

Israeli reservists fight in Gaza but question what comes after the war

There's little consensus in Israel on how to manage Gaza after the war. It's a question that is on the minds of some reservists who are essential to the fight.

By Miriam Berger and Heidi Levine / June 2, 2024

ISRAEL-GAZA BORDER — As Israel's war in Gaza rages, it's leaning on a backbone of reservists to fight — soldiers who say they are committed to serve but who are also divided over what comes next.

[...]

“A reserve unit is really a family,” said **Ariel Heimann, a senior researcher at the Institute for National Security Studies** in Tel Aviv and former chief reserve officer for the Israel Defense Forces. “And that gives a lot of power to the ability to fight.”

But, he said, Israel's reserves are also like a rubber band: If you stretch them too far and for too long, they will eventually snap. “We have to be very careful in the use of the reserve forces,” he said, adding that reservists failing to report for duty, while not a problem now, “could be a problem in the future.”

...

For full article:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2024/06/02/israel-reservists-military-gaza-hamas/>