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CIMINAL COMPLAINT AGAINST KHALID MESHAAL, LEADER OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION HAMAS, FOR GENOCIDE AND CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

JURISDICTION

THE ICC HAS JURISDICTION OVER GENOCIDE, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND WAR CRIMES. THE ICC MAY BE ABLE TO PROSECUTE TERRORIST ACTS ONLY IF THEY FALL WITHIN THESE CATEGORIES. <u>http://www.icc-</u>

cpi.int/en_menus/icc/about%20the%20court/frequently%20asked%20questions/pa ges/faq.aspx

Admissibility and Jurisdiction under Article 17 of Rome convention

Article 17

Issues of admissibility

1. Having regard to paragraph 10 of the Preamble and article 1, the Court shall determine

that a case is inadmissible where:

(a) The case is being investigated or prosecuted by a State which has jurisdiction

International Criminal court. Complaint Crimes against Humanity Khalid Meshaal

over it, unless the State is unwilling or unable genuinely to carry out the investigation or prosecution;

(b) The case has been investigated by a State which has jurisdiction over it and the State has decided not to prosecute the person concerned, unless the decision resulted from the unwillingness or inability of the State genuinely to prosecute;

(c) The person concerned has already been tried for conduct which is the subject of the complaint, and a trial by the Court is not permitted under article 20, paragraph 3;

(d) The case is not of sufficient gravity to justify further action by the Court. Defendant, Khaled Meshaal is currently residing in Qatar and directing his terrorist activity from Qatar. Qatar is supporting terrorist organization Hamas, as well as other terrorist groups, and known for anti-Semitism and anti-Israel stance. The Emirat of Qatar never prosecuted Meshaal and due to its' political stance will never prosecute Meshaal, as such prosecution by the International Criminal Court is not precluded by the prosecution in the country of residence.

Further, the case does not fall under Article 17 (D), as this is a case of sufficient gravity and relates to Genocide and Crimes against Humanity committed by Meshaal in attacling civilian population of Israel, women and children with over 2,000 rockets as well as using Palestinian women and children as shields by

stashing rockets and other weapons in schools, including three UN schools, hospitals, mosques and residential buildings. This represents gravity within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.

STANDING UNDER ARTICLE 15

Prosecutor

1. The Prosecutor may initiate investigations *proprio motu* on the basis of information on

crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court.

2. The Prosecutor shall analyse the seriousness of the information received. For this

purpose, he or she may seek additional information from States, organs of the United

Nations, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations, or other reliable sources that he or she deems appropriate, and may receive written or oral testimony

at the seat of the Court.

3. If the Prosecutor concludes that there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation, he or she shall submit to the Pre-Trial Chamber a request for authorization of an investigation, together with any supporting material collected.

Victims may make representations to the Pre-Trial Chamber, in accordance with the

Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

4. If the Pre-Trial Chamber, upon examination of the request and the supporting material, considers that there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation, and that the case appears to fall within the jurisdiction of the Court, it shall authorize the commencement of the investigation, without prejudice to subsequent determinations by the Court with regard to the jurisdiction and admissibility of a case.

• 5. The refusal of the Pre-Trial Chamber to authorize the investigation shall not preclude.

For example, on 26 November 2009, the Prosecution sought authorization to open an investigation with regard to the post-election violence in Kenya. Pre-Chamber II granted the Prosecutor's request on 31 March 2010. In addition, on 3 October 2011, pre-trial chamber iii granted the prosecutor's request for authorization to open investigations *proprio motu* into the situation in Côte D'Ivoire.

As such plaintiff is submitting complaint at hand directly to the Chief Prosecutor **FATOU B. BENSOUDA** to be further investigated and submitted proprio motu to the court.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Khalid Meshaal, aka Khalid Mashal, aka Khalid Mash'al, (hereinafter Meshaal), is the leader of a terrorist organization Hamas. Meshaal is engaged in crimes against humanity and genocide in Israel and Gaza strip, while committing those crimes from the safety of Qatar. Meshaal resides in Doha, Qatar.

Former Emir of Qatar, Hamad bin Khalifa al Thani and his son, the new Emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Khamid al Thani (ascended to the throne in 2013) are ruling over the vastly rich emirate and are positioning themselves as rivals to the traditional super powers of the Muslim world, such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt. As such, the Al Thani royal family is supporting the most radical terrorist elements, which are either outlawed or not welcomed in traditional Muslim In December 2012, The New York Times accused the Qatari superpowers. government of funding the Al-Nusra Front, a U.S. government designated terrorist organization. (Editorial, Al Qaeda in Syria, 10 December 2012, http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/11/opinion/al-gaeda-in-syria.html) have noted the Emir's visit to Gaza and meeting with Hamas, which houses a militant wing, Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades. (23 October 2012 11:03 pm, Qatar emir in landmark trip to Gaza, By Simeon Kerr in Dubai and Vita Bekker in Jerusalem, http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/0d0bb8de-1cf5-11e2-a17f-

00144feabdc0.html#axzz2MxwMs81t). In January 2013, French politicians International Criminal court. Complaint Crimes against Humanity Khalid Meshaal 6 again accused the Emir's government of giving material support to Islamist groups in <u>Mali (location of current downing of Algerian airlines</u> <u>plane)</u> and the French newspaper Le Canard enchaîné quoted an unnamed source in French military intelligence saying that "The MNLA, al Qaedalinked Ansar Dineand MUJAO have all received cash from Doha"(Is Qatar fuelling the crisis in north Mali?, France 24, Latest update: 23 January 2013 , http://www.france24.com/en/20130121-qatar-mali-france-ansar-dine-mnla-alqaeda-sunni-islam-doha). The Al Thani's are also currently hosting five top Taliban terrorists released from GITMO by Barack Obama.

Currently Meshaal, the leader of Hamas, is receiving aid and comfort by the Al Thani's. From the safety of Doha, Qatar, Meshaal launched over 2,000 rocket attacks on Israeli civilians: women, children and elderly in the most populated areas. (Exhibit 6) Repeatedly, the government of Israel warned Meshaal and Hamas that Israel will not tolerate the attacks, will not allow its' population to be terrorized and will engage in the counter attack. In spite of multiple warnings Meshaal continued crimes against humanity and continued showering kindergartens, schools and houses with rockets. Twice, Egypt offered to negotiate a peace settlement, which was accepted by Israel but rejected by Meshaal. Not only Meshaal rejected peace proposals and continued shelling Israeli children with rockets, he called on innocent Palestinian civilians,

including women and children to act as human shields. Repeatedly Meshaal was caught hiding rockets in UN schools (Exhibit 1-5). Furthermore, not only Meshaal has endangered civilians, among them multiple children, by hiding ammunition in schools and hospitals, he prevented civilians from leaving those buildings, keeping them entrapped and intentionally increasing the number of killed and wounded civilians. Additionally, Meshaal has misappropriated funding, allocated to Gaza by multiple governments and humanitarian organizations and instead of using the funding to build schools and hospitals, he used it to build an elaborate network of some 50 tunnels. Some 700 tons of concrete was used in each tunnel. Each tunnel is full of weapons, syringes with tranquilizers, handcuffs and duck tape to be used for kidnapping and murder of innocent Israeli children. Just recently three Israeli teenagers were kidnapped and murdered.

ARGUMENT

KHALID MESHAAL IS GUILTY OF CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

1. SENDING 2,000 ROCKETS AT HEAVILY POPULATED AREA REPRESENTS GENOCIDE AND VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 8(2)(E)(I)

The mandate of the International Criminal Court is to try individuals rather than States, and to hold such persons accountable for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole, namely the crime of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, and the crime of aggression, when the conditions for the exercise of the Court's jurisdiction over the latter are fulfilled.

According to the Rome Statute, "genocide" means any of the following acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group:

- killing members of the group;
- causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

Hamas Charter Preamble states: " Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it". The goal of Hamas is the destruction of the whole nation and all of its' people: including women, children and elderly. This is a genocide and a crime against humanity, which is canonized in Hamas charter. Leader of Hamas, Khalid Meshaal, is following the genocidal charter of Hamas. Under his orders, over 2,000 rockets were sent into the densely populated areas of Israel, aimed to hit schools, kindergartens and hospitals. One kindergarten was, indeed, hit. Luckily, children were not there due to summer break. Luckily the damage was minimized by the success of the Iron Dome system, however rocket attacks continue with a clear goal of terrorizing, maiming and murdering the civilians. Such indiscriminate rocket attacks represent genocide and a crime against humanity.

Further, under the leadership of Meshaal, and with financial assistance of Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani and his son, current Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani, Hamas spent millions of dollars in building some 50 underground tunnels. Each of the aforementioned tunnels is reinforced with some 700 tons of concrete and equipped with, among others, weapons, tranquilizers, handcuffs, and duck tape in order to kidnap and murder Israeli civilians: women and children. This represents an attempted act of mass genocide.

2,000 COUNTS OF VIOLATION OF ARTICLE ARTICLE 8(2)(E)(I)

INTENTIONALLY DIRECTING AN ATTACK AGAINST A CIVILIAN POPULATION – ARTICLE 8(2)(E)(I)

Plaintiff incorporates all prior paragraphs as is fully pled herein.

As stated above, Meshaal, by and through his terrorist organization Hamas, sent over 2,000 rockets into densely populated areas of Israel. This represents 2,000 counts of flagrant violation of Article 8(2(E)(I). These actions by Meshaal are akin to actions of Joseph Koni which lead to indictment by ICC for intentionally directing an attack against a civilian population – article 8(2)(e)(i).

Meshaal should be indicted for violation of article 8(2)(e)(i).

2. ATTACKING CIVILIAN POPULATION OF ISRAEL WITH 2,000 ROCKETS REPRESENTS "CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY", VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 7(A)(A) -MURDER

ICC definition of "Crimes against Humanity" includes:

- persecution against an identifiable group on political, racial, national, ethnic, cultural, religious or gender grounds;
- other inhumane acts of a similar character intentionally causing great suffering or serious bodily or mental injury.

As stated above, under the leadership and under orders of Meshaal, Hamas terrorists shelled civilian population of Israel with 2,000 rockets in the last few

weeks alone. These acts fall under " persecution against an identifiable group on political, racial, national, ethnic, cultural, religious or gender grounds". Meshaal and his accomplices in Hamas are persecuting the civilian population of Israel based on religious and ethnic grounds, specifically because they are Jewish.

Further, shelling civilian population of Israel with 2,000 rockets falls under " other inhumane acts of a similar character intentionally causing great suffering or serious bodily or mental injury."

As such, acts of shelling Israel with 2,000 rockets falls under the crime of Genocide and "Crimes against Humanity" under the jurisdiction for prosecution by the International Criminal Court.

VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 7(1)(A) -MURDER- CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY

Plaintiff incorporates all prior paragraphs as if fully pled herein.

As previously stated, Meshaal sent over 2,000 rockets into the state of Israel. He is guilty of murder of civilians in Israel, who died as a result of rocket attacks.

3. USING SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, AND MOSQUES FOR STORING ROCKETS AND OTHER WEAPONS REPRESENT CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, GENOCIDE.

Further, under the leadership of Meshaal, Hamas stockpiled rockets and ammunition in hospitals and schools. This falls under the definition of genocide, as:

- causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- Meshaal clearly knew that stockpiling of ammunition in hospitals and schools, including not one, but two UN schools would endanger Palestinians children and patients in the hospitals. Further, reports show that Hamas prevented Palestinians from leaving a number of such facilities and used them as human shields. Additionally, Hamas prevented Palestinian wounded from getting medical care at the field hospital set up by the Israeli government. such use of its own citizens: women, children and hospital patients as human shields, represents genocide and crime against humanity, which justifies trial of Khaled Meshaal by the International Criminal court

and punishment consistent with punishment received by other perpetrators of genocide, namely life in prison and forfeiture of properties.

According to Rome charter ICC judges may impose a prison sentence, to which may be added a fine or forfeiture of the proceeds, property and assets derived directly or indirectly from the crime committed. The Court cannot impose a death sentence. The maximum sentence is 30 years. However, in extreme cases, the Court may impose a term of life imprisonment. http://www.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/icc/about%20the%20court/frequently%20asked%20questions/pages/faq.aspx.

Meshaal has amassed personal wealth reported to be between 2-5 billion dollars, which mainly was gained by diversion of funds designated for humanitarian purposes. Ruling of this court should reflect retribution to victims, use of Meshaal's personal wealth to compensate victims and humanitarian institutions for damage inflicted on them by Meshaal's stockpiling of weapons in these institutions.

USING OF GAZA SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND MOSQUES FOR STOCKPILING WEAPONS REPRESENT VIOLATION OF ARTICLE 8(2)(E)(I)

INTENTIONALLY DIRECTING AN ATTACK AGAINST A CIVILIAN

Plaintiff incorporates all prior paragraphs as if fully pled herein.

Hamas terrorists used hospitals, ambulances, mosques and residential buildings for storage of rockets and other ammunition.

UNRWA reported:

"Today, in the course of the regular inspection of its premises, UNRWA discovered rockets hidden in a vacant school in the Gaza Strip. As soon as the rockets were discovered, UNRWA staff were withdrawn from the premises, and so we are unable to confirm the precise number of rockets. The school is situated between two other UNRWA schools that currently each accommodate 1,500 internally displaced persons.

UNRWA strongly and unequivocally condemns the group or groups responsible for this flagrant violation of the inviolability of its premises under international law.

The Agency immediately informed the relevant parties and is pursuing all possible measures for the removal of the objects in order to preserve the safety and security of the school. UNRWA will launch a comprehensive investigation into the circumstances surrounding this incident. UNRWA has reinforced and continues to implement its robust procedures to maintain the neutrality of all its premises, including a strict no-weapons policy and regular inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian purpose."

Khaled Meshaal by and through his terrorist organization, Hamas, has targeted civilian population, his own people, by placing weapons in schools, hospitals, mosques, ambulances and residential buildings in order to make civilians, women and children, targets of responsive attacks by the Israeli Defense Forces (hereinafter IDF) and making civilians into human shields.

Such actions by Meshaal represent flagrant violation of INTENTIONALLY DIRECTING AN ATTACK AGAINST A CIVILIAN POPULATION – ARTICLE 8(2)(E)(I).

Meshaal intentionally directed responsive attacks towards schools, hospitals and mosques by stockpiling weapons there. Meshaal's actions lead to death of his own people and he should be indicted for violation of Article 8(2)(E)(I).

the case against Meshaal is akin to precedent of <u>The Prosecutor v. Joseph</u> <u>Kony, Vincent Otti, Okot Odhiambo and Dominic Ongwen</u> ICC-OTP-20040729-65, which is currently being heard before Pre-Trial Chamber II. In this case, five warrants of arrest have been issued against [the] five top members of the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).

"Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court opens an investigation into Nothern Uganda ICC-OTP-20040729-65 Situation: Uganda

"The Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC), Luis Moreno-Ocampo, has determined that there is a reasonable basis to open an investigation into the situation concerning Northern Uganda, following the referral of the situation by Uganda in December 2003. The decision to open an investigation was taken after thorough analysis of available information in order to ensure that requirements of the Rome Statute are satisfied.

The Prosecutor has notified the States Parties to the ICC and other concerned states of his intention to start an investigation, in accordance with article 18 of the Rome Statute."

Actions of Khaled Meshaal and his terrorist group Hamas are akin to actions of Joseph Koni and his terrorist organization Lords Army. Kony was indicted by the Chief Prosecutor of the ICC in 2005 and has been evading capture, Kony has been subject to an Interpol Red Notice at the request of the ICC since 2006.

Khaled Meshaal is personally guilty under Article 25 of Rome statutes of the International Criminal court

Article 25

Individual criminal responsibility

1. The Court shall have jurisdiction over natural persons pursuant to this Statute.

2. A person who commits a crime within the jurisdiction of the Court shall be

individually responsible and liable for punishment in accordance with this Statute.

3. In accordance with this Statute, a person shall be criminally responsible and liable for

punishment for a crime within the jurisdiction of the Court if that person:

(a) Commits such a crime, whether as an individual, jointly with another or through another person, regardless of whether that other person is criminally responsible;

(b) Orders, solicits or induces the commission of such a crime which in fact occurs or is attempted;

(c) For the purpose of facilitating the commission of such a crime, aids, abets or otherwise assists in its commission or its attempted commission, including providing the means for its commission;

(d) In any other way contributes to the commission or attempted commission of such a crime by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. Such

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contribution shall be intentional and shall either:

(i) Be made with the aim of furthering the criminal activity or criminal purpose of the group, where such activity or purpose involves the commission of a crime within the jurisdiction of the Court; or(ii) Be made in the knowledge of the intention of the group to commit the crime;

(e) In respect of the crime of genocide, directly and publicly incites others to commit genocide;

(f) Attempts to commit such a crime by taking action that commences its execution by means of a substantial step, but the crime does not occur because of circumstances independent of the person's intentions. However, a person who abandons the effort to commit the crime or otherwise prevents the completion of the crime shall not be liable for punishment under this Statute for the attempt to commit that crime if that person completely and voluntarily gave up the criminal purpose.

3 *bis*. In respect of the crime of aggression, the provisions of this article shall apply only to

persons in a position effectively to exercise control over or to direct the political or military action of a State.

4. No provision in this Statute relating to individual criminal responsibility shall affect

the responsibility of States under international law.

Meshaal is guilty under Article 25 1, 2 and 3 as he is the leader of Hamas terrorist organization and under his leadership, orders, control and incitement aforementioned crimes of Genocide and Crimes against Humanity were committed.

This satisfies Article 25 3(a) (a) Commits such a crime, whether as an individual, jointly with another or

through another person, regardless of whether that other person is criminally responsible.

This satisfies Article 25 3(b) Orders, solicits or induces the commission of such a crime which in fact

occurs or is attempted;

This satisfies Article 25 3(c) For the purpose of facilitating the commission of such a crime, aids, abets or

otherwise assists in its commission or its attempted commission, including providing the means for its commission

This satisfies Article 25 3 (d) (d) In any other way contributes to the commission or attempted commission

of such a crime by a group of persons acting with a common purpose. Such contribution shall be intentional and shall either:

This satisfies Article 25 (e)

(e) In respect of the crime of genocide, directly and publicly incites others to commit genocide;

Additionally Meshaal is guilty under Article 25 (f). Attempts to commit such a crime by taking action that commences its execution by means of a substantial step, but the crime does not occur

because of circumstances independent of the person's intentions.

Meshaal's actions of sending over 2,000 rockets into the heavily populated areas of Israel represent an attempted genocide and attempted murder of Israeli civilians. Luckily, most rockets were neutralized by the Israeli anti missile defense system, "Iron Dome". However, under Article 25 (f) Meshaal is still liable as he "Attempted to commit such a crime by taking action that commences its execution by means of a substantial step, but the crime does not occur

because of circumstances independent of the person's intentions".

Meshaal's position as a head of the organization or government does not preclude his prosecution under Article 27 of Rome statute of ICC

Article 27

Irrelevance of official capacity

1. This Statute shall apply equally to all persons without any distinction based on official

capacity. In particular, official capacity as a Head of State or Government, a member

of a Government or parliament, an elected representative or a government official shall in no case exempt a person from criminal responsibility under this Statute, nor

shall it, in and of itself, constitute a ground for reduction of sentence.

2. Immunities or special procedural rules which may attach to the official capacity of

a person, whether under national or international law, shall not bar the Court from exercising its jurisdiction over such a person.

As such under article 27 Meshaal can be prosecuted by the ICC even if he claims to be a government official in Gaza territory.

MESHAAL IS LIABLE UNDER ARTICLE 28 OF THE ROME STATUTE OF THE ICC

Article 28

Responsibility of commanders and other superiors

In addition to other grounds of criminal responsibility under this Statute for crimes within the

jurisdiction of the Court:

(a) A military commander or person effectively acting as a military commander shall be criminally responsible for crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court committed by forces under his or her effective command and control, or effective authority and control as the case may be, as a result of his or her failure to exercise control properly over such forces, where:

(i) That military commander or person either knew or, owing to the circumstances at the time, should have known that the forces were committing or about to commit such crimes; and

(ii) That military commander or person failed to take all necessary and reasonable measures within his or her power to prevent or repress their commission or to submit the matter to the competent authorities for investigation and prosecution.

(b) With respect to superior and subordinate relationships not described in paragraph (a), a superior shall be criminally responsible for crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court committed by subordinates under his or her effective authority and control, as a result of his or her failure to exercise control properly over such subordinates, where:

(i) The superior either knew, or consciously disregarded information which clearly indicated, that the subordinates were committing or about to commit such crimes;

(ii) The crimes concerned activities that were within the effective responsibility and control of the superior; and

(iii) The superior failed to take all necessary and reasonable measures within his or her power to prevent or repress their commission or to submit the matter.

Meshaal is the leader of Hamas terrorist organization. As such he is liable under Article 28(a) and (b) for the aforementioned crimes of Genocide and Crimes against Humanity.

CONCLUSION

International Criminal Court should try Khalid Meshaal for crimes against humanity and genocide. due to severity of crimes committed by Meshaal, ICC prosecutors should seek life in prison and forfeiture of all the properties.

