

Kamala Harris' Husband Admits He Cheated On 1st Wife After Bombshell Report

Dough Emhoff, husband of US Vice President Kamala Harris, has admitted to having an extra-marital affair during his first marriage.

"During my first marriage, Kerstin and I went through some tough times on account of my actions. I took responsibility, and in the years since, we worked through things as a family and have come out stronger on the other side," Emhoff said in a statement provided exclusively to CNN.

His acknowledgement comes after a British tabloid reported that Emhoff had an affair with a teacher who worked at a school his children attended and that resulted in end of his first marriage.

The Daily Mail reported that the woman became pregnant and that, according to a close friend, she "did not keep the child."

At that time, Dough Emhoff was married to Kerstin Emhoff and has two children - Cole and Ella - with her.

Kamala Harris and Douglas Emhoff married in 2014 - she for the first time, he for the second. When the two met on a blind date arranged by friends, it was "love at first sight," he later said.

Harris was aware of the affair before her marriage to Emhoff. Those in the Biden campaign who conducted the Vice President's vetting process in 2020 also knew about it, CBS News reported.

Seeking to become the first female president in US history, Harris is tasked with rapidly assembling a campaign against an opponent who has been in near permanent reelection mode since he became president in 2016.

She's garnered support from Democratic heavyweights, including Joe Biden himself and most recently Barack and Michelle Obama.

Hezbollah Launches Dozens Of Rockets At Israel, Spurs Fears Of Regional War

ABEIRUT, LEBANON: Middle East tensions soared Saturday as Iran and its allies readied their response to the assassination of Hamas's political leader, blamed on Israel, spurring fears of a regional war.

Israel's ally the United States said it would move warships and fighter jets to the region, while Western governments called on their citizens to leave Lebanon -- where the powerful Iran-backed Hezbollah movement is based -- and airlines cancelled flights.

The killing this week of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, hours after the Israeli assassination of Hezbollah's military chief in Beirut, has triggered vows of vengeance from Iran and the so-called "axis of resistance". Iran-backed groups from Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq and Syria have already been drawn into the nearly 10-month war between Israel and the Palestinian group Hamas in Gaza.

Israel on Saturday again traded fire with Hezbollah, carried out a deadly raid in the occupied West Bank, and struck a school compound in Gaza City in an attack that the Hamas-ruled territory's civil defence agency said killed at least 17 people.

Numerous schools turned into displacement shelters have been hit across Gaza in recent weeks, with Israel insisting the facilities had been used by militants. Hamas denied using civilian infrastructure for military activities.

Haniyeh was buried on Friday in Qatar, where he had been based. Israel, accused by Hamas, Iran and others of carrying out the attack, has not directly commented on it.

Iran said on Saturday it expects Hezbollah to hit deeper inside Israel and no longer be confined to military targets. The Pentagon said it was bolstering its military presence in the Middle East to protect US personnel and defend Israel. It said an aircraft carrier strike group led by the USS Abraham Lincoln would be deployed, as well as additional ballistic missile defence-capable cruisers and destroyers and a new fighter squadron. US President Joe Biden, at his beach home in Delaware, was asked by reporters if he thought Iran would stand down. "I hope so," he said. "I don't know." Soon after, Hezbollah announced it had fired dozens of Katyusha rockets at the northern Israeli settlement of Beit Hillel.

'Nostradamus' Of US Elections Reveals Who Should Be Kamala Harris' Vice President Pick



From Ronald Reagan's reelection triumph amid economic recession to Bill Clinton's victory against George HW Bush, Allan Lichtman, known as the 'Nostradamus' of US Presidential Polls has correctly predicted crucial poll contests in the country. Now, the expert has voiced who should be Democratic nominee Kamala Harris' running mate, as per a report in Newsweek.

"I don't think a VP pick turns the election, but a VP pick is incredibly important," Mr Lichtman said during a YouTube livestream. "I think all of the names that have been vetted are qualified. In my view, it's come down to two," he added.

Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona and Governor Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania were then recognized as favourable choices by the historian, who has accurately predicted the results of nine of the last ten elections.

