

A Cancer cluster in Usfie, Israel

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(+ Comments from Iris Atzmon - April 2005)

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<http://omega.twoday.net/stories/421932/>

Usfie was established by Druz settlers in the early 1600ies, on Mount Carmel ridge (546 m over sea level). This site enabled long range observation, both to north and south, for early warning. At present Usfie is well developed, mostly Druz town, with some minorities of Arabs (Christian and Moslem), and Jews. Usfie location seemed excellent also for long range radio / cellular communications.

In recent 40 years high mast communication antennae were posted mostly along two east to west streets on the ridge. They involved forest fire alert, government, police, military, taxicabs, and emergency medical communication, followed by additional deployed cellphone and illegal radio stations. All antennae together yielded 15 high masts of 20 – 80 m, as well as 46 lower masts for cellphone and illegal radio antennae.

In the 1990ies, Usfie residents living in vicinity of those antennae, were increasingly complaining of dizziness, headaches sleep disturbance, discomfort, depression. Later on, residents were diagnosed with various sorts of cancers, as well as with strokes, abortions, and neural diseases. Residents reported also of disappearance of wild birds, and increased incidence of birth malformation in domestic animals.

Residents' complaints, were consistently ignored or rejected by ministries of environment and of health, on grounds of alleged 'genetic factors', and 'very low radiation', although power densities monitored were unsafe to risky in some areas, of up to 27 $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$. while cancer and other severe ailments diagnosed, continued to climb.

On March 14, 2000, several rage citizens burned down most antennae in town. Some antennae were disassembled later by support of the ministry of environment, three illegal radio antennae were disassembled by court order, while one ("Cellcom") mast remained. Five of the activists that destroyed the antennae, were prosecuted for "order disturbance, and damage to property", and were fined for \sim \$560.- each. However, no charges were pressed by owners of transmitters and other millions of dollars worth equipment, that was turned to rubble that day.

Later on, antennae made nocturnal comback, confidentially disguised as solar systems, water tanks, or commercial signs, etc. Incidence of injuries soared to 191 individuals (diagnosed up to November 30. 2004) mostly with cancers, but also strokes, and neural ailments, and others, that claimed 85 fatalities.

Medical records and pertinent information of the presently ill, and the deceased, were collected by a door to door search of devoted women's committee (cancer patients themselves), headed by Mrs Myra AbuZalaf (that recovered from a stroke). This search yielded detailed documentation and data for 87 mostly cancer patients (of which 20 deceased). Data included name, ID #, gender, age, occupation, distance of residence from antennae, and date diagnosed and / or deceased, No further detailed medical documentation could be achieved

(except diagnosis) for the rest 104 injured (including 39 deceased).

Severe ailments in Usfie during last decade involved 26 (of which 17 deceased) with colon & rectal cancers, 21 (15) with brain cancers, 21 (19) with hepatic cancers, 14 (1) with strokes, 13 (3) with breast cancers, 10 (2) with gastric cancers, 10 (0) with ocular cancers, 8 (3) with lymphmas, 5 (3) with bone cancers, 5 with severe neurological damage, 4 (2) with lung cancers, 4 (2) with leukemia's, 4 (1) with skin cancers, 4 (0) with nasopharyngeal cancers, 2 (0) with joints cancers, 1(1) pancreatic cancer, 1(1) prostate cancer, 1(1) uterus cancer 1(0) cancer in a finger and 36 (15) cancer with no further information. All together morbidity's increased to 191 of which 85 deceased.

The houses of the sick and the deceased, as well as antennae locations, were superimposed on a 1:5000 topographic city map (attached): A grim picture indicated of a cancer cluster combined of small clusters, mainly in a narrow strip, in central (old) town residential zone, on which 46 cellphone antennae, plus 15 illegal ('pirate') radio stations were posted.

In addition to severe ailments, increased depression and suicidal incidence have been recorded, and Usfie high students' academic achievements, dropped to lowest grade in the country. The sick / deceased lived close to (one or several) antennae, up to 300 m in all zones. The rest zones where no antennae have been posted, included >6,000 of Usfie residents.