Respectfully,

/s/Dr. Orly Taitz, ESQ

President,

Defend Our Freedoms Foundation

07.30.2014

EXHIBITS

- 1. Hamas: We Will Hand 250,000 Hand Grenades to Our Children
- 2. Hamas hides weapons in a bunker under a hospital.
- 3. Hamas booby -trapped UNRWA clinic
- 4. Hamas used 3 UNRWA for storage of weapons
- 5. Hamas weaponizes women and children
- 6. Hamas sent 2,600 rockets into densely populated areas of Israel

EXHIBIT 1

Hamas: We Will Hand 250,000 Hand Grenades to Our Children (Video)

Posted by Jim Hoft on Monday, July 21, 2014, 9:09 AMA Hamas spokesman announced that Hamas had manufactured 250,000 hand grenades.



These would be given to Palestinian youth to use to fight Israel instead of rocks.

"The military industry of al-Qassam has manufactured a quarter million hand grenades which will be in the hands of our youth, and with which they will stone the occupation's soldiers instead of with rocks."

EXHIBIT 2

http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/180730/top-secret-hamas-command-bunker-

in-gaza-revealed#undefined

The idea that one of Hamas' main command bunkers is located beneath Shifa Hospital in Gaza City is one of the <u>worst-kept secrets</u> of the Gaza war. So why aren't reporters in Gaza ferreting it out? The precise location of a large underground bunker equipped with sophisticated communications equipment and housing some part of the leadership of a major terrorist organization beneath a major hospital would seem to qualify as a worldclass scoop—the kind that might merit a Pulitzer, or at least a Polk.

So why isn't the fact that Hamas uses Shifa Hospital as a command post making headlines? In part, it's because the location is so un-secret that Hamas regularly meets with reporters there. On July 15, for example, William Booth of the *Washington Post* wrote that the hospital "has become a de facto headquarters for Hamas leaders, who can be seen in the hallways and offices." Back in 2006, PBS even aired a documentary showing how gunmen roam the halls of the hospital, intimidate the staff, and deny them access to protected locations within the building—where the camera crew was obviously prohibited from <u>filming</u>. Yet the confirmation that Hamas is using Gaza City's biggest hospital as its de facto headquarters was made in the last sentence of the eighth paragraph of Booth's story—which would appear to be the kind of rookie mistake that is known in journalistic

parlance as "burying the lede."

But Booth is no rookie—he's an experienced foreign reporter, which means that he buried the lede on purpose. Why? Well, one reason might be that the "security sources" quoted whenever the location of the Hamas command bunker is mentioned—which, as evidenced by this 2009 <u>article</u> by the excellent and highly experienced foreign correspondent Steven Erlanger of the *New York Times*, happens every time there's a war in Gaza—are obviously Israelis, not members of Hamas. It might be hard to believe the Israelis, the simple logic might run, since they obviously have an investment in arguing that Hamas is using hospitals and schools as human shields.

The Israelis are so sure about the location of the Hamas bunker, however, not because they are trying to score propaganda points, or because it has been repeatedly mentioned in passing by Western reporters—but because they built it. Back in 1983, when Israel still ruled Gaza, they built a secure underground operating room and tunnel network beneath Shifa hospital—

which is one among several reasons why Israeli security sources are so <u>sure</u> that there is a main Hamas command bunker in or around the large cement basement beneath the area of Building 2 of the Hospital, which reporters are obviously prohibited from entering.

Hamas obviously has no interest in having a photo-layout of one of its command bunkers beneath Shifa Hospital splashed on the front pages of newspapers. After all, such pictures would show that the organization uses the sick and wounded of Gaza as human shields while launching missiles against Israeli civilians. What Hamas wants is for reporters to use very different pictures from Shifa—namely, photos of Palestinians killed and wounded by Israelis, which make Palestinians look like innocent victims of wanton Israeli brutality.

To that end, the rules of reporting from Shifa Hospital are easy for any newbie reporter to understand: No pictures of members of Hamas with their weapons inside the hospital, and don't go anywhere near the bunkers, or the operating rooms where members of Hamas are treated. While reporters can meet with members of Hamas inside the hospital—because it's obviously convenient for everyone—they are not allowed to take pictures. Reporters inside Gaza who are risking their lives to bring the world whatever news they can should hardly be blamed for obeying Hamas'

media rules, which the organization has helpfully <u>written down</u> in case anyone has doubts about what they are permitted to show.

Reporters who bravely or foolishly violate Hamas' rules even on their social media accounts can be seen to repent with such alacrity that it's not difficult to imagine how scared and dependent they are. Nick Casey of the *Wall*

Street Journal, for example, <u>tweeted</u> that "You have to wonder w the shelling how patients at Shifa hospital feel as Hamas uses it as a safe place to see media." Casey then quickly deleted his tweet, which didn't save him from being put on a <u>list</u> of journalists who "lie/fabricate info for Israel" and "must be sued" – a threat which is surely the least of Casey's fears. Last week, French-Palestinian journalist Radjaa Abu Dagg was summoned to Shifa by Hamas and interrogated. He <u>wrote</u> about the experience of "attempted intimidation" for *Liberation*—and then quickly had the paper <u>take down</u> the article.

It can hardly be lost on any sane journalist that tempers in combat zones can be short, and that Hamas has used the kidnapping of foreign journalists like <u>Alan Johnson</u> of the BBC to advance its own agenda. The fact that Hamas has <u>closed</u> the border and will not let journalists in or out of Gaza

can't make journalists who being used as de facto human shields by a terrorist organization feel any more eager to offend their hosts.

What Hamas has done, therefore, is to turn Shifa Hospital into a Hollywood sound-stage filled with real, live war victims who are used to score propaganda points, while the terrorists inside the hospital itself are erased from photographs and news accounts through a combination of pressure and threats, in order to produce the stories that Hamas wants. So if reporters aren't entirely to blame for participating in this sick charade, then who is?

The answer is that reporters write what they can, and some do their job better than others, and some are braver or more foolhardy than their peers. But it's the job of editors, sitting thousands of miles away, at a very safe remove from the battlefield, to note that dispatches were produced under pressure, or that key information was removed by a government—as nearly all mainstream media outlets do when battlefield dispatches pass through the hands of the IDF censor. A good editor might attach similar notes to dispatches from combat zones controlled by terrorist organizations. He or she might also decide that reporting only the news that Hamas deems fit to

print from Shifa Hospital isn't actually reporting at all: It's propaganda.

http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/180730/top-secret-hamas-command-bunker-

in-gaza-revealed#undefined

EXHIBIT 3

THREE ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED in Booby-Trapped UNRWA Clinic Posted by Jim Hoft on Wednesday, July 30, 2014, 1:32 PM

Three Israeli soldiers were <u>killed today</u> in a booby-trapped United Nations clinic. The UNRWA clinic housed the opening to the terrorist tunnel. Hamas hides their weapons in civilian buildings: schools, mosques & hospitals.

The Maariv Daily reported (translated):

Two Israeli soldiers were killed today by a divice planted under the UNRWA clinic.

Cleared for publication: Two out of three of those killed in an incident in southern Gaza were identified as IDF Sgt. Gottlieb from Rishon Lezion and Sgt. Omar from Savion. Israel confirmed that they were killed by a bomb placed in a tunnel built under the United Nations clinic.

The **<u>Times of Israel</u>** has more:

Three IDF soldiers were killed on Wednesday in an explosion at a booby-trapped UNRWA health clinic that housed the opening of a tunnel

Two of the three were named as Staff Sgt. Matan Gotlib, 21, of Rishon Lezion, and Staff Sgt. Omer Chai, 21, of Savion.

The three troops, part of an elite tunnel clearing squad, were taking precautionary measures in efforts to limit damage to the structure before eliminating the tunnel when the explosives detonated in the small building.

The troops had sent in sniffing dogs and a small robot to minimize damage to the structure, located in Khan Yunis, but explosives rigged to the underground passage detonated, demolishing the building on top of the soldiers.

IDF soldiers also found a terrorist tunnel whose access shaft was under a Gaza mosque.

MORE>>> Hamas **posted video in celebration** after they killed three Israeli soldiers in a tunnel attack this week. More <u>here</u>.

Media cover-up of Hamas crimes starting to unravel

http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/07/media-cover-up-of-hamas-crimes-

starting-to-unravel/

Posted by William A. Jacobson Tuesday, July 29, 2014 at 5:31pm

Italian journalist leaves Gaza, tells truth once free from Hamas retaliation



Yesterday one of the stories thrust into the mainstream media was nearly simultaneous explosions in a Palestinian neighborhood and at al-Shifa hospital.

The media immediately took the Hamas line that it was Israeli missiles. Later, the **IDF stated** that it had not fired on those locations, and that the explosions were misfired Hamas or Islamic Jihad missiles.

The media played it as **<u>he said</u>**, **<u>he said</u>**.

But an Italian journalist has just left Gaza and is telling the truth about what happened now that he needs not fear Hamas retaliation — Israel was right (h/t Israelly Cool):

How many more of the civilian casualties have been cause by Hamas and Islamic rockets that fell short or misfired? Like Israel says happened <u>at a U.N. school and</u> <u>shelter</u>.

We likely never will know because Hamas is so fast to cover up the scene and <u>intimidates reporters</u>:

The Times of Israel confirmed several incidents in which journalists were questioned and threatened. These included cases involving photographers who had taken pictures of Hamas operatives in compromising circumstances — gunmen preparing to shoot rockets from within civilian structures, and/or fighting in civilian clothing — and who were then approached by Hamas men, bullied and had their equipment taken away.

<u>CAMERA</u> discovered a Wall Street Journal reporter coming to the same conclusion as the Italian reporters, but then deleting the tweet:



The reporter later claimed he deleted it because it was speculative.

This is part of a pattern of western media being intimidated into not reporting all the civilian deaths cause by Hamas, and how Hamas uses locations like al-Shifa hospital.

This tweet showing Hamas using al-Shifa hospital for media interviews was deleted by a Wall Street Journal reporter:





Nick Casey @caseysjournal

You have to wonder w the shelling how patients at Shifa hospital feel as Hamas uses it as a safe place to see media



Coincidentally after threats were made on Twitter against that reporter and other reporters:

The reporter did not respond to my email seeking an explanation.

The French Liberation newspaper <u>ran an article</u> by a French-Palestinian journalist about how he was summoned to al-Shira Hospital for interrogation by Hamas just yards from the operating room:



"You must leave Gaza as soon as possible and stop working"

The Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, where Rafjaa Abu Dagga was summoned and interrogated by members of Hamas. (Photo Mohammed Abed. AFP)

TESTIMONY Palestinian journalist Radjaa Abu Dagga correspondent "Ouest France" and formerly of "Liberation" says the intimidation of Hamas.