Speaking to the outlet, Mr Lichtman said Mr Shapiro was a "good choice" as he

was "eminently qualified". "(He is) popular in an important region of the country, overall popular, and eminently qualified. The most important thing is, will you trust this person to become president if, God forbid, that happens. And of course, that has happened fairly often in American history," he told Newsweek. Notably, nine vice presidents have become presidents after US presidents passed away or resigned.

Mr Lichtman continued, "Picking someone from a given state is no guarantee you're going to win that state, but if you want to reach out to any particular state, Pennsylvania is the most important state in this election." Allan Lichtman added that Ms Harris should pick a candidate who could help her win a region as big as Pennsylvania because it has 19 Electoral College votes. Since Harry Truman in 1948, no Democratic contender has won the election without the Keystone State.

"Of all the swing states, it has the most electoral votes, and Democrats really can't win without winning Pennsylvania. I'm not saying picking Josh Shapiro is going to win Pennsylvania. There's no evidence to that effect, but if her objective is to try to pick someone who could help you to win a state, you would want to pick Pennsylvania," he added.

Notably, Mr Lichtman currently prefers Democratic US Vice President Kamala Harris to her Republican opponent, Donald Trump. He expressed his opinion to News Nation, saying that "a lot would have to go wrong for Harris to lose."

He predicted that Democrats presently hold six of the 13 keys. A main competition, a short- and long-term economy, policy changes, the absence of controversy, and the charisma of a challenger are some of these.

"Right now, Democrats have lost three keys" by switching to Harris, he told News Nation.

The expert claimed that the Democrats' significant defeat in the 2022 midterm elections cost them the "party mandate". He added that Ms Harris no longer had the "incumbency" and "charisma" keys.

However, in order for him to forecast a Harris defeat, Democrats would need to lose three additional seats according to his prediction model. However, he says that is unlikely to occur.

"In A Prestigious Event...": Vatican Slams Olympic Skit On "The Last Supper"

VATICAN CITY: The Vatican said on Saturday it had been saddened by a skit at the Paris Olympics opening ceremony appearing to parody Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" painting. "The Holy See was saddened by certain scenes at the opening ceremony of the Paris Olympic Games and cannot but join the voices raised in recent days to deplore the offence done to many Christians and believers of other religions," it said in an unusual weekend evening press release issued in French.

The segment in the July 26 ceremony resembled the biblical scene of Jesus Christ and his apostles sharing a last meal before crucifixion, but featured drag queens, a transgender model and a naked singer as the Greek god of wine Dionysus. Paris 2024 organizers apologised two days later, saying there was never an intention to disrespect any religious group.

The artistic director behind the scene said it had not been inspired by the Christian last supper, but rather a pagan feast linked to the historical Olympics.

"In a prestigious event where the whole world comes together around common values, there should not be allusions ridiculing the religious convictions of many people," the Vatican added.

"Freedom of expression, which is obviously not called into question, finds its limit in respect for others."

'Agent Sadness', Poisoned Toothpaste: Inside Mossad's High Profile Kill Op

The Israel-Palestine conflict has been marked by a long history of violence and controversial tactics. One such was the 'Hannibal Directive', which allows for the use of excessive force to prevent the capture of soldiers, even if it puts the lives of hostages at risk. Another example of Israel's unorthodox methods is the 1978 assassination of Palestinian commander Wadie Haddad, who was killed by Mossad agents using poisoned toothpaste.

Background Wadie Haddad, the chief of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, was involved in several high-profile attacks, including the 1976 hijacking of an Air France plane, known as the Entebbe Hijacking. The hijackers took the plane from Tel Aviv to Paris, but diverted it to Libya and then Uganda.

Israel responded with Operation Thunderbolt, a rescue mission led by Lt Col Yonatan Netanyahu, the brother of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The mission succeeded, but Lt Col Netanyahu died in the process.

Wadie Haddad on Mossad's 'Kill List'

The Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency, wanted revenge for the Entebbe Hijacking. Wadie Haddad, the mastermind behind the hijacking, was their top target. After gaining international recognition, Wadie Haddad became a priority on Mossad's Kill List. 'Agent Sadness' To avoid a messy execution,



the Mossad chose a quiet method. They assigned the mission to an agent known as 'Agent Sadness', who had access to Haddad's home and office.

