

ISRAEL DEFENSE A New and Exciting Issue



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Updates

16/5/2012 16:35

Gunfight Erupts in Tayibe

A gunfight between special police forces and members of the Abd al-Kader crime family leave one man dead and another wounded; members of the clan have been arrested.

16/5/2012 13:40

Knesset Holds Special Session

The Knesset held a special session with Police Commissioner Yohanan Danino, who said that violent

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Shmuel De-Leon



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A New Friend-Foe (IFF) System**A new IFF device designed to prevent friendly fire**

Marina Golan | 19/9/2011

 Recommend






MS-OMR (Photo: Thermal Beacon Ltd)

A new IFF (Identification Friend Or foe) device - "Natali" - designed to prevent friendly fire, is produced by the Israeli company Thermal Beacon Ltd.

The new apparatus looks like a flashlight. It transmits flashing signals that can be picked up only by special devices that are not observable to an enemy equipped with means capable of detecting infrared (IR) radiation. Troops switch on the new apparatus and wave it to signal other IDF ground forces or air units that they're a "friend" and not a "foe". In this way, the expectations are to cut down on combat incidents in which troops fall victim to accidents.

"Natali" belongs to the family of thermal signature products, developed by Thermal Beacon. Some of the devices are permanently installed in helmets or vehicles. A thermal camera identifies a "friend" by creating a heat detected image, it is also able to "see through" camouflage. In addition to its operation at frequencies not picked up by "regular" night vision devices, "Natali" also has an IR button designed for emergencies, when a soldier has to stand out in the field, even at the risk of being seen by the enemy. The basic personal identification device - an MS-OMR - installed in the helmet can be seen from a distance of four kilometers.

On the other side of the spectrum is the MARK-4. This device is mounted on heavy vehicles, like tanks, artillery pieces, trucks and ambulances.

Thermal signature products do not require integration with other electronic devices.

“The army is becoming more and more digital, and the devices that soldiers employ on the battlefield have to know how to ‘converse’ with one another”, says Thermal Beacon CEO, Avi Peer. Peer acknowledges that Thermal Beacon has recently signed a contract to supply IFF equipment to one of the Coalition countries currently fighting in Afghanistan.

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Engine Failure on Merkava MK4 Main Battle Tank

IsrealDefense has learned that part of the reserve armor division has been disabled due to engine problems.



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