Corresponding Western France Gaza and former collaborator of *Liberation*, Radjaa Abu Dagga years divided his time between Paris, where his wife and son live, and Gaza, where his parents live and where he works. On 18 June, when he wants to spend the Rafah border, an officer banned his way and keeps his passport like all Palestinians trying to cross into Egypt that day.

After four blocked Gaza without explanation weeks, Palestinian journalist is summoned by the security service of Hamas on Sunday. "I received a call from a private number. They summoned me to Al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City center, " explains Radjaa. He carried with him his two phones, his press card and small camera. Here is part of it (Google translation from French):

"ARE YOU A CORRESPONDENT FOR ISRAEL?"

A few meters from the emergency room where the injured bombing tributary constantly, it is received in the outpatient department, "a small section of the hospital used as administration" by a band of young fighters. "They were all well dressed, is surprised Radjaa. In civilian with a gun under his shirt and some had walkie talkies". He was ordered to empty his pockets, removing his shoes and his belt then it is called in a hospital room "which served that day office of command to three people."

A man prim begins his interrogation: "Who are you? How do you call? What are you doing? " "I was very surprised by the procedure," admits Radjaa, who shows him his press card in response. Questions come. Then asked if he speaks Hebrew, he has relations with Ramallah. Young Hamas supporters insist the question: "Are you a correspondent for Israel?" Radjaa repeat that only works for French media and a chain of Algerian radio.

It was then that the three men he delivers this message: "This is yours to choose. We are an executive administration. We will carry the message of Qassams. You have to stay at home and give your papers. "Stunned to be covered by the Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, the armed wing of Hamas, Radjaa tries to defend himself and especially to understand why such a decision was taken against him. In vain. "It is impossible to communicate with these people," laments the journalist. It is not the first to undergo this kind of pressure and combatants in front of him did not hide. "They are enraged against the presidency and accused me of collaborating with Mahmoud Abbas," he says. Reporters Without Borders confirms that this is not an isolated case. The organization has indeed been alerted by the threats of Hamas against Palestinian and foreign journalists for their professional activities threats.

Now the article has been taken down at the author's request.

Welcome > World > Gaza gear

"You must leave Gaza as soon as possible and stop working"

RELEASE JULY 24, 2014 AT 17:46

This article, which described the attempted intimidation of Palestinian journalist Radjaa Abu Dagga correspondent "Ouest France" and formerly of "Liberation" was unpublished at his request.

http://legalinsurrection.com/2014/07/media-cover-up-of-hamas-crimes-starting-to-

unravel/

<u>**Tablet Magazine**</u> has more on the cover up of the use of al-Shifa hospital as a Hamas command center.

Remember how many photos of Hamas fighters and scoops about Hamas tactics we've seen from reporters, just like we see with regard to the IDF? Neither do I, it's as if Hamas doesn't exist to reporters and all the dead are civilians:

More to follow.

The threats and deleted tweets and information have been known for days if not weeks:

The sourcing has been abysmal:

[Featured Image Source: **IDF Twitter**]

1

EXHIBIT 4

Third rocket cache found at UNRWA school



Follow

.<u>@UNRWA</u> says rockets found on Tuesday at one of its schools in central Gaza, adds school was closed for the summer & not used as a shelter.

9:42 AM - 29 Jul 2014

Third rocket cache found at UNRWA school

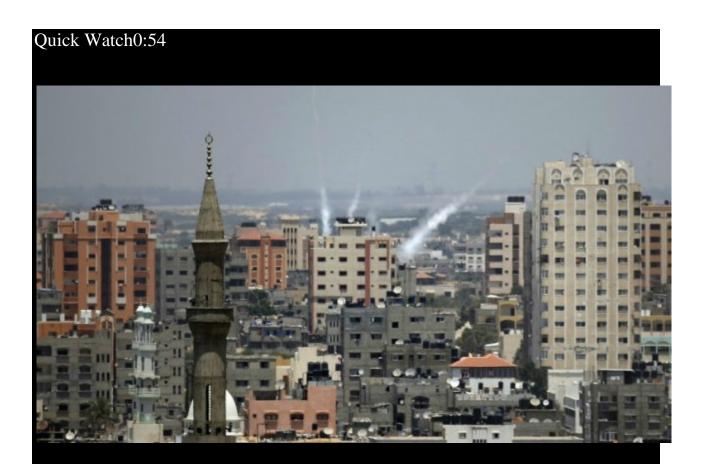
UNRWA, the UN aid agency for Palestinian refugees, says it's found another rocket arsenal stashed at one of its schools in the central Gaza Strip. This latest find is the third case of arms discovered at a UN-run school since the outset of Operation Protective Edge.

The UN agency says the school was closed for the summer and not in use as a shelter.

Read more: <u>Kerry says Netanyahu called to raise truce idea; rockets shot at</u> <u>Jerusalem hills | The Times of Israelhttp://www.timesofisrael.com/day-22-five-</u> <u>soldiers-killed-four-of-them-in-mortar-attack-idf-bombards-gaza/#ixzz38smUxSgj</u> Follow us: @timesofisrael on Twitter | timesofisrael on Facebook

Via the IDF Desk: 20 missiles found in UN-run school in Gaza

UNRWA apologizes to Israel, condemns a 'flagrant violation of the inviolability of its premises' and promises investigation; Israel calls on UN to 'act strongly' BY RAPHAEL AHREN July 17, 2014, 5:05 pm 394



Smoke from rockets fired from Gaza City is seen after being launched toward Israel, on July 15, 2014 (photo credit: AFP/ Thomas Coex)**WRITERS**



<u>Raphael Ahren</u> Raphael Ahren is the diplomatic correspondent at The Times of Israel.

Some 20 rockets were found Wednesday in a school in Gaza operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, the organization confirmed Thursday.

The weapons were found in "the course of the regular inspection of its premises," UNRWA said in a statement, adding that the school was vacant.

"UNRWA strongly condemns the group or groups responsible for placing the weapons in one of its installations. This is a flagrant violation of the inviolability of its premises under international law," the statement read.

The discovery would seem to confirm Israel's oft-repeated claim that Hamas and other Gazan terror groups use civilian infrastructure to hide weapons.

"Yet again, Gaza terrorists abuse UN facilities to carry out their violent activities. Hamas and other terror groups are determined to put civilians in harm's way and will respect nothing in their violent frenzy," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Yigal Palmor told The Times of Israel. "We expect the UN and the international community to condemn and to act strongly against this brazen violation of international humanitarian law, which endangers children and UN humanitarian activities."



UNRWA logo (photo credit: UN)

This incident was "the first of its kind in Gaza," the organization said, adding that it "endangered civilians including staff and put at risk UNRWA's vital mission to assist and protect Palestinian refugees in Gaza."

UNRWA informed all officials immediately after discovering the rockets, and "successfully took all necessary measures for the removal of the objects in order to preserve the safety and security of the school."

Officials from the agency, which has a reputation in Jerusalem of being exceedingly critical of Israeli policies vis-à-vis the Palestinians, have been summoned to the Foreign Ministry. They have apologized to Israel for the incident, Foreign Minister Avigdor Liberman said.

UNRWA has launched a "comprehensive investigation" into the incidence, the statement said.

The agency, charged with taking care of the welfare of Palestinian refugees, has "strong, established procedures to maintain the neutrality of all its premises, including a strict no-weapons policy and routine inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian purposes," its statement read. "UNRWA will uphold and further reinforce its procedures." Read more: <u>20 missiles found in UN-run school in Gaza | The Times of Israel http://www.timesofisrael.com/20-missiles-found-in-un-run-school-in-gaza/#ixzz384GZ95Fi</u>

EXHIBIT

Hamas Tells Supporters to Describe Terrorists as Innocent Civilians



Posted by Jim Hoft on Sunday, July 20, 2014, 9:07 PM

A Hamas rally in Gaza.

Hamas is telling all supporters and social media users to describe all of the victims in Gaza as innocent civilians and not terrorists. **IDF Blog** reported:

Hamas is employing a new tactic to conceal its true terrorist nature from the world. It has begun asking Gaza's social media users to disseminate lies throughout the West and the Arab world. This news will come as no surprise to those familiar with the **radical Islamist** organization's usual methods. However, now mainstream media outlets will have to think twice before blindly quoting reports from Hamas about what's really happening in Gaza.

The Middle East Media Research (MEMRI) published Thursday a translation of a new Hamas internet campaign to provide guidelines for Gaza's social media users. According to MEMRI, the Hamas Interior Ministry has instructed Gazans to use Facebook and Twitter to "play their part in strengthening the home front and properly convey information worldwide." The guidelines in fact instruct social media users to mislead the public and propagate disinformation worldwide.

The interior ministry's "Be Aware – Social Media Activist Awareness Campaign" centers around an instructional video and posters published on the ministry's Facebook and Twitter pages. Gazans are taught, first and foremost, to refer to all terrorists as innocent civilians.

"Anyone killed or martyred is to be called a civilian from Gaza or Palestine, before we talk about his status in jihad or his military rank," the guidelines state. "Don't forget to always add 'innocent civilian' or 'innocent citizen' in your description of those killed in Israeli attacks on Gaza." Mainstream media outlets would do well to remember this when quoting distorted reports from Gaza of civilian casualties.

Egyptian Media Applauds Netanyahu and Israeli Offensive in Gaza

Posted by Jim Hoft on Sunday, July 20, 2014, 3:34 PM

Thirteen Israeli soldiers were killed today in the Gaza offensive. Several Palestinians were also killed overnight in a Hamas stronghold.

Egyptian media continued to applaud Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Israel's offensive against Hamas in Gaza. France 24 reported:

Since the beginning of Israel's offensive in Gaza, much of the Egyptian media has laid the blame squarely on the Islamist group Hamas, which controls the tiny Palestinian enclave.

Some journalists have even said that all Palestinians are to blame for their current plight.

Israel's escalating attack on the Gaza Strip has triggered worldwide debate. Egypt is no exception.

But there is little of the traditional Arab solidarity towards Palestinians to be found in the Egyptian media.

Adel Nehaman, a columnist for the Egyptian daily El-Watan, said bluntly: "Sorry Gazans, I cannot support you until you rid yourselves of Hamas."

Azza Sami, a writer for government daily Al-Ahram, went so far as to congratulate Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Twitter: "Thank you Netanyahu, and God give us more men like you to destroy Hamas!"

Star presenter of the Al-Faraeen TV channel, Tawfik Okasha, an ardent supporter of Egypt's military regime and known for his firm stance against the ousted Muslim Brotherhood, attacked the entire Palestinian population live on air.

"Gazans are not men," he declared. "If they were men they would revolt against Hamas."

His broadcast was even picked up by Israeli TV to demonstrate Egyptian support for Israel.

