

"Israel had no reason to do that"

Thore Schröder / May 20, 2024

Israeli Iran expert Raz Zimmt believes it is impossible that Israel is behind this: about the role of the Mossad in the shadow war and how the regime in Tehran is now positioning itself.

SPIEGEL: Mr. Zimmt, how likely do you think it is that the Israeli foreign secret service Mossad or the Israelis in general were behind the crash of President Ebrahim Raisi's helicopter?

Raz Zimmt: Excluded, no chance.

SPIEGEL: What makes you so sure?

Zimmt: Israel had no reason to do that. The reason for the crash was apparently a combination of bad weather and a very old aircraft. Raisi apparently used a US helicopter from the 1970s. Important people in Iran are known to fly in such aircraft.

SPIEGEL: But why shouldn't Israel have had any reason to eliminate President Raisi and Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian? Just a few weeks ago, under her leadership, Iran directly attacked Israel with ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and drones.

Zimmt: Israel does not execute politicians, but is rather interested in eliminating officials who command Iranian proxy militias in the Middle East or nuclear scientists. The focus is on military-relevant goals.

For full interview:

<https://www.spiegel.de/ausland/israelischer-iran-experte-ueber-absturz-von-praesident-raisi-israel-hatte-keinen-grund-das-zu-tun-a-184aa247-ae9a-4cfe-8647-e5986eac0a85>