## Claim

Claim: "U.S. President-elect Donald Trump said on January 7, 2025 that if Israeli hostages held by Hamas 'are not back by the time I get into office, all hell will break out in the Middle East'."

## **Actions**

web\_search("Donald Trump Israeli hostages Hamas January 7 2025")
web\_search("Donald Trump Middle East statement January 2025")

## **Evidence**

#### Evidence from web\_search

On January 7, 2025, NPR (<a href="https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east">https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east</a>) and CNN (<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration">https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration</a>) reported that Donald Trump said "all hell will break out" in the Middle East if Hamas did not release Israeli hostages by the time he took office. The comments were made at a news conference at Mar-a-Lago (</a>



PBS News (<a href="https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/brushing-off-trumps-threat-hamas-says-it-will-only-free-hostages-for-a-lasting-truce">https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/brushing-off-trumps-threat-hamas-says-it-will-only-free-hostages-for-a-lasting-truce</a>) reported on March 6, 2025, that Hamas responded to Trump's warning, stating they would only release hostages in exchange for a lasting ceasefire (



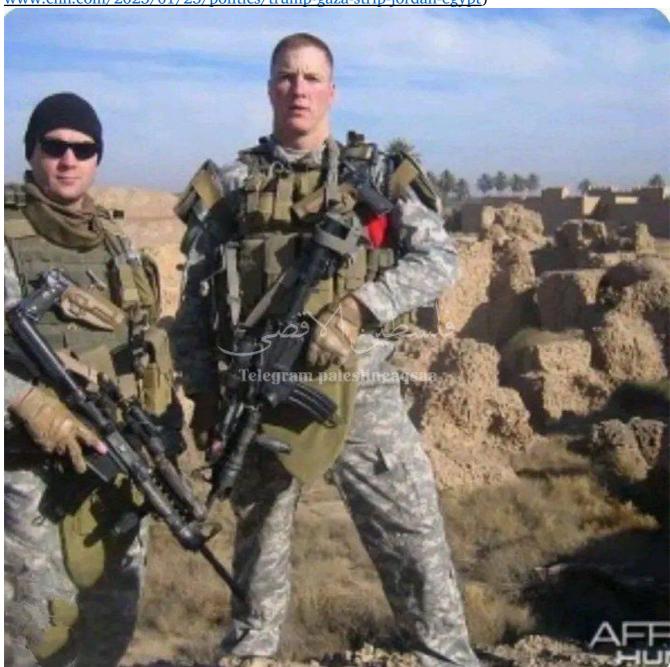
#### Evidence from web\_search

A BBC News article from March 6, 2025, reports that Donald Trump issued a "last warning" to Hamas regarding the release of hostages, stating there would be "hell to pay" if the hostages were not released. The article also mentions Trump said in December there would be "all hell to pay" if hostages were not released by the time he took office. (https://



A CNN article from January 26, 2025, reports on Donald Trump's plans for the Gaza Strip, including a statement about "clean[ing] out the whole thing". (<a href="https://">https://</a>

www.cnn.com/2025/01/25/politics/trump-gaza-strip-jordan-egypt)



## **Elaboration**

The claim is accurate. On January 7, 2025, multiple news sources, including NPR (<a href="https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east">https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east</a>) and CNN (<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration">https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration</a>), reported that Donald Trump said "all hell will break out" in the Middle East if Israeli hostages held by Hamas were not released by the time he took office.

# **Final Judgement**

The claim is supported by multiple reliable sources, including NPR and CNN, which reported on Donald Trump's statement on January 7, 2025. Therefore, the claim is factually accurate. true

**Verdict: TRUE** 

## Justification

On January 7, 2025, then-President-elect Donald Trump stated that if Israeli hostages held by Hamas were not released by the time he took office, "all hell will break out" in the Middle East, as reported by NPR (<a href="https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east">https://www.npr.org/2025/01/07/nx-s1-5250278/trump-hostages-israel-hamas-middle-east</a>) and CNN (<a href="https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration">https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/07/politics/trump-warning-gaza-hostages-negotiations-inauguration</a>).