Prior to any statistical analysis, just simple percentage calculations, showed the following zones of morbidity / mortality on the map, depending of periods of exposure:

1. **Eastern zone**, in which the high mast (one blue dot on the map), and lower masts (yellow dots), posted up to the late 1990ies. The population of \sim 500, suffered 7 sick (6, green dots, +1 diagnosed later) and 2 deceased (1, red on the map + 1 deceased later).

Calculation: 9 injured per \sim 500, was 1.8%. In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was \sim 290 per 100,000, that was 0.29%. i.e. injured were x6.2 compared to general Israeli population.

2. **Central zone**, namely the old town of Usfie, in which the antennae have been assembled since the late 1960ies, and up to mid 1990ies, among population of \sim 3,000. It yielded 58 sick and 64 deceased.

Calculation: 122 injured per 3,000, was 4.07%. In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was \sim 290 per 100,000, that was 0.29%. i.e. injured were x14.02 compared to general Israeli population.

3. **Christian zone** (between the center and the veterans zone) in which population was \sim 1,000, whose antennae assembled as in central zone. They suffered 14 sick and 9 deceased.

Calculation: 23 injured per \sim 1,000, was 2.3%. In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was \sim 290

per 100,000, that was 0.29%. i.e. injured were $\times 7.93$ compared to general Israeli population.

4. **Western (veterans) zone**, The population of $\sim 1,000$, whose antennae assembled as in central zone. They suffered 22 sick, and 7 deceased, but several new diagnosed cancer cases have been informed later.

Calculation: 29 injured per $\sim 1,000$, was 2.9%. In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was ~ 290 per 100,000, that was 0.29%. i.e. injured were $\times 10.0$ compared to general Israeli population.

5. **'Scattered' zone** (between Usfie and Daliat el Carmel). Population of $\sim 1,500$ included residents that lived near antennae in the past, or have lived in vision of antenna. They suffered 5 sick and 3 deceased.

Calculation: 8 injured per $\sim 1,500$, was 0.53%. In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was ~ 290 per 100,000, that was 0.29%. i.e. injured were $\times 1.83$ compared to general Israeli population.

6. **Beduin zone (far west)**, with population of ~ 1500 . The antennae were assembled at mid 1990ies, but were disassembled after ~ 2 years. Thus in relevant period, no sick and no deceased have been recorded in this area.

It was estimated that residents not exposed to remarkable antennal emissions, including the latter group was of $> 6,000$ residents.

In short: the enclosed map shows that one picture is more effective than thousand words!

Calculation for total injuries incidence in exposed zones 1 - 5 : Total injured were 191, per exposed population of ~ 7000 was 2.73%, In general population average cancer incidence in Israel was ~ 290 per 100,000, that was 0.29%. Thus, incidence of all injured in all affected zones, were $\times 9.41$ compared to general population.

The data of zones #2 (central), #3 (Christian) and #4 (western - veterans') was also laid of aerial photograph (attached) showing these zones from right to left. A close up of zones #2 and #3 (attached) showed houses of injured and terrain in more details.

Almost all cancer and other severe morbidity's were diagnosed in Usfie, in residents living on the south side of the ridge, near the antennae posted along two streets.

The ever blowing winds from the Mediterranean Sea, to Usfie, heading to Haifa, strongly negated the possibility that heavy chemical pollution in Haifa might have caused morbidity also in Usfie.

Past attempts at the ministry of health to associate cancer in Usfie with genetic factors, seemed irresponsible when mentioned (2001). As map exhibited clearly that cancer cluster was just in vicinity to antennae along two east to west streets on the ridge. in central zone in town, the 'genetic theory' was rejected, for being totally false.