The execution On January 10, 1978, Agent Sadness replaced Haddad's regular toothpaste with a specially prepared toxic version. The toxin, developed at the Israel Institute for Biological Research, would go on to penetrate Haddad's mucous membranes and gradually build up to a fatal dose.

Wadie Haddad's illness By mid-January, Wadie Haddad fell gravely ill in Baghdad. His symptoms were severe, consisting of abdominal spasms, loss of appetite and rapid weight loss of over 25 pounds. Despite treatment by top Iraqi doctors, his condition continued to deteriorate and he was diagnosed with hepatitis, then a severe cold. Even powerful antibiotics had no effect. His hair started falling out, raising suspicions of poisoning.

Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, sought help from the East German Secret Service, the Stasi. The Stasi airlifted Wadie Haddad to a secret hospital under the alias 'Ahmed Doukli'. Doctors tested him extensively, but they could not determine the cause of his illness. They suspected either rat poison or thallium poisoning, without conclusive evidence.

Wadie Haddad's condition continued to deteriorate, with serious haemorrhaging and a dropping platelet count. Doctors sedated him and kept him in the hospital for ten agonising days, but they could not save him.

He died on March 29, 1978. Autopsy report

An autopsy conducted by Professor Otto Prokop concluded that Wadie Haddad died from brain bleeding and pneumonia caused by pancytopenia.

However, the precise cause of the poisoning remained unclear for years.

15 Killed In Israeli Airstrike On Gaza School Being Used As Shelter

CAIRO: An Israeli airstrike on a school sheltering displaced persons in Gaza City killed at least 15 Palestinians on Saturday, hours after two strikes in the occupied West Bank killed nine militants including a local Hamas commander, Hamas said.

The Israeli military said the first of two West Bank airstrikes hit a vehicle in a town near the city of Tulkarm, targeting a militant cell it said was on its way to carry out an attack.

A Hamas statement said one of those killed was a commander of its Tulkarm brigades, while its ally Islamic Jihad claimed the other four men who died in the strike as its fighters.

Hours later, a second airstrike in the area targeted another group of militants who had fired on troops, Israel's military said, during what it described as a counterterrorism operation in Tulkarm.

Palestinian news agency Wafa said four people had died in that strike, and Hamas said all nine of those killed in the two Israeli attacks in the West Bank were fighters.

Violence in the West Bank



was on the rise before the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza and has risen since, with frequent Israeli raids in the territory, which is among those that the Palestinians seek for a state.

There has also been an increase in anti-Israeli street attacks by Palestinians.

The latest strikes in the Palestinian territories came amid Israel's growing tensions with Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah group that have fanned fears of a widened conflict in the Middle East.

The US and international partners including France, Britain, Italy and Egypt, continued diplomatic contacts on Saturday seeking to prevent further regional escalation.

Hamas said it had begun a "broad consultation process" to choose a new leader three

days after the assassination in Tehran of Ismail Haniyeh, who was the face of the group's international diplomacy. Iran and Hamas have blamed Israel and vowed to retaliate. Israel has not claimed or denied responsibility.

GAZA STRIKES In the Gaza Strip, at least 15 people were killed in the Israeli strike on a school sheltering displaced persons in Gaza City's Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood, the Hamas run-government media office said.

The Israeli military said the school was being used as a command centre for Hamas, to hide militants and manufacture weapons. Hamas has denied Israeli accusations that it operates from civilian facilities such as schools and hospitals.

Earlier on Saturday, Israeli

strikes in the enclave killed six people in a house in the southern area of Rafah and two others in Gaza City, Gaza health officials said.

The Israeli military said its forces had struck militants and destroyed Hamas infrastructure in Rafah and elsewhere in the enclave.

At least 39,550 Palestinians have been killed in the Israeli military campaign in Gaza, according to Gaza health officials. The offensive was triggered by a Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7 in which 1,200 people were killed and 250 abducted, according to Israeli tallies.