Hamas uses hospital facility to fire on IDF, army shoots back

By YAAKOV LAPPIN

07/23/2014 13:23

inShare1

<u>Select Language</u> ▼

Hamas has used positions in the Al-Wafa hospital in Gaza to fire automatic weapons and anti-tank missiles on soldiers, and the IDF fired back in recent minutes, the army said Wednesday.

"The hospital was used for activating war rooms and command and control centers by Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad," the army said.

The IDF Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories has issued repeated and direct warnings to the hospital's manager, and to other Palestinians involved in running the hospital, the army said.

"Firing on our soldiers has grown in recent hours and endangered forces. As a result, the IDF has decided to strike terrorists operating in the hospital complex," it added.

http://www.jpost.com/Breaking-News/Hamas-uses-hospital-facility-to-fire-on-IDF-army-shoots-back-368587

FOR SECOND TIME... UNRWA Finds Stash of Rockets at Gaza School

Posted by Jim Hoft on Tuesday, July 22, 2014, 5:46 PM

Hamas hides rockets in UN schools in Gaza in order to hit children in schools in Israel



UNRWA discovered rockets hidden in one of its schools in Gaza. (17/07/2014)

IDF

For the second time in less than one week the United Nations found rockets hidden of its Gaza schools. at one **UNRWA** reported:

Today, in the course of the regular inspection of its premises, UNRWA discovered rockets hidden in a vacant school in the Gaza Strip. As soon as the rockets were discovered, UNRWA staff were withdrawn from the premises, and so we are unable to confirm the precise number of rockets. The school is situated between

two other UNRWA schools that currently each accommodate 1,500 internally displaced persons.

UNRWA strongly and unequivocally condemns the group or groups responsible for this flagrant violation of the inviolability of its premises under international law.

The Agency immediately informed the relevant parties and is pursuing all possible measures for the removal of the objects in order to preserve the safety and security of the school. UNRWA will launch a comprehensive investigation into the circumstances surrounding this incident.

UNRWA has reinforced and continues to implement its robust procedures to maintain the neutrality of all its premises, including a strict no-weapons policy and regular inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian purpose.

Meanwhile, Gaza terrorists **<u>fled</u>** fighting today in an ambulance.

97 49 0 162

16 Comments

http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Peace/2014/07/29/THIRD-Rocket-Arsenal-Found-At-UN-School-In-Gaza

Unreal: Third Hamas Rocket Stockpile Found Inside U.N. School In Gaza...

by Jordan Schachtel 29 Jul 2014,

The United Nations Relief & Works Agency For Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) <u>announced</u> Tuesday that another rocket stockpile has been found at one of its schools in Gaza. This instance marks the third time since the beginning of Operation Protective Edge that a weapons arsenal has been found at an UNRWA school in Gaza.

UNRWA has yet to place blame on any individuals or organizations for placing the weapons stockpile within a children's school. The UN body refused to do so on the past two previous occasions as well.

The UN body, after both previous findings, has handed the rockets it had found back into the possession of "the local police," <u>otherwise</u> known as the terrorist group Hamas.

This week, UNRWA supplies and building materials had been <u>found</u> in Hamas's tunnel infrastructure, which has been used to smuggle weapons and carry out attacks on the State of Israel.

The UN agency has a <u>well-documented</u> history of using their US taxpayer-funded facilities to promote anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda. It has in the past been accused of aiding and abetting radical Islamists in Gaza and elsewhere.

UNRWA was created in 1949 to provide relief and public works programs for displaced Arab refugees that had formerly inhabited the British mandate of Palestine. UNRWA is currently the largest agency-subdivision of the entire UN, employing over 30,000 staff. UNRWA has objectively failed in its primary goal of finding homes for those it has deemed "refugees". From 1949 to present day, refugees recognized by UNRWA has grown from 750,000 to 5,000,000 people.

COMMENTS_____GOOD COMMENTS

What difference does it make, the UN will just give it back to Hamas like they have been doing.

Besides Sillary said that Gaza was small so it's OK to use schools. Of course nobody challenged her thought process by saying well Iraq and Afghanistan are not small so how do you justify them doing the same thing there?

Most likely Hamas was planning on waiting til the place was filled with mothers, babies, little children and pregnant women to blow the place up and show how evil the Israelis are.

Where else would these scumbags store missles? I'd start checking day care centers

And Obama and Hillary support this!

Save America and vote these sick Democrats out!

"Hamas puts its missiles, its rockets in civilian areas. Part of it is that Gaza's pretty small and it's very densely populated. The put their command and control of Hamas military leaders in those civilian areas."-Hillary Clinton The problem is that anyone thinks the UN cares about this! There properties being used to hide rockets and the supplies meant to build schools being used to build tunnels.....

The UN could care less this is occurring! They will just ask for more money to do it again!

The UN is complicit in war crimes because it is putting civilians in harms way by allowing its schools to be used as storage facilities for arms. Anybody for taking the UN to the ICC?

The obsolete United Nations has failed its charter. WORLD PEACE! This is what was promised the USA when it first formed 70 years ago. We've given trillions to this failed group that is now full of thugs and thieves. It is time to stop our membership. In 70 years not one person in DC or politics can say they've ever seen an invoice or audit as to how the millions of annual dues of just the USA are spent. This do nothing group is only interested in perpetuating themselves for big salaries and fat pensions at the expense of USA membership. The UN is Unsustainable so withdraw our membership.

MORE: http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Peace/2014/07/29/THIRD-Rocket-Arsenal-Found-At-UN-School-In-Gaza

Hamas barred evacuation of UNRWA school – IDF

Hamas prevented civilians from evacuating the UNRWA school-turned-shelter that was reportedly shelled by an IDF tank earlier today, killed at least 15 people, according to the IDF Spokesperson.

The IDF tweets that last night, it told the Red Cross to evacuate civilians from the Beit Hanoun shelter between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and both UNRWA and the Red Cross got the message.

The military says that this morning, Hamas fired at IDF troops from a populated area near the shelter, and also prevented the evacuation of civilians from the area.

It adds that earlier today, "several rockets launched from Gaza toward Israel fell short and hit Beit Hanoun."

The assessment in the IDF is that "apparently" a mortar shell went off course and hit the courtyard, says Channel 2's Roni Daniel. At the same time, a Hamas rocket may also have hit the courtyard. Hamas was targeting IDF troops in the area, he adds.

Read more: <u>15 Palestinians said killed in Gaza school amid 'serious combat' in area</u> <u>The Times of Israel http://www.timesofisrael.com/day-17-cabinet-mulls-</u> <u>expanded-gaza-op-hamas-again-rules-out-ceasefire-faa-extends-flight-</u> <u>ban/#ixzz38PePEROW</u>

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EXHIBIT

http://grid.pjmedia.com/?cmd=view-show-profile-article&id=1934

14 WAYS HAMAS WEAPONIZES PALESTINIAN WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND ANIMALS AGAINST ISRAEL

Although in 2005 Israel gave up Gaza to the Palestinians in a naive "land for peace" unilateral withdrawal, the result was not peace but rather over 10,000 rockets fired from Gaza at Israeli civilian communities. Here we show how Hamas and other groups weaponize Palestinian civilians and institutions to attack Israel.

Background:

The Hamas Charter of 1988 - Defines the Hamas Mission Against Israel and Jews

- Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it.
- Our struggle against the Jews is very great and very serious. It needs all sincere efforts. It is a step that inevitably should be followed by other steps. The Movement is but one squadron that should be supported by more and more squadrons from this vast Arab and Islamic world, until the enemy is vanquished and Allah's victory is realized.
- The Prophet, Allah bless him and grant him salvation, has said:

"The Day of Judgment will not come about until Moslems fight the Jews (killing the Jews), when the Jew will hide behind stones and trees. The stones and trees will say O Moslems, O Abdulla, there is a Jew behind me, come and kill him. Only the Gharkad tree, (evidently a certain kind of tree) would not do that because it is one of the trees of the Jews." (related by al-Bukhari and Moslem).

WARNING GRAPHIC IMAGES - NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

NEXT PAGE

1) Weaponize Women as Suicide Bombers and Terrorists



International Criminal court. Complaint Crimes against Humanity Khalid Meshaal



Decapitated head of a female suicide bomber:



[Video] Gleeful, Smiling Female Terrorist Remembers How She Bombed the Sbarro Pizza Restaurant:

On August 9th, 2001, she killed:

- Hemeda 2 years old
- Avraham 4 years old
- Tamara 8 years old
- Yocheved 10 years old
- Raaya 14 years old
- Malki 15 years old
- Michal 16 years old
- and more

2) Weaponize Children: Use Children's TV to Brainwash Young Palestinians to Commit Atrocities Against Jews



From the Hamas Charter: Focus on youth through education, information and media.

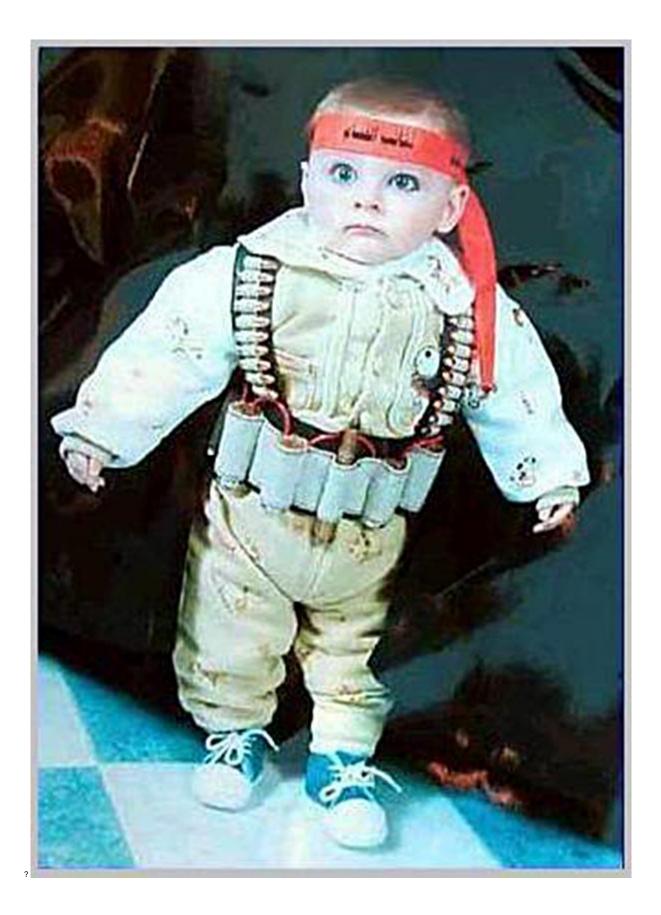
Article 15: "It is necessary that scientists, educators and teachers, information and media people, as well as the educated masses, especially the youth and sheikhs of the Islamic movements, should take part in the operation of awakening (the masses)."