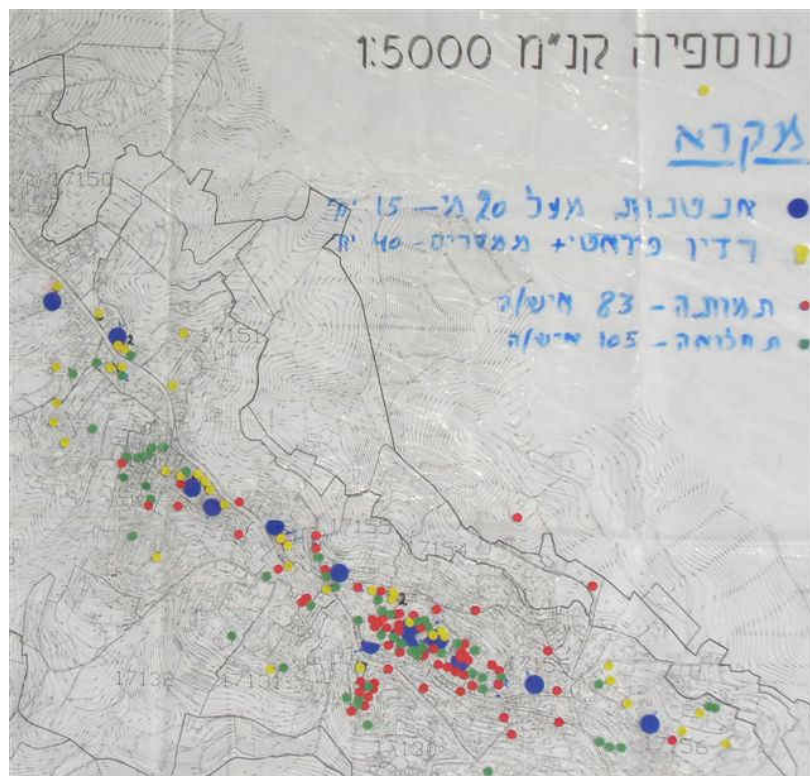
Practically speaking, cellphone antennae in Usfie have to transmit strongly in order to offer good service to callers in narrow streets between the high buildings, and due to the hilly area of Usfie. Illegal radio stations in Usfie, received calls from listeners living in Irbid (Jordan), and in Tyr (Lebanon). Thus in order to reach such remote listeners, stations have had to transmit strongly.

Although past power density measurements revealed up to $27 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$, (for example, near Hamade bakery, as measured by a tester of the ministry of environment on 23-10-2003) no measures have been taken by authorities to protect the citizens of Usfie. Other unsafe levels were recorded (further analyses are in progress). Unfortunately, present power density readings showed very low radiation. It exhibited that upon measurement, the transmission operators, observed the testers by their long and yellow power density meters, that were easily recognized from a distance. So stations output were markedly lowered... However, spectrum analyzer detected all cellular and radio frequencies that were on the air.

Those frequencies were perfectly allocated and coordinated between the transmitting companies, as well as the early warning between each other, on first sight of testers...

Confidential measurement with a small power density meter, revealed $\sim 10 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$, at a kindergarten. It should be compared to $5 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$, revealed in the past in the irradiated American Embassy in Moscow during the 'cold war', for ~ 20 years: The radar beam (pulsed like cellular emissions) caused chromosomal aberrations, leukemia and more, to about half of American embassy team and family members, whose symptoms showed significant dose-response relationships.

On the attached map: Blue dots are for early high masts, yellow - cellphone and illegal radio antennae, green - cancer patients, and red for those died from cancer.



Comment from Iris Atzmon

- Blue- 15 communication masts, over 15 meters
- Yellow- 46 cellular and radio masts up to 15 meters
- Green- 106 cancer patients
- Red- 85 people deceased (reason: cancer).

Our health authorities say they have no data to calculate from, so they don't know it and can't confirm it, even after they saw the map. The cancer registration manager

says he had difficulties collecting data, so he left what he started. But the mayor answered that Usfie is not a refugee camp, and there is cancer registration for the city. This data is taken by door to door, collecting the medical files of the patients. Our health authorities say that the reason for the cancer in Usfie is a genetic problem they have, but the medical files don't support this claim. It is quite an interesting "genetic" problem, which attacks only the citizens who live near masts, and not the others, according to the map.

The Mayor gets rid of all antennas – First place in the world

Hadid Rashi + Iris Atzmon - April 2005, 28

The mayor didn't ask the people what they thought about it, the mayor ended with the antennas for good, the cellular phones, and 3G will be for Daila's and Osafia's museum only.