A high-level Israeli delegation made a brief visit to Cairo on Saturday in an attempt to resume Gaza ceasefire negotiations, Egyptian airport authority sources said. The Israeli officials returned to Israel hours later, Israeli media said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office accused Hamas of trying to add changes to the "outline" of a potential agreement, referring to a proposal U.S. President Joe Biden laid out in May. Hamas has blamed Netanyahu, saying he does not want to stop the war.

JD Vance Told Son To "Shut Up" Amid Phone Call With Donald Trump, Criticised

JD Vance, Donald Trump's Vice President pick, recently revealed that he asked his son to "shut the hell up" about Pokemon Pikachu amid a phone call with the former President and moments before the Republican National Convention. The Ohio senator explained the circumstances on the Full Send podcast.

The politician was speaking to YouTube comedians the NELK Boys and said the incident occurred when Mr Trump called and asked him to be his running mate. Notably, the former president officially named the senator as his running mate during the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee last month.

Mr Vance was flying with his family to Milwaukee for the RNC when he realised that the airplane had no Wi-Fi. He landed after an hour and had over a hundred messages. He said that he got one message from the Trump campaign which said, "Hey, you just missed a really important call." He then called Mr Trump and said, "Hey Sir, what's going on?" The 45th US President told him, "J.D., you missed a



really important phone call, and now I'm going to have to go with someone else."

Mr Vance continued, "My son, who is seven, is in the hotel room with me. And he is really into Pokemon cards right now. He's going through a Pokemon phase...he's really into it. So he's trying to talk to me about Pikachu and I'm on the phone with Donald Trump and I'm like, 'Son, shut the hell up for 30 seconds about Pikachu.'" JD Vance told his son to "shut the hell up" about his Pokemon cards while he was on the phone with Trump. He added, "This is the most important phone call of my life. Please just let me take this phone call." Mr Vance said that because his son "doesn't get what the President of the United

States means," he didn't care that Mr Trump was on the phone. Since being shared on social media, Mr Vance's remarks have been widely criticised. The Democratic National Convention wrote in a statement on its website, "If there's one thing JD Vance is going to do, it's full send being the weirdest, creepiest, and most unpopular running mate Donald Trump could have ever hoped for." Representative Wiley Nickel, a North Carolina Democrat, wrote on X, "What a truly horrible human being...J.D. Vance tells his 7 year-old son to 'shut the hell up' because he's talking to Trump. I've got a simple rule in Congress. There's no call that's ever more important than my kids."

As Iran Strike Looms, Israel Hopes For "Abraham Alliance" With US, UK

Israeli defence officials say they are coordinating with the US and UK ahead of an expected strike by Iran, setting the stage for a repeat of a similar attack by Tehran in April that was repelled by allies.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said in a statement Friday that he spoke with his American and British counterparts, Lloyd Austin and John Healey, and provided "a situational assessment in light of recent security developments." Fear has risen of a spillover from the nearly 10-month Israel-Hamas war in Gaza as Iran threatened retaliation for the assassination in Tehran this week of Ismail Haniyeh, the political leader of the Iran-backed group.

A similar spike in tensions about four months ago saw Iran and Israel trade direct fire for the first time. Almost 300 Iranian drones and missiles were fired but most were destroyed by air defences from Israel, the US and several allies. Israel's drone strike in response was contained and appeared symbolic to avoid escalation. This time, Iran's response may be more fierce, given the embarrassment of having a foreign dignitary and top ally assassinated in the heart of its capital. Among its options are another direct assault on Israel, stepped-up attacks by its proxies in the region or hitting Israeli targets elsewhere in the

world.<Austin, who earlier this week reiterated that the US "certainly will help defend Israel" if attacked, spoke with Gallant and is weighing moves to reinforce America's presence in the region, the Pentagon said Friday. White House spokesman John Kirby said earlier in a CNN interview that the Pentagon is ensuring it has "the right resources and capabilities" in the region, including both equipment and personnel.