Hamas TV Children's Show Encourages Killing of Jews - May 8, 2014

Martyrdom Indoctrination on Hamas TV Children's Show – April 2, 2010?

Young Relatives Wish to Follow in Footsteps of a Female Martyr - April 15, 2013?

3) Weaponize Children: Glorify suicide bombers/martyrdom and terrorism.









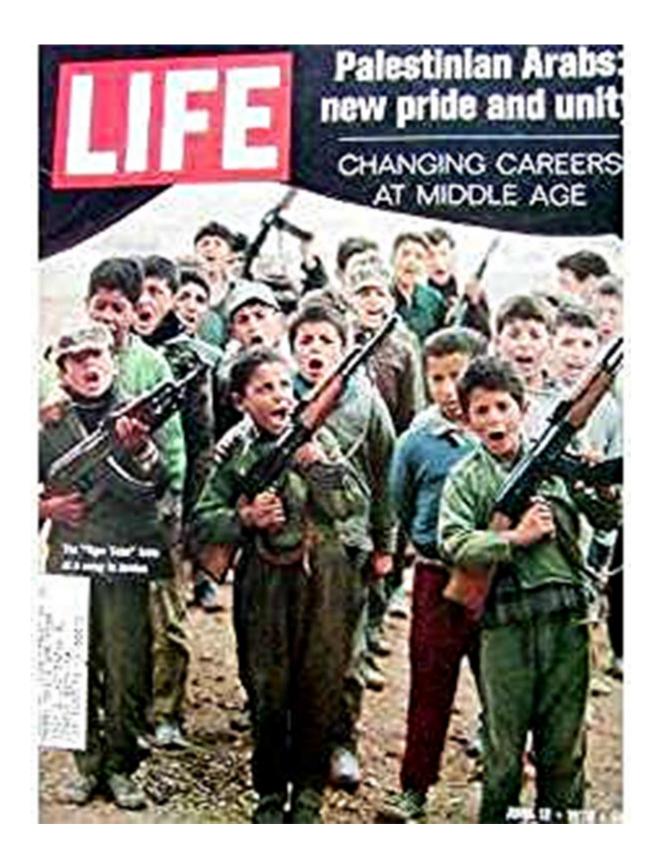
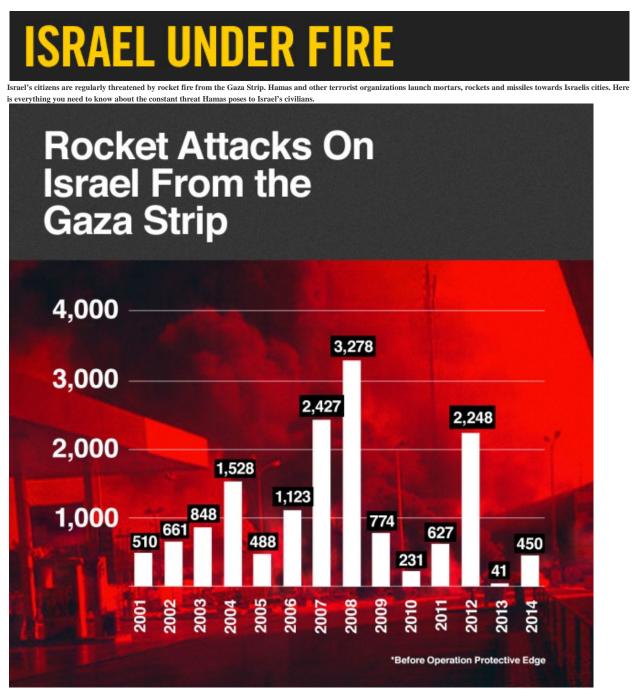


Exhibit 6

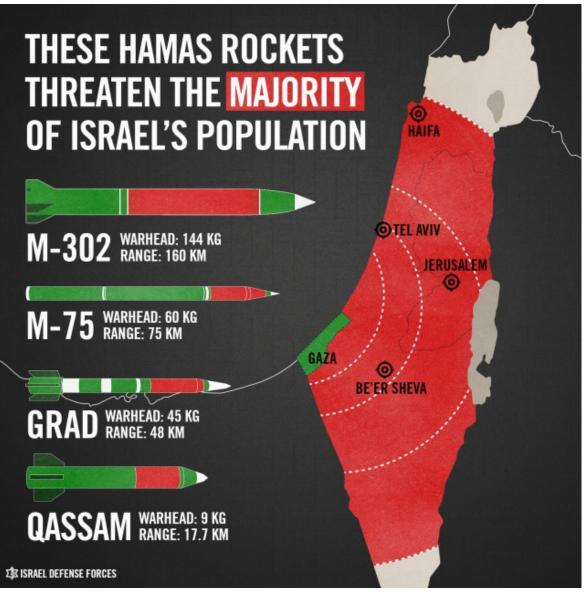
Rocket Attacks on Israel From Gaza



Since Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip in 2005, terrorists have fired more than 11,000 rockets into Israel. Over 5 million Israelis are currently living under threat of rocket attacks.

More than half a million Israelis have less than 60 seconds to find shelter after a rocket is launched from Gaza into Israel. Most rockets launched from Gaza into Israel are capable of reaching Israel's biggest cities, including Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

Rocket fire from Gaza is a constant threat facing Israel's civilians. In 2011 alone, 630 rockets from Gaza hit Israeli towns. That's an even higher number than in 2010, when 231 rockets hit Israel.



Since 2001, more than 15,200 rockets and mortars, an average of over 3 rocket attacks every single day, have targeted Israel.

Hamas, the ruling entity of the Gaza Strip, is responsible for most of the rocket fire on Israeli population centers. The organization – which is recognized by the US, UK, EU and Israel as a terrorist group – has been increasing the size and capabilities of its rocket arsenal. In addition, Hamas has turned a blind eye as other terrorist organizations have launched rocket attacks. Twice since 2005, the IDF has been forced to launch major operations in response to heavy rocket fire on Israel's civilians. The most recent, <u>Operation Protective</u> <u>Edge</u>, began after continual and relentless rocket attacks on Israeli cities since the beginning of 2014.

Operation Protective Edge – 2014

On July 7, 2014, the IDF launched Operation Protective Edge in order to restore quiet to the region and stop Hamas terrorism. The single goal of the operation is to stop Hamas' incessant rocket attacks against Israel's civilians.

The operation is ongoing, and since the start of the operation over 1000 rockets have been launched at Israel. Of those, 754 have hit Israel and approximately 201 were intercepted by the<u>Iron Dome Missile defense system</u>.

Hamas has fired long range rockets at cities across Israel, including Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Rockets such as the M-302 – the same missiles confiscated from the <u>KLOS-C weapons seizure</u> – have long range capabilities and endanger the majority if Israel's population. Rocket sirens have sounded non-stop across Israel, <u>sending civilians running for shelter.</u>

In response to these rocket attacks, the IDF has targeted over 1,474 terror targets using <u>precision attacks</u> to pinpoint terrorists and terror infrastructure while limiting civilian casualties.

Operation Pillar of Defense – 2012

On November 14, 2012, in response to incessant rocket attacks in the Gaza Strip, the IDF launched <u>Operation Pillar of Defense</u>, a widespread campaign against terror targets in Gaza.

During the eight days of the operation — and in the weeks leading up to it — life was unbearable for more than 3.5 million Israelis. From November 14 to November 21, Palestinian terrorist groups fired more than 1,506 rockets at Israel. The majority of those rockets struck Israel, damaging homes, schools and other civilian areas.

During the operation, Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups fired long-range rockets, <u>such as the Fajr-5</u>, toward Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Though the IDF severely damaged the terrorist organizations' long-range rocket arsenal, more than 3.5 million Israelis are still under the threat of Hamas' rocket fire.



Rocket fire from Gaza causes severe damage

Operation Cast Lead - 2008

In December 2008, after <u>exhausting non-military moves and diplomatic overtures</u> to hinder Hamas' rocket attacks, Israel launched Operation Cast Lead. The military operation was successful in destroying <u>Hamas' rocket launchers and terror infrastructure</u>.

Almost immediately after the operation, Hamas focused on rearrning itself and increasing its military capabilities. The terroirst organization extended the range and quality of weapons that threaten Israel's civilian population. Thousands of rockets were smuggled into Gaza, and many of the terror cells which Israel neutralized in 2008 have been revived.

If you learned something new from reading this, you should probably check out:

- History of Rocket Attacks from Gaza
- Israel Under Fire: March 2012
- Hamas' Human Shield Tactics
- Power of One: The Structure of Hamas
- What is the Popular Resistance Committee?
- IDF's Anti-Missile Defense Systems: A 360° Look

List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Palestinian_rocket_attacks_on_Israel

Palestinian rocket attacks		
<u>on Israel</u>		
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and the second sec		
and the second se		
A rocket fired from the Gaza Strip		
into <u>Israel</u> , December 2008.		
By year		
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• <u>2001</u>		
• <u>2002–2006</u>		
• <u>2007</u>		
• <u>2008</u> • <u>2008 cease-fire</u>		
Gaza War		
• <u>2009</u>		
• 2010		
• 2011		
• 2012		
• 2013		
• 2014		
Groups responsible		
• <u>Fatah</u>		
Hamas		
Islamic Jihad		
PFLP		
• <u>DFLP</u> • <u>PRC</u>		
Ansar al-Sunna		
Force 17		
Army of Islam		
Tawhid wal-Jihad		
Abdullah Azzam Brigades		

Mujahideen Shura Council
Rocket types
Mortar
• <u>Qassam</u>
Al-Quds
• <u>Katyusha</u>
• <u>Grad</u>
• <u>Fair-5</u>
Cities hit
Ashdod
Ashkelon
Beersheba
• <u>Eilat</u>
• <u>Gedera</u>
<u>Kiryat Gat</u>
• <u>Kiryat Malakhi</u>
• <u>Netivot</u>
• <u>Sderot</u>
• <u>Ofakim</u>
• <u>Yavne</u>
• <u>Tel Aviv</u>
• Jerusalem
<u>Regional Council</u> areas hit
Hof Ashkelon
• (<u>Karmia</u>
Netiv HaAsara
Yad Mordechai
• <u>Zikim</u>)
<u>Eshkol</u>
• (<u>Nir Oz</u>
• <u>Nirim</u>
• <u>Yesha</u>)
Sha'ar HaNegev
• (<u>Kfar Aza</u>
Nahal Oz
Nir Am)
Sdot Negev
JUGENEEEV
• (<u>Alumim</u>
• <u>Sa'ad</u>
Merhavim* <u>Be'er Tuvia</u>
Bnei Shimon* Gush Etzion

<u>Settlements</u> hit (evacuated)	
• <u>Atzmona</u>	
• <u>Dugit</u>	
• <u>Elei Sinai</u>	
Gadid	
• <u>Ganei Tal</u>	
• <u>Katif</u>	
• Kfar Darom	
• <u>Morag</u>	
• <u>Netzarim</u>	
• <u>Netzer Hazani</u>	
Neve Dekalim	
• <u>Nisanit</u>	
• Rafiah Yam	
• <u>Slav</u>	
Defense and response	
• <u>Civil defense in Israel</u>	
Red Color	
Iron Dome	
• <u>ZAKA</u>	
See also	
Rocket attacks on Eilat	
Lebanese rocket attacks on Israel	
	• <u>v</u>
	• <u>I</u>
	• <u>E</u>
	<u>-</u>

These are lists of rocket and mortar attacks on Israel by Palestinian militant groups.

