LESTER HOLT: With Gaza on the brink, President Biden today reaffirming support for Israel but saying it must do everything it can to protect Gaza’s civilians. Our cameras in Gaza as a girl trapped under rubble is pulled out alive and new images of terror. NBC News exclusively getting dashcam of Hamas’s bloody attack.

RICHARD ENGEL: The Middle East tonight is on the edge of disaster. Gaza is being flattened. Horrific images are stoking rage across the Muslim world. Tonight, President Biden tried to pull the region back from the brink saying Israel has a right and responsibility to target Hamas, but that it has an obligation to protect Palestinian civilians.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN: Israel has to do everything in his power as difficult as it is to protect civilians and it’s difficult.

ENGEL: And condemned Hamas for using them as human shields and has no confidence in claims from the Hamas-run Gaza Health Ministry that 6,500 Palestinians have been killed in the last two and a half weeks.

BIDEN: I have no notion that Palestinians are telling the truth about how many people are killed. I’m sure innocents have been killed. And it’s the price of waging a war.

ENGEL: Israel’s allies in the Middle East were more blunt. Jordan’s King Abdullah saying stopping the war on Gaza is an absolute necessity and that the conflict can lead to an explosion in the region. The president of Egypt, the first country to sign a peace accord with Israel, delivering the same message alongside French President Macron. In Gaza today, our crew filmed building after building destroyed by Israeli air strikes. Israel today said it’s targeting Hamas tunnels that
run under homes, schools, and hospitals. In one building, we saw this little girl inside of what’s left of her apartment. Rescue workers tell her to stay calm, that they’re nearly done removing debris. Her leg is trapped under concrete. They try to free her without collapsing the pocket she’s in and, finally, she’s saved. Hamas’s backer, Iran, blamed the United States for what’s happening in Gaza. Pro-Iranian militias have carried out probing attacks against U.S. bases in Syria and Iraq.

(...)

6:39:09 p.m.
2 minutes and 14 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Biden Condemns Settler Attacks in West Bank]

HOLT: And, Richard, President Biden also making headlines today with some pretty blunt criticism of Israeli settlers on the West Bank.

ENGEL: This was a different speech than we’ve heard from president Biden since the start of this conflict. He said he’s alarmed by extremist settlers attacking Palestinians in the West Bank and called for a return to the peace process based on a two-state solution, Lester.

HOLT: Richard Engel, thank you.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Gaza Hospitals on the Brink]

As we’ve been reporting hospitals in Gaza are struggling to care for all the wounded and many Palestinians are looking for a safe haven. The Gaza Health Ministry says the entire system is collapsing. Ellison Barber has that story.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking News; Gaza Hospitals on the Brink of Collapse]

ELLISON BARBER: This is the scene inside Gaza’s largest hospital. Overwhelmed with wounded, running out of every essential supply. Doctors tell us many of their patients are children.

AL-SHIFA HOSPITAL DR. GHASSAN ABU-SITTAH: This is a nine-year-old boy huge blast on his back.

BARBER: But at least Al-Shifa Hospital is open. The World Health Organization says six hospitals in Gaza have already shut down due to a lack of fuel. The Ministry of Health in Gaza, an agency of the Hamas-controlled government, says the number of closed hospitals is actually twice that, saying the health system in Gaza is in a state of complete collapse.

ABU-SITTAH: We’re running out of everything from simple dressings to complex burn dressings. We have over 150 patients ventilated in intensive care areas.
BARBER: The hospitals throughout Gaza that are open, struggling to keep up. And in desperate need of fuel. Israel’s military claims Hamas has plenty of fuel and that they could provide it to the overrun hospitals in Gaza. Hamas denies this. “There’s no room for additional patients,” the health minister says. “We are now using hospital hallways and staircases to treat the injured.” Humanitarian aid is coming in. But not fast enough, given the demand. At Gaza’s main morgue, even the shrouds used to cover the dead are running out. Ellison Barber, NBC News, the Israel/Gaza border.