The mayor ordered to remove antennas [all of them].

The fight against the cellular antennas becomes much stronger; the central cellular antennas farm in Dalia was dismantled this week, after the owner of the house on which it had been placed was warned by the mayor of legal proceedings against him by the municipality.

The antennas farm in Daliat il Carmel [together with Osafia, it is a new city called Carmel, the cancer map of Osafia is actually the map of cases from Dalia and Osafia] was dismantled this week after the owner of the house on which it had been placed, Suliman Basis, was called to the mayor's office, Dr. Akram Hason, who handed him over a legal order to dismantle the antennas farm on his roof. Basis is a known contractor in Daliat il Carmel, who works for the cellular companies, asks to stress that he received the permission to dismantle the site - from the cellular companies.

"After the meeting with the mayor, during which I was told in an unequivocal way that legal proceedings would be taken against me, I received the permission from the companies to dismantle the site, I performed the work by myself and with my responsibility, and I also wasn't interested in making the religion leaders angry at me and at my family".

The mayor, Dr. Akram Hason, who started dismantling the antennas in the two villages already 3 months ago, met two weeks ago with the representatives of the Christians and the Muslims, and they raised the idea of doing a religious excommunication on owners of houses in the villages on which cellular antennas are placed, and he claims that he is determined now more than ever to take the antennas away from Dalia and Osafia.

"I was sitting with the cellular companies, and I made it clear to them in an unequivocal way that I would not leave one cellular antenna in the villages area" Hason says.

"I called the owners of the houses on which the antennas farm or one antenna was placed, and I made it clear to them that at first stage I request to remove the antennas, and if within certain time they don't dismantle it, I will send the municipality people to remove the site and I will charge payment for this from the house owner."

Actually people from the village tell that instead of municipality people- the police goes to houses.

The population in Carmel is 25,000.

I think the cancer cases will not diminish so quickly. All the time more and more cases are found due to the history of exposure and latency period. Also in Zoran, if you remember their story - after the removal of Hillel station, still there are new cancer cases found all the time including children. The numbers are higher than I wrote back then.

Omega see under:

Cancer Patients from Zoran Area Sue the State and Bezeq for millions

<http://omega.twoday.net/stories/659040/>

Hillel station - a lesson in statistics

<http://omega.twoday.net/stories/659062/>

The cancer cases in Osafia are in an area of only two streets, one small street and one big street - where the antennas were.

The people got used quite quickly to be without reception/cell phones, they just accept it.

The first time I was there about 2 weeks ago. I spoke with the person who burnt the antennas, very nice person, he felt victim. He and his wife were living right in front of huge antennas, and his wife started bleeding in the brain. One side of her brain became paralyzed, she went through operation, now she is better. He said he can't prove it's from the antennas, but he sure thinks it is.

The way the mayor succeeded in doing this move to remove the antennas, was because of the work of his vice mayor, Suliman Abu Ruchen. Suliman didn't stop pushing this subject, he helped getting the medical files from people for the map. He went to check the permission documents for EVERY antenna in the city, and he found that the cellular companies used the operation permissions as constructions permissions, that means the Env. ministry gave them to irradiate but the municipality didn't give them permission to build the antennas at all, and they did. So, many antennas were not legal. When Suliman exposed what he had found to the companies, they were silent and surprised. Because they are doing it all over Israel, but this is the first time that someone caught it !!

Suliman said that he would have no problem burning them because they were not legal anyway ! The companies were silent in reaction.

Suliman said they were very very strict with the companies, they didn't let the companies express themselves too much, they just made it clear in a sharp way, and the companies didn't have much to do about it.

Yesterday I spoke with someone who lives in a village with cellular antennas in the middle of the village. Around the antennas, about 30 women got enlarged thyroid glands, some went through serious operations. The antennas are there for two years and the enlarged thyroid glands started two months ago. Only in women.

Usfie=Osfia: Usfie is the Druz name. The jews tend to "translate" it to something that sounds more like hebrew.

Greetings to Usifie

I am very pleased, that action came now in the dismantling of the antennas in Usfie.

Dr. Horst Eger (Naila-Study)