$2000s[\underline{\text{edit}}]$

- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2001
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2002–2006
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2007
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2008
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2009

$2010s[\underline{\text{edit}}]$

- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2010
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2011
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2012
- List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2013

List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2014

Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel

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For information pertaining to the wider conflict, see Arab-Israeli conflict.



Since 2001, <u>Palestinian militants</u> have launched thousands of <u>rocket</u> and <u>mortar</u> attacks on <u>Israel</u> from the <u>Gaza Strip</u> as part of the continuing <u>Arab–Israeli conflict</u>. As of July 2014 the attacks have killed 28 people,^[1] mostly civilians, and injured thousands, but their main effect is their creation of widespread <u>psychological trauma</u> and disruption of daily life among the Israeli populace.^[2] Medical studies in <u>Sderot</u>, the Israeli city closest to the Gaza Strip, have documented a <u>post-traumatic stress disorder</u> incidence among young children of almost 50%, as well as high rates of <u>depression</u> and<u>miscarriage</u>.^{[3][4][5]} A public opinion poll <u>conducted</u> in March 2013 found that most Palestinians do not support firing rockets at Israel from the Gaza Strip.^[6] These rocket attacks have caused flight cancellations at <u>Ben Gurion airport</u>.^[7]

The weapons, often generically referred to as <u>Qassams</u>, were initially crude and short-range, mainly affecting Sderot and other communities bordering the Gaza Strip. However, in 2006 more sophisticated rockets began to be deployed, reaching the larger coastal city of <u>Ashkelon</u>, and by early 2009 major cities <u>Ashdod</u> and <u>Beersheba</u> had been hit by <u>Katyusha</u>, <u>WS-1B^[8]</u> and <u>Grad</u> rockets.^[9] In 2012, <u>Jerusalem</u> and Israel's commercial center <u>Tel Aviv</u> were targeted with locally made "M-75" and Iranian <u>Fair-5</u> rockets, respectively,^[10] and in July 2014, the northern city of <u>Haifa</u> was targeted for the first time.^[11] A few projectiles have contained <u>white</u> <u>phosphorus</u>.^{[12][13][14][15][16][17][18]}

Attacks have been carried out by all Palestinian armed groups,^[19] and, prior to the 2008–2009 <u>Gaza</u> <u>War</u>, were consistently supported by most Palestinians,^{[20][21][22][23]} although the stated goals have been mixed. The attacks, widely condemned for targeting civilians, have been described as<u>terrorism</u> by <u>United Nations</u>, <u>European Union</u> and Israeli officials, and are defined as <u>war</u> <u>crimes</u> by <u>human rights</u> groups <u>Amnesty International</u> and<u>Human Rights Watch</u>. Indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian structures that do not discriminate between civilians and military targets are <u>illegal under international law</u>.^{[24][25]} Israeli defenses constructed specifically to deal with the weapons include fortifications for schools and bus stops as well as an alarm system named<u>Red Color</u>. <u>Iron Dome</u>, a system to intercept short-range rockets, was developed by Israel and first deployed in the spring of 2011 to protect Beersheba and Ashkelon, but officials and experts warned that it would not be completely effective. Shortly thereafter, it intercepted a Palestinian Grad rocket for the first time.^[26]

Israel has responded to the attacks with several military operations in the Gaza Strip, among them <u>Operation Rainbow</u> (May 2004), <u>Operation Days of Penitence</u> (2004), the <u>2006 Israel-Gaza</u> conflict, <u>Operation Autumn Clouds</u> (2006), <u>Operation Hot Winter</u> (2008), <u>Operation Cast</u> Lead (2009), <u>Operation Pillar of Defense</u> (2012), and <u>Operation Protective Edge</u> (2014).

Overview

Attacks began in 2001. Since then, nearly 4,800 rockets have hit southern Israel, just over 4,000 of them since <u>Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip</u> in August 2005. The range of the rockets has increased over time. The original Qassam rocket has a range of about 10 km (6.2 mi) but more advanced rockets, including versions of the old Soviet Grad or Katyusha have hit Israeli targets 40 km (25 mi) from Gaza.^[27]

Some analysts see the attacks as a shift away from reliance on <u>suicide bombing</u>, which was previously Hamas's main method of attacking Israel, and an adoption of the rocket tactics used by Lebanese militant group <u>Hezbollah</u>.^[28]

Participating groups

All the Palestinian armed groups carry out rocket and mortar attacks, with varying frequency.^[19] The main groups are <u>Hamas</u>, <u>Islamic Jihad</u>,^[29] the <u>Popular Front for the Liberation of</u> <u>Palestine</u>,^[30] the <u>Popular Resistance Committees</u>,^[31] <u>Fatah</u>,^[32] and the <u>Democratic Front for the</u> <u>Liberation of Palestine</u>.^[19] Hamas is the de facto governing authority in the Gaza Strip, while Fatah holds the presidency of the <u>Palestinian National Authority</u>.

Islamic Jihad has involved other Palestinians in the activities, running summer camps where children were taught how to hold a Qassam rocket launcher.^[33] One Islamic Jihad rocket maker,<u>Awad al-Qiq</u>, was a science teacher and headmaster at a United Nations school. Christopher Gunness, a UNRWA spokesman, said the UN had "zero-tolerance policy towards politics and militant activities in our schools", but that they "cannot police people's minds."^[34]

Palestinian security forces say that they do little or nothing to prevent rocket attacks or to hold responsible the militants who launch them, according to a 2007 report by <u>Human Rights Watch^[35]</u>

The Israeli <u>Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center</u> estimated that in 2007^[36] the proportions of rockets fired from the Gaza Strip were:

- 34% Palestinian Islamic Jihad (Al Quds)
- 22% Hamas (Qassam)
- 8% <u>Fatah</u> (<u>Kafah</u>)
- 6% Popular Resistance Committees (al Nasser)
- 30% unknown

History

2001–06

Main articles: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2001 and 2002–2006

Rockets were originally fired mainly on <u>Sderot</u>, an Israeli city on the border of the Gaza Strip.^[37] Sderot's population density is slightly greater than that of the Gaza Strip. Due to this, and despite the imperfect aim of these homemade projectiles, they have caused deaths and injuries, as well as significant damage to homes and property, psychological distress and emigration from the city. Ninety percent of the city's residents have had a rocket exploding in their street or an adjacent one.^[27]

On March 28, 2006, while Israelis went to general elections, the first <u>Katyusha</u> rocket from Gaza was fired at Israel. The rocket fell near the <u>Itfah kibbutz</u> on the outskirts of Ashkelon and caused no damage or casualties. <u>Islamic Jihad</u> claimed responsibility.^{[38][39]} Several months later, On July 5, 2006, a rocket hit the center of Ashkelon for the first time, striking an empty high school. Israeli Prime Minister <u>Ehud Olmert</u> called the attack, which was claimed by <u>Hamas</u>, an "escalation of unprecedented gravity",^{[40][41]} but the event was quickly overshadowed by the <u>2006 Lebanon War</u>.

On 25 of May 2006 the <u>al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades</u> group that published on April 2006 that they had been launching long range missile on Israeli cities,^[42] sent a letter to <u>Ramattan</u> that they had developed Chemical and biological biological weapons and threaten with Chemical warfare.^{[43][44][45][46][47]} later that month report of use of chemical weapons by that group had been published in the media.^[48]

2007

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2007

On January 5, 2007 <u>Palestinian militants</u> fired a Katyusha rocket at Ashkelon. The Katyusha has a range of 18–20 kilometers, and the rocket was fired from the <u>Al-Atatra</u> region in the northern Gaza Strip, traveling about 17 kilometers before reaching its target. No one was hurt in the Katyusha attack.^[49] On October 7, 2007 the <u>Popular Resistance Committees</u> claimed responsibility for a <u>Grad</u>-type Katyusha that hit <u>Netivot</u>. However, during this period Katyusha attacks from Gaza remained rare.^[50]

2008-09

Main articles: List of rocket and mortar attacks in Israel in 2008 and 2009



5

A Grad missile hits Beersheba, 2009.

In January 2008 the border between Gaza and Egypt was breached by Hamas. It allowed them to bring in Russian and Iranian made rockets with a larger range.

In the first half of 2008, the number of attacks rose sharply, consistently totaling several hundred per month. In addition, Ashkelon was hit many times during this period by Grad rockets.

On February 26, 2008 a Grad rocket hit the hospital grounds of the <u>Barzilai</u> <u>Medical Center</u>, approximately 200 meters away from the <u>neonatal intensive</u>-<u>care unit</u>. As it is only 6 miles away from the Gaza border, it is the frequently the target of rocket attacks, with 140 rockets fired at it over the course of one weekend. ^{[51][52][53]}

5

Israeli boy disabled by Palestinian rocket fire. [54][55]

After reports of shells with white phosphorus^[56] launched against southern parts of Israel on 14 January 2009, Israeli medical emergency forces are now taught how to treat white phosphorus victims and are ordered to have equipment to handle white phosphorus.^{[57][58][59][60]}

From June 19 to December 19, 2008, an Egyptian-mediated <u>ceasefire between</u> <u>Israel and Hamas</u> was in effect. During this time, only several dozen rockets were fired at Israel, a marked decrease from the pre-ceasefire period. Hamas imprisoned some of those firing rockets.^[61]

During the <u>Gaza War</u>, Palestinian militants began to deploy improved <u>Qassam</u> and <u>factory-made</u> rockets with a range of 40 kilometers.^[62] Rockets reached major Israeli cities <u>Ashdod</u>,^[63] <u>Beersheba</u> and <u>Gedera</u> for the first time, putting one-eighth of Israel's population in rocket range^[64] and raising concerns about the safety of the <u>Tel Aviv</u> metropolitan area, Israel's largest population center,^{[65][66]} as well as the <u>Negev Nuclear Research Center</u>.^[67] According to Isaeli authorities, 571 rockets and 205 mortar shells landed in Israel during the 22 days of the conflict.^[19]

On January 18, 2009, following a unilateral ceasefire declaration by Israel, Hamas and Islamic Jihad announced that they would cease rocket attacks for one week.^[68] After that, rockets and mortar attacks continued almost daily through February.^{[69][70]}

2010

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2010

According to the <u>Israel Security Agency</u>'s annual report, Palestinians carried out 150 rocket launches and 215 mortar launches at Israel during the year. This represented a decrease in both types of attacks compared to 2009, in which there were 569 rocket launches and 289 mortar launches.^{[71][72]}

The report stated that <u>Iran</u> succeeded in smuggling 1,000 mortar shells and hundreds of short-range rockets into the Gaza Strip over the course of the year.^[71] The security agency also warned that the <u>Sinai Desert</u> was turning into <u>Hamas's</u> "backyard" for operations and storage of arms. 2010 saw two

unique instances of Hamas firing rockets from the Sinai at the southern Israeli port city of $\underline{\text{Eilat}}$.