"Very Direct" Call Israel has stopped short of confirming it was behind killing Haniyeh, but it hasn't pushed back against the claim either. His death also came hours after Israel killed a top Hezbollah commander in Beirut, Fuad Shukur.

President Joe Biden on Thursday assured Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of "new defensive US military deployments," the White House said in a statement. Biden later told reporters he also pressed the Israeli leader in a "very direct" call to agree to a cease-fire in Gaza with Hamas. Biden is trying to use his last months in office to end the war, which has caused huge political divisions in the US. He's struggled to influence Netanyahu's war strategy, seeking to pressure him publicly and privately but declining to use as leverage the billions of dollars in US military aid.

Abraham Alliance vs Axis Of Resistance: Players In Israel-Iran Shadow War



In a speech to the United States Congress last month, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu envisioned a new regional coalition in the Middle East, termed the "Abraham Alliance". This proposed alliance, an expansion of the Abraham Accords, aims to unite countries with diplomatic ties to Israel against Iran's influence, particularly its network of proxy forces collectively known as the "Axis of Resistance".

The Abraham Alliance The Abraham Accords, initiated in September 2020, normalised relations between Israel and several Arab nations, including the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, Morocco, and Sudan. Netanyahu's vision for the Abraham Alliance builds on these

Lincoln, additional ballistic missile defence-capable ships, and a new fighter squadron.

Israel is coordinating closely with both the US and the United Kingdom, preparing for a potential retaliatory strike from Iran. Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant has held discussions with his US counterpart Lloyd Austin and British Defence Secretary John Healey. A potential war between Israel and Iran would pit several military powers against each other.

The Axis of Resistance: Iran's Network of Proxies

The Islamic Revolution of 1979, Iran has systematically extended its influence across the Middle East through a network of proxy groups, collectively known as the Axis of Resistance. This network includes Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthis in Yemen, various militias in Iraq, and militant groups in Syria and Gaza. These proxies serve Iran's strategic interests, allowing it to exert influence and challenge adversaries across the region. Hezbollah, established in the early 1980s with Iranian support, represents Iran's first significant proxy in the Middle East.

"There Will Be No Forgiveness": Nicolas Maduro Warns Those Opposing His Win

CARACAS: Thousands of Venezuelans marched across the South American country on Saturday over its contested election, as President Nicolas Maduro told supporters some 2,000 people had been arrested during protests against the results.

Venezuela's electoral authority, blasted by critics as favoring the ruling socialists, proclaimed Maduro the winner in last Sunday's vote, saying on Monday he obtained 51% compared to 46% for opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez. The authority reaffirmed a similar margin on Friday.

The published election result sparked widespread allegations of fraud and protests. Subsequently security forces cracked down on protests which Maduro's government labeled part of an attempted U.S.-backed coup.

"This time there will be no forgiveness," Maduro told supporters at a rally in Caracas, where he said some 2,000 people had been detained in connection to "crimes" during the protests. He pledged "maximum punishment."

Maduro's supporters said they were defending democracy.

"Today we are here heeding the call of our president... to defend democracy," Alfredo Valera, president of Venezuela's Fontur union,

who took part in a pro-government caravan in Caracas, told state television.

Elsewhere, opposition supporters marched to demand justice, buoyed by the presence of leader Maria Corina Machado, who emerged from hiding on Saturday to join her demonstrations on the streets of Caracas.

"Just as it took us a long time to achieve electoral victory, now comes a stage that we take day by day, but we have never been as strong as today, never," Machado told supporters in Caracas. Supporters were happy to see Machado in the streets after the leader said in a Thursday op-ed for the Wall Street Journal that she was in hiding and feared for her life.

In addition to Caracas, demonstrations took place in cities including Valencia, Maracaibo and San Cristobal.

"I don't deny it's a little scary to see security forces pass by," said vendor Maria Luzardo, 46, in San Cristobal. "If (Machado) is brave enough to be on the streets despite the threats, so are we. Venezuela is calling us."

So far, at least 20 people have been killed in post-election protests, according to advocacy groups, including U.S.-based Human Rights Watch. Some 1,200 others have been arrested in connection with the demonstrations, according to the government.