

EZ – אקטואליה

IDF to use paintball to train troops in guerrilla warfare

By The Associated Press

The Israel Defense Forces will restore its guerrilla warfare training center as a result of its experiences in the summer's war in Lebanon, according to a military publication, using a distinctly modern method - paintball.

The IDF closed down its guerrilla warfare training facility at the Elyakim base in the North after Israeli forces pulled out of Lebanon in 2000, following an 18-year guerrilla war against Hezbollah forces.

In the summer, IDF soldiers encountered Hezbollah again, fighting a 34-day war that included ground operations through Hezbollah-controlled areas. The guerrillas exacted a heavy toll with ambushes, mortars and anti-tank missiles.

The war ended inconclusively, and the IDF has absorbed harsh criticism for the way it handled the conflict. Many soldiers, especially reservists, complained that their equipment and training were inadequate.

While not admitting that the lack of guerrilla training was a factor in the shortcomings of the summer war, the IDF is planning to restart it, according to the current issue of the soldiers' weekly, "Bamahaneh."

Soldiers will learn camouflage techniques, navigation by GPS satellite systems, construction of hidden outposts and other skills, the weekly said, and they will test their newly won abilities in paintball maneuvers.

Lt. Col. Lior Lifshitz, commander of the Elyakim base, told the weekly that he hopes to set up a permanent paintball course at the base. The guerrilla training, on the other hand, would be taken to all the bases in the northern command area, with courses for both soldiers and officers.

"Our goal is to establish a cycle, so that within two years officers would receive extensive training and soldiers some training," Lifshitz told the publication.

The new center, which is to be operational within a few months, will also supply guerrilla warfare equipment to the various army units, the weekly reported.

VOCABULARY

Defense - הגנה	reservists - חיילי מילואים
restore - להחזיר, לשקם, להשיב	equipment - ציוד
guerrilla - גרילה (לוחמה זעירה)	inadequate - לא כשיר
warfare - לוחמה	admitting - להודות ב
as a result - כתוצאה מ	lack of - מחסור ב
experiences - ניסיון, חוויות	factor - גורם
military publication - פרסום צבאי	shortcoming - פגם, ליקוי
distinctly - מובהק, במפורש	restart – להתחיל מחדש
modern method - שיטה מודרנית	current - נוכחי (בהקשר אחר זרם)
paintball – מלחמה בכדורי צבע, פיינטבול	camouflage - הסוואה
IDF - צה"ל	navigation – ניווט
training facility - מתקן אימונים	satellite – לוויין
base - בסיס, מחנה	construction – משמעות (בהקשר אחר בניין, מבנה)
pulled out - נסוגו, חולצו, יצאו	hidden outposts - עמדות תצפית מוסוות
encountered - להיתקל, לפגוש	skills – מיומנויות
included - לכלול, להכיל	abilities – יכולות
ground operations - פעילות קרקעית	maneuvers - תמרונים
controlled - נשלט	commander – מפקד
areas - שטחים, אזורים	permanent – קבוע
extracted - להצריך	on the other hand - מצד שני
heavy toll - מחיר כבד	command – פיקוד, שליטה
ambushes – מארבים	officers – קצינים
mortars – מרגמות (בהקשר אחר מכתש)	goal – מטרה
inconclusively - בצורה לא חד משמעית	establish - לייסד, להקים
absorbed - שקוע, עסוק ב	cycle – מחזור
harsh - נוקשה	extensive – נרחב
criticism - ביקורת	operational - תפעולי, מוכן לשימוש
conflict - מאבק	supply - לספק
especially - במיוחד	various – מגוון