On 18 March, <u>Thai</u> national Manee Singmueangphon was killed by a Palestinian <u>Qassam rocket</u> launched at a greenhouse in <u>Netiv Haasara</u>. Both <u>Ansar al Sunna</u>, an <u>Islamist</u> group thought to have links with <u>al-Qaeda in</u> <u>Iraq</u>, and <u>al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades</u>, the military wing of <u>Palestinian</u> <u>President Mahmoud Abbas</u>'s <u>Fatah</u> party, claimed responsibility for the attack.

On 30 July, a <u>Hamas Grad missile</u> hit a residential neighborhood in the heart of the Israeli coastal city of <u>Ashkelon</u>. No one was physically injured, but eight people suffered from shock and surrounding apartment buildings sustained damage.

On 2 August, Hamas militants in Egypt fired seven Iranian-made Grad missiles at the resort city of Eilat in the extreme south of Israel. Overshot missiles hit the Jordanian city of Aqaba, killing one person and wounding several.

On 20 October, an accidental explosion occurred at a Hamas Qassam rocket training site in the densely crowded <u>Tel As-Sultan</u> neighborhood of <u>Rafah</u> in the southern Gaza Strip. Thirteen people were injured by flying shrapnel, including five children and three women.^[73]

2011

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2011

Over the course of 2011, 680 rockets, mortars and Grad missiles were fired from the Gaza Strip into Israel.^[74] At the very end of 2010, <u>Palestinian Islamic</u> <u>Jihad</u> stated that it and other Palestinians militant groups in the Gaza Strip would temporarily halt rocket attacks against Israel.^[75] However, by 7 January, Palestinian Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for a mortar attack that injured three agricultural workers,^[76] and the group was responsible for most of the attacks on Israel in the first two weeks of the year. On 12 January, the group declared again that it would cease firing rockets.^[77] Multiple, unclaimed rocket and mortar attacks occurred on 16, 17 and 18 January.

On 2 January, it was revealed that two East <u>Jerusalem</u> Arabs, employees of the British Consulate General in Jerusalem, were arrested for suspected involvement in an aborted <u>Hamas</u> plot to fire a missile at <u>Teddy Stadium</u> during a soccer match. The two were charged the following day with <u>weapons</u> trafficking.^{[78][79]}

On 15 March, Israel seized the *Victoria*, a ship containing concealed <u>Iranian</u> missiles destined for the Gaza Strip.^[80]

On 27 March, Israel first deployed the new <u>Iron Dome</u> missile defense system to protect <u>Beersheba</u>. The city, one of Israel's largest, had recently been targeted again by Palestinian missiles after being safe since the 2008-2009 <u>Gaza War</u>. A week later, a second battery was deployed to protect <u>Ashkelon</u>.^[81] On 7 April, the Ashkelon battery successfully intercepted a Palestinian Grad missile fired at the city, marking the first successful interception of a short range rocket in history.^[26] On 31 August, Israel deployed a third battery outside <u>Ashdod</u> before the new school year. As of that date, Iron Dome had intercepted several dozen Gazan rockets at an estimated cost of \$100,000 per interception, not including the price of the system itself.^[82]

On 4 April, Israel indicted alleged <u>Hamas</u> "rocket godfather" <u>Dirar Abu Sisi</u> in the Beersheba District Court. Abu Sisi had reportedly been captured by Israel in the <u>Ukraine</u> a month prior. He denied any wrongdoing.^[83]

On 7 April, Hamas militants fired a <u>Kornet anti-tank missile</u> at an Israel <u>school</u> <u>bus</u>. The sole passenger on board, 16-year-old boy Daniel Viflic, was killed.

On 18 August, a series of <u>cross-border attacks</u> were carried out in southern Israel near the Egyptian border. The initial attacks sparked several days of clashes between Israel and Palestinian militant groups that resulted in substantial casualties to both sides.

2012

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2012

The <u>Jersalem Post</u> and <u>Ynet news</u> reported that in January, 2012, two mortars were fired from Gaza into the area governed by the <u>Eshkol Regional</u> <u>Council</u> which were determined by the <u>Israeli military</u> to have contained <u>white</u> <u>phosphorus</u>; the shells were reported to have landed in open fields, causing no injuries or damage.^[84] The newspaper stated that the <u>Eshkol Regional</u> <u>Council</u>filed a formal complaint with the United Nations, noting that the <u>Geneva</u> <u>Conventions</u> prohibit the use of phosphorus against civilians.^{[15][85]}

Until April 2012 more than 360 rocket and mortar attacks had been launched (~300 during the <u>March 2012 Gaza–Israel clashes</u>).^[citation needed]

The *Ynet news*reported that In May 2012 the <u>Islamic Jihad</u> published video footage of a multi-barrel rocket launcher mounted on vehicle^[86]

On October 24, 2012, "[m]ore than 65 rockets were fired into southern Israel from the Gaza Strip." A woman in Ashkelon, three foreign workers, and a policeman received injuries. "Several people were treated for shock," according to JNS.org.^[87]

2013

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2013

On March 21, during US President <u>Barack Obama</u>'s official visit to Israel, Palestinians in <u>Beit Hanoun</u> fired four rockets at the Israeli city of <u>Sderot</u>, triggering alarms in local communities and forcing residents on their way to work or school to run to bomb shelters. One rocket hit the backyard of a home in the city, spraying shrapnel into the walls and shattering windows. A second projectile landed in an open area within the surrounding <u>Sha'ar Hanegev</u> <u>Regional Council</u>. The two remaining rockets were believed to have landed within the Gaza Strip.^{[88][89][90][91]} The<u>Mujahedeen Shura Council</u>, a Palestinian Salafi group, claimed responsibility for the attack^[92]

On April 2, Palestinians attempted to fire two <u>mortar shells</u> into Israel; both landed within the Gaza Strip. Later, in the evening, a third projectile was fired into the <u>Eshkol Regional Council.^[93] The Mujahedeen Shura Council</u> claimed responsibility for the attacks.^{[94][95][96]} Israel responded to the attacks with air strikes on two targets in the Gaza Strip that night, causing no injuries.^[94] This was the first such strike since <u>Operation Pillar of Defense</u>. Israeli Defense Minister <u>Moshe Yaalon</u> said: "[W]e see Hamas as being responsible for everything that is fired from the Strip at Israel. We won't allow any routine involving a drizzle of rockets at our civilians and forces."^[97]

On April 3, Palestinians from Gaza fired two rockets at the Israeli city of <u>Sderot</u>. The rockets struck during the morning as children were arriving to school, triggering the alert siren and sending families into bomb shelters for cover.^[97] The United Nations special envoy to the Middle East <u>Robert</u> <u>Serry</u> condemned the "indiscriminate firing of rockets into civilian areas" and also called on Israel to exercise restraint.^[98] <u>France</u> said it "harshly condemns" the rocket fire on the "civilian population in south Israel". Israeli Prime Minister <u>Benjamin Netanyahu</u> said: "If the quiet is violated, we will respond strongly".^[99]

On April 4, Palestinians again fired a rocket and three mortar shells at Israel. A rocket landed in an open area in the <u>Eshkol Regional Council</u> at around 2 am, triggering alarms in nearby communities, while two of the mortars fell within the Gaza Strip.^{[100][101]}

On April 29, a rocket was fired from the Gaza Strip which impacted southern Israel, causing no casualties or damage.^[102]

On June 19, three Grad rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip, hitting the Israeli town of Ashkelon. The attacks caused no injuries, marking the first time that rockets had been fired from Gaza since April 29.^[103]

2014

Main article: List of Palestinian rocket attacks on Israel, 2014

On 5 March, the <u>Israeli Navy</u> intercepted a ship containing dozens of long-range rockets being smuggled from <u>Iran</u> to the Gaza Strip.^[104]

On 10 March, <u>Hamas</u>, the Palestinian <u>Islamist</u> group that controls the Gaza Strip, unveiled a monument to its rocket attacks on Israeli cities and towns, a life-sized model of an <u>M-75 rocket</u> in<u>Gaza City</u>. The group declared that the attacks "managed to take the battle to the heart of the Zionist entity (Israel)".^[105]

Tactics

<u>Khaled Jaabari</u>, Gaza commander of the <u>al-Aqsa Martyr's Brigades</u>, said that the group uses <u>Google Earth</u> to determine targets.^[106] Rocket fire occasionally occurs in the early morning when children head to school.^{[107][108]}

A source close to Hamas described the movement's tactic of launching projectiles from between homes during the <u>2008-2009 Israel-Gaza conflict</u>: "They fired rockets in between the houses and covered the alleys with sheets so they could set the rockets up in five minutes without the planes seeing them. The moment they fired, they escaped, and they are very quick."^[109] Videos released by Hamas in 2011 show Qassam rockets being fired from residential areas and mosques. According to <u>Yedioth Aharonoth</u> journalist Elior Levy, "Gaza terror cells choose to fire from urban areas knowing that the Israel Defense Forces refrain from intercepting them for fear of hurting civilians. The killing of civilians in Gaza also serves the terrorists' purposes who claim Israel is committing war crimes in Gaza".^[110]

It has been documented, that Arab terrorist groups and Hamas placed weapons and missile launchers in densely populated areas.^[111] Human Rights Watch issued a report condemning the firing of Kassam rockets as "war crimes", stating "None of these rockets can be reliably aimed... Such weapons are inherently indiscriminate when directed towards densely populated areas. The absence of Israeli military forces in the areas struck by the rockets, as well as statements from the leaders of Hamas and other armed groups, indicate that many of these attacks are deliberately intended to strike Israeli civilians and civilian structures... Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups have frequently violated the laws of war by firing rockets from within populated areas...^[24] Indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian structures that do not

discriminate between civilians and military targets are <u>illegal under international</u> law.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palestinian_rocket_attacks_on_I srael