON WARS

## מלחמות לבנון



In response to relentless attacks and infiltrations staged by Palestinian terrorists from bases in southern Lebanon in the late 1970s and early 1980s, Israel launched a military operation in June 1982. Called Operation Peace for Galilee, Israel's declared intention was to push Palestinian fighters 25 miles north of the border. The operation—meant to last only a few days—quickly turned into a protracted war effort that left many civilian casualties. Referred to as Israel's first “war of choice,” the First Lebanon War, as it's commonly called, led to an 18-year IDF presence in parts of Lebanon. In 2006, after a few years of relative quiet, the IDF launched a second major military effort, following the kidnapping of IDF reservists from the Israeli side of the border. This time the stated intent was to destroy the Hezbollah militia, which controls the area. The military campaign ended when the bodies of the captured soldiers were returned. Hezbollah was not destroyed, and the security threat remained high.